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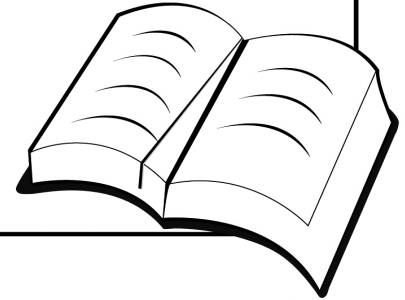
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notes

GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



June/July 2020 — Volume 63, Issue 6

Planning and Preparing

Back before COVID-19 upended our lives, the church was getting ready for the next step in the pastor search process. The plan then was to get permission from Presbytery to elect a pastor nominating committee, conduct the mission study and begin the search process. Despite all of the disruptions and dislocations of ministry during a pandemic, that is still the plan. If we are up to the challenge!

Pastor Search

The work done last year to build a better financial foundation for the future made it possible for Session to go to Presbytery with the request to call a PNC; and we've been given the green light to go forward. But the work of completing the Mission Study and devoting time and talents to a search still lies ahead.

Return to Grace

The work done over the past two months to prepare for the return to in-person worship and other church gatherings will make it possible for Session to approve a plan for doing so when the time comes. But completion of the work of transitioning to in-person + online worship, and to repurposing space for in-person gatherings with social distancing and sanitizing still lies ahead.

This is the annual double issue of Grace Notes for June and July; and what better time to announce that we are doubling up on the planning and preparing that needs to be done.

It's going to take everyone pitching in as they are able to get all this work done. But we can do this!



Looking Ahead Events May Be Postponed or Moved Online

June

8, 9, 10, 11 - Vacation Bible School
15, 16, 17 - Small Blessings Bible School
22, 23, 24, 25 - Music Camp

July

1, 8, 15, 22 - Super Summer Wednesdays

August

2 - Youth Group Back to School Back Pack drive
5, 12, 19, 26 - Table Talk
9-16 - Family Promise
22 - F.I.S.H.
23 - Rally Day

Inside this issue:

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**See the church
calendar online:**
[http://www.grace.to/
announcements/weekly-
calendar/](http://www.grace.to/announcements/weekly-calendar/)

Congratulations to Our Graduates

We are SO excited about our recent graduates!!! May God continue to enrich your lives as you begin the next chapter.

Hannah Mann

Colonial High School
attending Valencia College

Alex Richards

Boone High School
attending University of West Florida

Kendy Thach

Colonial High School
attending Valencia College

Seth Woodrow

Boone High School
attending Flagler College

Jessi Hope

Florida State University
Batchelor of Science in Social Sciences

Camille McDonald

University of North Florida
Batchelor of Science in Biology

Many Thanks

Grateful thanks to those who donated the funds to purchase the new monitors in the sanctuary and to those who donated their time and talents installing this much-needed upgrade.

To All,

Thank you for all of your support the past four years. I can honestly say that I do not think I would have made it without all y'all's love, prayers and financial blessings.

Much love,

Jessi Hope (Scholarship Recipient)

And There Are More Pecans

Would you like to buy some pecans? They would be great to make your favorite recipe! A bag of regular pecans is only \$12. And if you are craving some chocolate, there are chocolate covered pecans available for \$13. Call Jo Blair and get yours today!

Book Club

The Book Club is continuing to meet virtually by Zoom and enjoying book discussions and opportunities for friendly conversation.

The book we will be discussing on Tuesday, June 23rd at 7:00 pm will be "The Crow's Call" by Wanda Brunstetter.

For July 28th, we will be reading "Wrapped in Rain" by Charles Martin.

If you'd like to join us, whether or not you finish the book, please contact Jane Heppner.



Scholarship Reminder

- Applicants must be students who are members or students (actively involved in church activities) whose parents are church members.
- Please have applications with transcripts in the church office by June 15th.
- Forms are available by calling the church office. Donations to the scholarship fund by members or groups are appreciated and welcomed at any time.

Our Daily Bread

Copies of the next issue are available for pick up by the elevator.

In Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to

Siglinde Quirk and family.

Her husband, Bill, died May 4, 2020
and

Rosemary Golden and family. Her
daughter, Patricia, died April 28, 2020.



Heath and Ashley Blair

Jerrold Blair

Laurie Sparks

Rosemary Golden

Kaylee Sparks

**ADDRESS
UPDATES**

Confirmation

Nolan Kelly and Kasen Schlichenmaier are the church's newest members! After completing the Confirmation Class this spring via Zoom, the Session voted to approve them for membership. Both helped lead the Youth Sunday service last month as part of the class which included lessons with a rotation of elders supplemented with independent study. A confirmation service during worship will be scheduled at a later date. Nolan and Kasen are both rising 9th graders at Boone High School. They are each the youngest of three brothers and members of families with long ties to Grace Covenant. Congratulations, Nolan and Kasen!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Register Online

<https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=55505>



Completed grades K-5

JUNE 8-11, 2020

9 a.m. to 11:30

Option 1 at the church in Smith Hall

Up to 20 students, two groups of ten

Option 2 is VBS to Go!

Delivered in a box to your home.

Questions? Call 407-898-6571.

Ruth Circle

Although Ruth Circle was unable to meet in person in April and May, we continued our focus on Bible study and service to the community.

Winnie Rutherford our Bible study leader put together studies we could do at home so that we could complete our lessons on the Ten Commandments. We all appreciate her work very much.

During the year we collect funds which go toward our community project Servant's Heart which feeds close to 300 families weekly.

