

Grace Notes



Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

August 2022

God's Rest

Jesus said to them, 'Come away with me. Let us go alone to a quiet place and rest for a while.' Mark 6:31
Have you taken some rest yet? We have reached the month of August, which means that the summer nears its end. Soon schools will reopen, families will experience change as college begins, and the church ramps up for a return of choir, bell choir and other activities. But there is still time for rest. Jesus was fond of rest. Jesus believed in rest. In between healing, teaching and praying, Jesus sought rest. He knew that humanity needs to take a break, to experience down time and experience God in a way that is different than the normal cycle of life.

It is important to take weekly rest (after all God gave us the Sabbath for a reason), as well as extended time off. I hope you have either taken some time or will take some time over this month to recharge and renew. And I hope you find God's rest.

Pastor Bill

With Gratitude

On behalf of Manisha and Kiran, I want to thank all of you for the wonderful reception on our first Sunday at GCPC. It was a great opportunity to meet many of you and to see your hospitality in action. We appreciate how you treated us, wanting to get to know each of us personally as well as meeting your new pastor. Let us look forward to more celebrations in the future!

Pastor Bill

Looking Forward

August

- 7 - Blessing of Teachers and Backpacks
- 10 - Serving at Daily Bread
- 13 - ROOTED Parents Night Out Fundraiser
- 17 - Choir Rehearsal begins
- 21 - Rally Day
- 27 - F.I.S.H.

September

- 5 - Labor Day, Office Closed
- 18 - Congregational Meeting
- 18 - ROOTED Youth Spaghetti Lunch
- 14 - SHINE

October

- 2 - World Communion Sunday
- 15 - Pumpkin Patch
- 16 - Third Grade Bible Sunday
- 22 - Nathaniel's Hope Buddy Break
- 25 - Installation Service for Pastor Bill
- 30 - The Great Pumpkin Chase

See the church calendar online:

<https://www.grace.to/announcements/weekly-calendar/>

In Sympathy

We extend Christian love and sympathy
to these families.

Dawn Wells - June 10, 2022

“M” and Joe Waddell - “M” lost her brother

Bob and Janet Core - Bob lost his brother

Mike Beam and Vantrease Blair - Mike lost his brother

Thank You

Friends,

Thank you for the lovely reception. What a wonderful time of sharing remembrances of our journey together. Thank you also for your thoughtful and generous gifts which we plan to put towards travel to visit with our son and daughter.

The Grace Covenant family of faith has supported my ministry at Grace and blessed me with your friendship. I will cherish the memories and hold the stories in my heart.

With joy and gratitude I am yours in Christ,
Pastor Melanie

To Our Church Family,

The Christian Education Committee hosted an elegant High Tea, on Saturday, May 7 in Conway Hall honoring ladies for Mother’s Day under the leadership of Ms Sheryl and the supervision of Minnette Mullings.

The committee members provided lovely china, silver flatware and food. The menu consisted of scones, finger sandwiches, pastries and of course tea which were enjoyed by all especially the children. Parents telling their children they were having too much tea.

A program of music performed by soloist Melissa Minyard and her accompanist, John DeHass of a Mothers Day theme was very heartwarming provided by Ms Sheryl.

Trivia questions pertaining to Tea and Mother’s Day and a poem were also enjoyed by all.

Ms Sheryl, Minnette and all the ladies and gentlemen who helped make this Special Day a wonderful success, we thank you. We were His hands and feet.

C E committee

To the Congregation,

Thank YOU for the amazing amount of school supplies you donated to the ROOTED annual fill backpacks mission!!!



The Kindness of Strangers

How the Welcome poster for Pastor Bill and family came to be. I was asked to create a welcome poster. Since it would be on display for Pastor Bill’s event, it had to be special. I prayed to God to guide me as I am not a professional artist. In doing some research, I had an idea of what the poster would consist of, that incorporated the neighborhood as well as the family names of honor and Grace Covenant. As I was shopping in the art supply store a kind stranger asked to assist me. I told her I was tasked with a project. After giving her a short version of how three churches are now one, I described an idea for a welcoming poster for our new pastor and told her how special Grace Covenant was. God placed her in my path because the next thing she said was “I am an artist and I will gift you this poster”. The kindness of strangers, Lynda Chandler, was sharing God’s love as well as her time and talent. I thank Lynda for I am forever grateful to her. She was also looking for a church and I have invited her to come visit. You can read about this beautiful person on this website.

beautifulwaydesigns.com

Blessings,

Janice Grierson

Corrected Zip Code

Sylvia Jorgenson

Session Summary

Session held a stated meeting on June 16, 2022
moderated by Rev. Bill Wisneski.

- Committee reports received
- Session approved the use of the sanctuary for a recital
- Share the Care contract renewal is undergoing
- Pastor Bill will do a prayer of commissioning for the Youth group the Sunday before the mission trip
- Session discussed Pastor Bill's Installation service, date to be determined
- Sheryl to organize volunteers for the Presbytery FISH event (August 27)
- Installation of new keypads in process
- Upgrading of sanctuary lights in process
- New procedures to be established for opening and closing the building on Sundays

Session held a stated meeting on July 21, 2022
moderated by Rev. Bill Wisneski.

