

Amazing Grace Homeschool Enrichment Participant Handbook

Vision: To glorify God by teaching His word and providing support, connection and enrichment for the homeschooling families in our community.

Our Mission: Enrich, equip and encourage through faith, fun and fellowship.

Our Statement of Faith:

The Bible

We believe that all 66 books comprising the Old and New Testaments are divinely and verbally inspired and without error as originally written. They are the supreme authority in all matters of belief and practice for the church and individual believers.

The Trinity

We believe in one God, the Creator of all things, who exists eternally and equally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each is distinct in “personhood” from the others, yet all share of one divine nature, will, and essence.

God the Father

We believe in God the Father as the first person of the Trinity who is the Eternal Uncreated Spirit. He is the Sovereign Creator of all. He is revealed by his creation, his Word (the 66 canonical books of the Bible), personal experience, and most clearly, in his Son Jesus. He is infinite in knowledge and power. His sovereign plan for the salvation of the world and his eventual complete triumph over evil is certain. Among many other things, he is loving, just, holy, infinite (limitless), immanent (near), and immutable (changeless).

Jesus Christ

We believe in the eternally pre-existent Son who became flesh through the miraculous virgin birth making him fully human and fully divine. He lived a sinless life; shed his blood for the forgiveness of sins; died on the cross as our atoning substitute; rose bodily from the grave on the third day; ascended to the right hand of the Father where he intercedes; and will imminently return for the judgment of those who reject him, the consummation of his kingdom, and the salvation of his church. He is the embodiment and perfect balance of grace and truth.

The Holy Spirit

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. We believe in his indwelling, comforting, presence in every believer enabling us to live in ever-increasing holiness, and empowering us for the mission of Christ in the world.

Humanity

We believe humanity was created sinless in the image of God but fell into sin when Adam and Eve were tempted in the garden. This sin nature spread to all, separating us from God and making us spiritually dead and in need of salvation.

Salvation

We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in the finished atoning work of Jesus Christ and his blood shed on the cross for sin. This free and gracious gift is received by faith in Christ and repentance from the old life of sin, confession of Christ as Lord, and water baptism (by immersion) into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Believer's Life

We believe it is the responsibility of every believer to abstain from sin relying on the Holy Spirit to produce his fruit in us and moving us ever-increasingly toward holiness. The Holy Spirit is our adoption agent whose indwelling makes us children of God, brothers and sisters of each other, and united in God's family. We are called to diligently follow the teachings of Christ as found in gospels and fleshed out in the remainder of the New Testament. We are called together to fulfill the great commission found in Matthew 28:19-20 to make disciples of all people and nations. We will do this by means of loving care, concern, and gospel proclamation. We are called to serve one another in unity and to the faithful and regular gathering of ourselves for worship in visible churches until the Christ returns.

Leadership

We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of local church and that he leads it through a plurality of biblically qualified elders (Based on 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1) who have been called and gifted by him. By seeking the mind of Christ, depending on the Holy Spirit, and diligent examination the Word of God, the elders provide spiritual oversight and direction for the church. In cases of uncertainty with regard to biblical interpretation or the interpretation of policies and procedures, the elders are the final authority on the church's position.

The Resurrection

We believe in the resurrection and final judgment of all people. Those who follow Christ by faith will be raised to eternal life in the presence of God. Those who reject him will be raised to eternal separation from God.

Last Things (Eschatology)

We believe in the imminent and personal return of Jesus Christ. Though the exact time and chronology is uncertain; his return is certain.

Our Church: Amazing Grace Enrichment is a ministry of and meets at High Lakes Christian Church.