We contribute diapers each month for the young families.

We also made up 48 Easter baskets which were distributed to selected families identified by the schools they serve.

We had over \$140 in revenue and the circle agreed to put the money toward Servant's Heart. We were able to purchase \$100 worth of diapers in all sizes as well as rice, pasta and canned goods as identified by Servant's Heart Director, Chip Hanna as needs.

Ruth circle continues to be a strong group of caring women. We look forward to meeting in person hopefully when we start up again in September. All are welcome to join us, We meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 10 am.

Barbara Hart

MUSIC CAMP



June 22-25, 2020
with a
performance online

Registration
\$20/\$10 for additional siblings.

Ukuleles - \$33.00

Adult and high school
volunteers needed.

To register and for more info,
contact Barbara Browning
or call the church office
407-898-6571

SUPER SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR RISING Kindergartners
through Rising 5th Graders

Who is your favorite Super Hero?



If you had to go into
battle, what Super
Hero would you want
standing by your side?

Every Sunday

9:30am – 10:30 am

Come learn how you can be
a Super Hero!

One hour filled with games, stories,
food and fun!

See you in Smith Hall!

SUPER SUMMER WEDNESDAYS

July 2020

Starting July 1

9 a.m. to 11:30

Games, crafts, stories, and fun!
10 Slots available each Wednesday

[https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/
myEvent/?id=55504](https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=55504)

Questions? Call Sheryl at
407-898-6571

Session Summary

May 2020

Session and staff are working towards a plan for re-opening the church. The size of the church and its many ministries makes that a complex and challenging task. Session is carefully monitoring changing circumstances and assessing next steps to ensure the safety and well-being of the congregation and community. Staff and committees are meeting frequently and bringing recommendations to Session. Be looking for updates about how and when we can begin to gather together again.

Session extended the suspension of in-person worship and other gatherings through June 14. "On-line" communion was approved for June 7.

Admin & Personnel completed staff reviews. Building & Grounds is completing several large projects undertaken while the church property has been closed.

VBS will proceed with modifications for safety and social distancing.

The finances of the church remain stable despite the disruption to church activities.

The Committee on Ministry approved the church's request to call a pastor nominating committee.

Nolan Kelly and Kasen Schlichenmaier, who completed confirmation by Zoom, were received as members. The confirmation service will be held at a later date TBD.

Session noted, with sadness, the passing of member Bill Quirk who was an active deacon.

A Lunch Book Study

As things start to reopen, I am looking forward to the time when we can meet together again, whether that is June, or July, or even August. I am reading a wonderful new book that I would love to share with you. So, when we can meet in groups at the church again I would like to start a Lunch book study on "**Exactly as You Are: The Life and Faith of Mister Rogers**" by Shea Tuttle. Mr. Rogers is one of my favorite people and one of my favorite Presbyterian ministers!

The book is available in hardcover for \$17.99 and Kindle for \$17.09. The church Library will be getting a copy or two if you would rather check it out that way. It was the April Presbytery Book Club book, so I can check you out a copy from there if you need it.

We could bring a brown bag lunch and fellowship while we eat. Then, we could discuss a chapter or two from the book as an eight week study. I am looking at Noon on Wednesdays once we can be together again. If you are still unable to join us in person, I can make arrangements for you to join us via Zoom. Please let me know if you are interested so that I can get a head count and make plans. Contact me by email churchoffice@grace.to, or by phone 407-898-6571. As soon as we have a start date I will announce it in the newsletter, the weekly email blast, on the web page, and (hopefully) in the bulletin. If you let me know that you are definitely coming, then I can give you a personal email or a phone call. Hope to see you there! – Karen Estes

Travel Prayers

Please be prayer for our students and chaperones as we travel to High School Montreat Youth Conference on July 25-Aug. 1. Pray travel mercies, and that Christ will reveal Himself in a fresh and unique way so we **all** can grow closer to Him.

Grace on the Greens

Our *Grace on the Greens Golf Fundraiser* originally scheduled for April 18th has been moved to October 3rd due to Covid-19 social restrictions. Please make note of this change, and use this golf fundraiser benefitting our Youth & Family Ministry as an outreach to your neighbors and friends!!!!

Rooted Youth Group

Students – ROOTED programs will depend upon Session's decisions regarding when we can gather. Watch for updates on our various social media outlets. Also, we'll welcome our rising 5th graders into our family of believers!

Family Promise

August 9 - 16, 2020. Contact Alison to coordinate or Diana Ibarra for more information

June/July 2020



**GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Office Hours
Monday–Thursday: 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m.–noon

1655 Peel Ave., Orlando, FL 32806
Phone: 407.898.6571
E-mail: churchoffice@grace.to
WWW.GRACE.TO

To:

Non-Profit Organization
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Permit No. 3597
Orlando, FL

Return Service Requested

SURVEY INSIDE

Stay Connected and Current

Grace Covenant is offering weekly email updates.

Get the latest news and information delivered right to your inbox. To subscribe, call or email the church office. (Everyone will still receive the Grace Notes newsletter with its extra features each month.) Follow the church on Facebook. Subscribe to the church YouTube channel where you will also find our new "Grace Kids Now" channel. Sermons, COVID-19 updates, announcements and a link to the bulletin (coming soon) can be found on the church website.

Please continue to support the work of the church by mailing your tithes and offerings to the church office or by making a donation through the church website. Go to the "Online Giving" page at www.grace.to and click on the "Give Now" button.