

FALL
2025/2026

SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP



true grace
CHURCH

5615 30th Ave SE | Lacey, WA 98503 | (360) 459-1444

TrueGrace.Church

AA, BA & Master's Degrees and Internship

**YOUR CHURCH. YOUR CLASSROOM.
YOUR CALLING.**

SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP



PASTOR JESSICA WADE *Program Director*

Pastor Jessica is passionate about seeing people discover and steward their God-given gifts. She has her BA in Ministry Leadership, and her focus is on developing people. Pastor Jessica has been teaching, mentoring, and discipling others in various capacities for the past 20 years. She wants to see leaders own and grow in their giftings regardless of future ministry jobs. She believes leadership skills are necessary for all areas of life. Pastor Jessica is intentional, and has a gift for seeing gifts in others that they may not yet see in themselves, and her heart is for everyone to walk in the fullness of a close relationship with the Lord.

PASTOR DAVE GUERNSEY *Pastoral Instructor*

People-Focused Ministry

Pastor Dave has been in ministry for over 35 years, with roles as a youth pastor, lead pastor, and now associate pastor at True Grace overseeing all adult ministries, as well as our First Impressions team. From the parking lot to the pew, Pastor Dave is passionate about ensuring our guests feel welcome, known, and loved by God. He will share wisdom gleaned from many years of leading teams, shepherding groups, and connecting with new believers.



TRACY TAYLOR *Adjunct Instructor*

Creating Connection

Tracy is the Communications Director at True Grace, and loves using words and visual art to help people connect to ideas, to each other, and to God. Using her experience in the corporate world, higher education, and a variety of churches, Tracy will share communication insights that will help students connect to their audience—in any context—with clarity, authenticity, and impact.



SAM WADE *Adjunct Instructor*

Life Coaching 101

Sam is a coach at heart, and wants to see each person grow, and encounter the Lord in practical ways. He is intentional about meeting others where they are, and helping them grow spiritually and live a life of integrity. Sam has his degree in Civil Engineering and leads a team of engineering technicians in a division of the Washington State Geotechnical Lab. His position allows him to lead and represent Christ in a secular work environment.



AL CUSHON *Adjunct Instructor*

Principles of Stewardship

After years in corporate leadership, Al has found his sweet spot mentoring emerging leaders. His heart is to see young people develop both strong character and practical life skills—especially in the area of financial stewardship. How we handle money reflects our hearts, and he’s passionate about helping ministry interns build solid foundations for their personal finances and future leadership roles. Whether it’s creating a budget, understanding debt, or planning for the future, Al loves making these topics approachable and practical.



STEPHANIE BEALL *Adjunct Instructor*

Basics of Mental Wellness

Stephanie is a mental health counselor with experience working with a wide variety of client populations, from crisis stabilization, to outpatient programs, to individual therapy. She practices from a strengths perspective and seeks to support clients to make the changes they want to see. She believes in the inherent value of every person, and will help our students understand the basics of mental wellness.



OUTREACH LEADERS *Adjunct Instructors*

On Mission

We will welcome a variety of local ministry leaders and global missionaries who will share their best practices on how to lead compassionate outreach organizations and influence different cultures, including our own, with the gospel. Students will engage with ideas around cross-cultural communication, church planting, team-building, and evangelism. Later, they will have an opportunity to put it into practice on an Intern Mission Trip.



TRISHA FERGUSON *Adjunct Instructor*

Worship & Spiritual Development

For over 10 years, Trisha guided a talented team of musicians, vocalists, and media personnel, orchestrating direction for live and online worship services each week, and writing and producing live worship theatre productions. She also founded and led a youth music and arts school for many years, nurturing young talents and fostering the next generation of worship musicians. Trisha is committed to impacting local ministries and inspiring others through her passion for worship and excellence in ministry.



WANDA STEWART *Adjunct Instructor*

Equipping Youth to Live Righteously

Wanda is passionate about equipping teens with Biblical teaching and helping them cultivate godly habits that will last a lifetime. With nearly 30 years of experience volunteering in youth ministry, she has worked alongside eight different youth pastors, gaining valuable insights into mentoring, relationship-building, teaching, and working with volunteers. She is also dedicated to fostering lasting connections with teens as they grow into adulthood.



DICK NETZER *Adjunct Instructor*

Supporting the Vision

Over the years, Dick has served at various places as a missions pastor, deacon, board member, teacher, Life Group leader, and conference director. He and his wife, Joan, currently serve as the Missions Directors at True Grace and have led our teams in outreach and construction in countries all over the world. Dick loves traveling, fishing, motorcycling, flying, metal fabrication, all kinds of construction, and his tractor. He and Joan have been married for 33 years and have 5 children and 10 grandchildren.



PASTOR PETER DEGON *Pastoral Instructor*

Principles of Pastoring

Pastor Peter is passionate about leadership, encouragement and coaching. He's been a pastor and shepherd in the local church for over 27 years. He loves to invest in others and watch them succeed in finances, relationships, health, purpose and most importantly, faith. He loves his wife, kids, golden retriever, fantasy football and journaling. And if he can do any of that in the sunshine or on water, he's really happy.



VONNIE YODER *Adjunct Instructor*

The Art of Hospitality and Practicality

Vonnie is the Business Administrator at True Grace and gives oversight to the church business, finances, records, facilities, office operations, coffee shop, properties, and the support/maintenance staff. Vonnie has extensive experience in hospitality, organization, event coordination, and church finances. She and her team handle the business and maintenance aspects of the church to free our pastors to most effectively do what they've been called to do.



STACY DEGON *Adjunct Instructor*

Teaching for Transformation

Stacy graduated from Northwest University with a BA in Business Management, and has served with youth ministry, coached Bible Quiz, and taught True Grace's 3rd-5th grade Sunday School for the past 15 years. She attended a great church throughout her childhood and youth, and experienced many godly people pouring into her, which inspired her to do the same for others. Stacy is the mother of two, and enjoys running, reading, paddleboarding, adventuring with Peter, and playing with her brand new puppy, Gus.



ADVANCE YOUR CALLING WITH AN ACCREDITED ONLINE DEGREE — GROUNDED IN REAL-WORLD MINISTRY.

WHETHER YOU JUST WANT THE INTERNSHIP, OR THE INTERNSHIP AND DEGREE — EQUIP YOURSELF FOR IMPACT WITH THE SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP.

ACCREDITED DEGREE with NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY

- Fully accredited AA, BA and Master's Degrees available.
- Online, flexible coursework — study anywhere, anytime.
- Approximately one-third the cost of an on-campus education.

INTERNSHIP with TRUE GRACE CHURCH

- Included internship with mentoring from pastors and leaders.
- Leadership training for real-world experience.
- Apply your learning immediately with hands-on opportunities.
- Opportunity to take an intern missions trip at a significantly reduced price.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- Young adults wanting to gain leadership and practical skills.
- Church volunteers or staff seeking formal training.
- Anyone feeling called to serve in ministry or faith-based leadership.
- Working adults who need a way to complete their degree online.

HOUSING AVAILABLE

- Separate housing will be available for both men and women in the coming months. Please inquire for details.