If you have questions or suggestions regarding the Amazing Grace Enrichment program, please contact our Program Director:

Selena Miller

503-936-9265 amazinggraceenrichment@gmail.com

Parent Participation

1. You must complete the registration process for each child participating in the program, including the Preschool/Nursery program. The registration fee is \$200, this covers one child. The fee to register additional children in your family is \$50 per child. To register a child you must be their parent, grandparent or legal guardian. Your annual fee is used to conduct background checks for program volunteers (1 parent volunteer per family), pay our Preschool workers, and purchase program supplies for things like Art and PE and any special projects. Program fees are not refundable after the third Friday from your child's start date. The background check fee is non-refundable.
2. Because one goal of our program is to provide interaction with other children, we ask for your commitment to your child's regular attendance. We understand that illnesses occur and ask that you keep your child home if they are showing signs of fever, rash, vomiting, diarrhea or cough.
3. Parent service is essential to this program as Amazing Grace is staffed by volunteers. Each family (1 adult) is required to serve 1 Friday each month, from 11:30 AM to 3:30PM. Parents will be scheduled for their service day, for example, the first Friday of every month. If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, you are required to contact other parents to cover or trade days. During their service day, parents will assist leaders by being the second adult in classrooms, engaging and assisting kids with Art, as well as classroom and PE activities. If you are able to serve more,

just let us know, we can always use extra help. If you are interested in leading a weekly activity, for example, lead K-2nd grade PE or 3-5th grade Art, you would only be required to be present for that activity time each Friday. If interested, ask to see our leader volunteer list. If you will need Nursery care on your service day, please register your child for our Preschool Program.

4. Children will bring their own snack/lunch and eat in a supervised setting. Lunch sharing with others is not permitted.
5. Some activities may involve baking or indulging in snacks. If you have a child with food or other allergies, please ensure that you explain this very specifically on their registration form. Your child's allergies will be communicated to each block leader. Also, feel free to speak with the leaders directly. If your child has any other medical condition that we should be aware of, please explain the condition and how you would like us to handle care if a situation occurs.
6. Every effort for creating a safe environment for your child is being made, however, it is possible that an injury could occur. Please note that High Lakes Christian Church nor the Amazing Grace program is liable for any injuries.
7. We request that families be supportive of the Vision and Mission of Amazing Grace by encouraging your children to be prepared for their enrichment classes, to be prompt for class, respectful of the church facility and to provide sincere feedback or suggestions as needed.

Expectations for Program Leaders and Parent Service

1. All leaders and parents in service will be required to submit to a background check.
2. All leaders will arrive 15 minutes early to organize their activity and prepare their helpers.
3. Leaders are expected to thoroughly prepare for their classes.
4. Classrooms will have two adults (leader and parent) present during class. If a parent must leave the room to attend to a child's bathroom or other needs, the classroom door will be left open until they return.

5. Scheduled leaders who experience a family emergency or sudden illness are expected to contact the administrator as soon as possible. Parents in service are to contact other parents to cover or trade.
6. Leaders planning on preparing food, or providing food or treats in class, will inform parents a week prior. This will allow parents to choose whether or not to risk the potential allergen exposure or provide a snack for their child that would be safe.
7. Leaders agree to support our Statement of Faith in their class material, including respecting the beliefs of: a literal Biblical account of the creation, the fall of man, humanity's redemption through Jesus Christ's atoning death and resurrection for salvation, and the Biblical view of marriage.
8. Because all people are created with value and worth beyond treasure, leaders and parents in service will endeavor to treat each child in a respectful way that honors our Creator.
9. Leaders agree to not use cellular phones or electronic communication devices during classes or while in view of children. The use of cameras (built into electronic communication devices or otherwise) is acceptable for capturing pictures of events to share within the Amazing Grace community.

Student Values and Conduct

1. Students are expected to be on time for class. Late arrival disrupts the class and is unfair to everyone.
2. Students are required to pay attention, participate and not disrupt activities.
3. No use of electronics is permitted, cell phones and hand-held games are to be turned off and stored.
4. Students are expected to respect others by keeping conversations honorable and refraining from the use of degrading or foul language.
5. Students will honor others by demonstrating courtesy, kindness and honesty.
6. Students will honor the property of others and will not steal or vandalize another's property in any way.

