

# GRACE HILL CHURCH



## MISSION STATEMENT

Having been transformed by God's grace as disciples of Jesus Christ, we joyfully commit to impact our community and world by declaring God's truth, equipping Christ-followers, and unleashing servant-leaders for His glory.

# **VISION STATEMENT**

Our Vision is to be a relevant force for Christ's grace, truth, and love.



# WHO WE ARE



#### A COMMUNITY UNITED BY FAITH

The Grace Hill congregation is composed of enthusiastic and faithful believers who love Jesus and are dedicated to spreading the message of the Gospel. We are a warm, encouraging church extending a sincere welcome to those from diverse ethnicities, from all generations, and from any background. While we are blessed with a majority of mature Christians, we want to "grow young" and are looking for a pastor who can help us do it.

Located in Morgan Hill, California, GHC has 98 Covenant Partners. We offer a single worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:30 and provide livestream of these services and audio/visual recordings of the sermons. Worship services include music with a live band and prayer, coordinated with the morning's message. Currently, Sunday morning in-person attendance averages between 60-80 participants. Sunday School from birth through youth is offered and In-depth Adult Bible studies take place weekly. Many in our congregation are passionate students of Holy Scripture.



# WHY GRACE HILL CHURCH?

## FAITH IN ACTION



SERVE ONE ANOTHER HUMBLY IN LOVE
- GALATIANS 5:13

- We are a church that combines a commitment to the covenant traditions of the Presbyterian denomination with a passion for the authority of Scriptures, the Deity of Christ and the imperative of each person's personal relationship with Jesus.
- The size of our congregation facilitates relationships between our members and a high level of participation with opportunities for all members in ministries of the church.
- Our congregation reflects years of children's and youth ministry and desires to be relevant to young families.
- We celebrate participation of women in all positions of leadership, as we are egalitarian.
- Our debt-free campus sits on the corner in a quiet part of town.
- GHC has a long history of enthusiastic support for local and global missions.

## HISTORY OF GRACE HILL CHURCH



Grace Hill Church started as Morgan Hill Presbyterian Church (MHPC) in 1898 with 23 charter members under the United Presbyterian Church of North America. MHPC moved in 1965 to its present location on about four acres of land at the corner of Dunne and Dewitt Avenues. The church campus includes the Sanctuary, 8 classrooms, offices, kitchen, Fireside Room, Fellowship Hall and a Family Life Center (Youth).

In 1983 MHPC became part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) but, uncomfortable with its theological direction, the congregation engaged in sincere and deep discussion and prayer and elected overwhelmingly (96% vote) in 2014 to leave that denomination under its policy of "gracious dismissal". Our church became one of the early joiners of the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO).

The congregation decided to change its public name to Grace Hill Church in 2021, which emphasizes the saving grace of Lord Jesus over denominational labels.

For more than 125 years, this body has sought to be familiar with and directed by the Scriptures, reflecting the love and light of Jesus and supporting the proclamation of His Gospel both locally and globally. Morgan Hill has expanded from a rural town to a bedroom community to Silicon Valley and its number of churches has increased. The desire of Grace Hill Church members today is to honor and keep alive the voice for Jesus Christ in Morgan Hill and beyond, as God empowers.

# LEADERSHIP, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Our Church leadership is made up of elders, deacons, employees, and lay leaders.

The Elder Board is comprised of five members who shepherd the congregation. Six deacons administer key activities that serve the congregation and the community. Jane Liddle our Worship Minister since 2018 is a gifted musician with a pastoral presence. She creates and programs the Sunday service, manages the technical side, and her teams are well staffed and stable. Jane has a heart for congregational care and frequently covers pastoral responsibilities, as needed.

Yuliia Romanova our Office Administrator has a master's degree in Computer Science and manages the office with efficiency and grace.

David Rodriguez our Custodian has faithfully served for about 10 years.

A Tech Assistant helps Jane each week with sound, lights, graphics, etc.

Lay leaders direct in Finance/Treasurer, Personnel, Adult Discipleship, Adult Fellowship, Children's Ministries, Missions, Prayer, Facilities, Legal, and Community Outreach. A high percentage of our members is actively involved in leading or assisting with one or more ministries. We see this as a strength in developing spiritual maturity and also a blessing to the church and to the ones who serve.



# **OUR MINISTRIES**

### LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE -GALATIANS 6:10





- Bible Studies for Men and Women
- Small groups meeting in homes
- Adult and children's Sunday School
- Adult Fellowship
- Friday Night Community Suppers
- Food Pantry
- Warm Clothing Drive
- Meals for those in need
- Visitation and Correspondence
- Prayer
- Barnabas Fund
- Backpacks for Elementary children
- Operation Christmas Child
- Service Teams: Greeters/Ushers, Prayer chain, Worship Band and Tech, Facilities, Gardeners

In addition to these ministries staffed and funded by our church, we open up our campus for use by several organizations including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Morgan Hill Wind Symphony, South Bay Singers, Patriotic Sing rehearsals, Pursue Homeschooling, a Christian Church plant and other groups throughout the year. The Little Sonshine School rents our classrooms and play yard to provide Christian education to preschoolers.

For more than 30 years GHC ran well-attended, thriving children's and youth day camps plus midweek and Sunday programs. We deeply value these ministries and look forward to re-establishing them as a high priority.



# MISSION MINDED



### ENGAGING THE WORLD THROUGH FAITH AND SERVICE

This church has supported missions and missionaries for many years, and all donations are funded by direct contributions. No portion of gifts to the General Fund are used to support missions. Currently, we prayerfully and financially support both Global and Local missions.

Grace Hill is strategically positioned to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the local community. Morgan Hill is expanding, including young families many of whom are not regularly engaged in worship. Through Prayer, God's Spirit, and guidance in the understanding of Scripture, we will move forward to do God's work in this growing and needful community.



## THE COMMUNITY

Morgan Hill is a growing suburb with new housing, businesses, and recreational facilities. Many Morgan Hill residents are employed in nearby world-famous Silicon Valley (San Jose, Santa Clara, Cupertino). The town offers a variety of shopping and the quaint downtown boasts an assortment of restaurants attracting diners from north and south. The Morgan Hill Aquatics Center includes an Olympic-sized competition pool and waterslides. Our Outdoor Sports Center hosts soccer tournaments.

Pacific Ocean beaches are one hour away and redwood forests and trails are even closer. Locally there are award-winning wineries and access to Henry Coe the largest state park in Northern California. Separated from San Jose by a greenbelt and with a history of ranching, Morgan Hill has not lost it's rural charm.

The city of Morgan Hill (population 45,000) lies in the southern portion of Santa Clara County – north of Gilroy (pop. 58,000) and south of San Jose (pop. 971,000). Morgan Hill Unified School District (TK-12) serves 9,000 students, along with charter and several private schools. Gavilan Community College, San Jose State University, Santa Clara University, and Stanford University are some of the higher-level educational opportunities nearby.

Our town has approximately twenty congregations of worshippers who identify as followers of Jesus, worshipping in English, Spanish, and Chinese languages. About 15% of the population attend weekly worship. St. Catherine (Roman Catholic) is the largest congregation. The LDS (Mormon) church has a significant attendance, and Jewish and Buddhist groups meet regularly. Our congregation typically draws members and attendees from San Jose to Gilroy.

