



# PASTOR'S LETTER

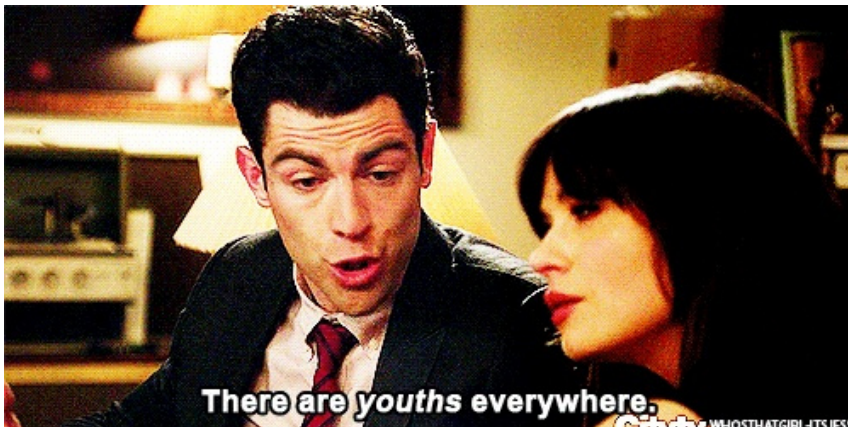
Summer 2025

**Date:** July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Dear GrandeREACH Family,

I hope your summertime has been wonderful! Think of this as a quick update on what to expect at GrandeREACH over the next couple of months. This is not an exhaustive list, so please be keeping an eye on the Facebook Communication Group as well as asking any questions you may have.

First, a quick update on what has been happening so far this summer. We held our Vacation Bible School at La Grande Church of the Nazarene. It was a wonderful time with as many as 48 kids, 16 teen helpers and over 20 adult volunteers. Our friends at La Grande Church of the Nazarene were incredibly generous and we were given run of the facilities throughout our time there. It all culminated in the weekend service we held there which was well attended with great food provided by Pastor Kevin and our Hospitality team. Thank you to everyone who was involved, to all of the families who brought their kids, and to the older kids for helping so well!



Speaking of the Youths, on June 23rd we had our first Youth Ministry Summer Kick-Off. Around 15 kids and a few adults met up at Island City Park for Hot Dogs and a Cornhole Tournament. We picked awesome team names (Not to be biased but “Fiery War Turtles Forever!!!” 🐢) and played Cornhole like the bosses we are. This is the first event as our team of Youth Ministry Volunteers seeks to build opportunities for kids between 6th and 12th grades to have fun and grow in a love for God and His Church. We have another event planned for **July 21st** at The Norton’s Home and some exciting plans for the Church Campout. Once again, these are specifically for kids between 6th-12th grade so if you know of any kids in that age range who might be interested reach out to Blake Bars for more information!

As for the rest of this summer, here are a few more dates to be aware of:

### A Few Summer Highlights:

**July 20th, 10:30am** – *Gospel in the Square* – Church event held with 6 other churches. This year will be held at Fred Beeman Park in Island City. A picnic-style lunch will follow please bring any cold sides or desserts! Bbq Chicken, Burgers, and Dogs are being provided.

**July 26th** – Church at Bingaman Pond in Imbler.\*

**August 8th-10th** – GrandeREACH Church Campout – Catherine Creek State Park.\*

**September 13th** – Church at Bingaman Pond in Imbler.\*

*\*These are all great opportunities for Baptism. Reach out to me if you or a loved one is interested in being baptized!*

We will pass along more information as we get closer to these dates at Church and on Facebook.

### My hope for us this summer:

Summertime often means a complicated schedule that bounces between vacations, camping, sports, home renovation projects, weddings and lots more. A routine can be difficult to come by. My prayer for us all throughout this summer is that we make sure that we are doing it all with God as our guide, and to His glory alone. It's easy to get swept up into the current of "everything all the time". Let us as the GrandeREACH Family be known as people who take time regularly to get out of that current and get perspective on the most important things so that we can act as agents of God's Love, Grace, and Wisdom in the busy-ness of life.

God Bless you all and thank you for being a church family that I am proud to call my own.

In Christ,  
Pastor Braden

*"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14*