7. Students will show respect to parents, leaders and volunteers.
8. Students will uphold the program's dress code.
9. Students will demonstrate a positive attitude in order to support and enhance an atmosphere with Jesus Christ glorified.

Student Discipline Policy: Discipline is important for any social or learning activity. Students choosing to disregard student values and conduct inside or outside of the classroom may receive a warning.

When a leader or parent in service observes inappropriate behavior during an activity, they will get the student's attention and ask for better behavior. After class, the leader may speak to the student individually. If unacceptable behavior continues, a parent may be notified and one of the student's parents may be required to accompany the student to classes and remain with them as long as deemed necessary by the coordinator or teacher.

Inclement Weather Policy: We will follow the La Pine Public School closing schedule during times of inclement weather. If the public school is on a two hour delay, we will *not* delay our start time.

Holiday Closures: We will follow the La Pine Public School schedule for holiday closures. (See AGE calendar on website for more info)

Dress Code: Amazing Grace has a moderate age-appropriate tone, avoiding the extremes in dress. There are four guidelines for dress and grooming standards:

- Encourage modesty and humility
- Safety in the class and campus
- Building character in the community
- Students learning and growing in an excellent environment

A few specifics:

1. T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, shoes, other clothing must be free of messages referencing or alluding to drugs, sexual content, alcohol, obscenities or cults.

2. Athletic footwear is required as sandals, flip flops and slippery soled shoes can result in injuries when students are participating in sporting activities.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can my child join the program after the school year has started?

Yes, if there is room and the Director approves (registration will be prorated).

What is the registration fee for?

The registration fee covers the costs of class materials, Preschool workers, and the background check. None of the leaders are paid.

If my child needs to leave the program, do I get a refund?

Program fees are not refundable after the third Friday from your child's start date. The background check fee is non-refundable.

Why are parents required to serve one afternoon each month?

This program does not receive funding other than registration fees and is volunteer staffed. Parent service is essential to ensure that children are engaged and well supervised. Each family (1 adult) is required to serve 1 Friday each month, from 11:30 AM to 3:30PM. Service will be scheduled consistently, for example, the first Friday of each month, that way you know in advance what your commitment is and can plan accordingly.

Who is teaching my children and is it safe?

The program's teachers are all volunteers, either students' parents or volunteers from the community. Each volunteer is required to submit a background check to ensure the safety of your child. There will always be two teachers in the classroom at a time. If a teacher needs to step out, the door will remain open.

What type of bible study/story is being taught?

The program is non-denominational and for the 24/25 school year we will be using our Sunday school curriculum from High Lakes Christian Church for kids K-3rd grade. Using this same curriculum will be a great reinforcement for these young ones, and we came up with a way to keep it fresh for them. For the 4th-8th graders, we will be using Summit Ministries "Building on the Rock" Christian School curriculum.

Is High Lakes Christian Church running the Amazing Grace program?

Amazing Grace Enrichment is a ministry of High Lakes Christian Church. The Program Director is Selena Miller.

Does my child have to be a Christian to attend?

No, there is no requirement for families participating in the program to be Christians. However, we ask that you respect and follow along with our biblical teachings.

If I have questions, who do I call?

Please feel free to contact our Program Director: Selena Miller

Phone: 503-936-9265

Email: amazinggraceenrichment@gmail.com

If I am signed up to serve and I cannot make it, what do I do?

You should make every effort to contact other parents to cover or trade.

As a last resort contact Selena Miller.

Phone: 503-936-9265

Email: amazinggraceenrichment@gmail.com

How long does the program run?

The 24/25 program runs for 26 weeks from late September to early May similar to the length of a public school schedule.

How do I know when there are cancellations?

The program will be canceled on the same holidays as a public school. A list of our observed holidays is posted on our webpage. We also adhere to the same inclement weather closures as the public schools, and parents will be notified.