- Committee reports received
- Installation Service scheduled for Sunday September 25
- Share the Care contract renewal progressing
- No major decisions were made

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Please contact the church office for a copy of the birthday and anniversary list.



Saturday, August 27

Two Workshop Sessions 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Lunch & Learn 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

To register and find your packet go to
<http://www.cfpresbytery.org/equip.html>

In-Person at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
or

A Virtual Package of Two Workshops (I-A and II-A)
and Lunch & Learn via Zoom

This is an annual training event for those engaged in educational ministries in the church professionally or as volunteers. Resources have been provided on the CFP Equip Webpage to help.

Book Club

Tuesday, August 23, 7:00 pm

Panera Bread on South Semoran

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towels

In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal and is sentenced to house arrest in a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.



Greetings,

If you receive a text, email or other communication requesting gift cards for some emergency, please let Pastor Bill or the office know. There is a scam that has gone around for the past few years where someone claiming to be the pastor requests gift cards, usually for a sick person. They ultimately ask you to send the gift card numbers and PIN to them.

Grace Covenant has a process for helping people in need and Pastor Bill will not be sending messages requesting gift cards (especially asking for the numbers and PIN) in this way.

If we do want to gather gift cards, we will do so in an appropriate fashion so all know it is a real need.

Thank you,

Pastor Bill

Small Blessings Child Care

Small Blessings Child Care Center has had the best summer ever! They had fun full times with a visit from the Orlando Fire Dept., Curbside Circus, a Storyteller, Mad Science, Train Rides, a Ventriloquist, Petting Farm and to end it all with a Foam Party!

This month SBCC will be celebrating 35 years with serving in the Conway Community. We have been very blessed to have had an impact on so many children's lives. We give thanks to God for such a blessed opportunity to have this wonderful ministry at Grace Covenant.

We want to give a big thank you to "M" for giving so much of herself as she has retired from teaching at Small Blessings. We will miss her with her teaching hat on but our hats are off to her for the 44 total years of teaching!

SBCC is looking forward to another school year of meeting new friends, learning and laughing, that is what they do so beautifully. Grace Covenant continues to love and support this ministry that is on our campus.

Daily Bread

One of the many exciting ministries available to the congregation of Grace Covenant is Daily Bread, a Christian Service Center program, which provides nourishing meals to the homeless of our community throughout the year. Our teams from Grace Covenant serve lunch one Wednesday each month with an 11:15 arrival and lunch served between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. The site is located at 808 W. Central Blvd. Our teams work shoulder-to-shoulder in a serving line and wear masks as a necessary protocol. Carpooling is encouraged. Dates available for 2022 are as follows: July 13, August 10, September 14, October 5, November 9, December 7

Contact the church office to join the team.

Children Grades K-3

Dover Shores Elementary School children can use the following items: toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and underwear. Please place items in the food collection box in the Narthex. The Outreach Committee thanks you for helping our neighborhood school.



It's time to return to creative socializing!

Join us in the Reception Hall on the 2nd Friday of the month

6pm-11pm

Drop in & leave at any time.

You are Invited!
Grace Covenant Potluck Lunch
and Mike Beam Farewell!

Sunday, August 7

After the Second Service

Conway Hall

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Dessert Provided

You bring a Side Dish that goes well with

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs

Such as baked beans, potato salad,

fruit tray, mac n' cheese....

You get the idea!

See you at Grace Covenant's

1st Potluck in Two Years!

ROOTED Youth Group

Students and Parents

If you would like to help shape the Youth and Young Adult ministry, we are seeking people who are interested and can make a commitment!!! On the second Thursday of each month, we meet via ZOOM at 7:00pm-7:40pm to discuss how events and programming went in the past, what can we improve upon, and what can we build together for the future. If interested, please let the church office know.

Students

ROOTED this month meets on August 21 from 5:15pm-7pm for our annual Ice Cream Social. We'll have pizza, drinks, and ice cream YOU bring your favorite ice cream topping and enough to share. Bring your friends and we'll go over some of our events you want to put in your calendar! Watch for details on our Annual Spaghetti Luncheon, Sept. 18, and other events and other news on Facebook: Grace Covenant PC Youth, and on Instagram: @rootedgpcpc

International Mission News

Cuba:

El Centro Presbytery

Central Florida Presbytery has partnered with the 14 church network of El Centro Presbytery in Cuba.

This summer, for the first time since the pandemic, a small group from our Presbytery traveled to Cuba carrying \$10,000 of parts to keep El Centro's bus running. The much needed bus provides transportation for members and pastors who need to travel among churches, and provides income through rent to other groups. The churches are working hard to become more self-sustaining not only through bus rental, but also by offering rooms in churches for overnight stays. Progress is being made despite the obstacles of working around the communist government. Another trip is planned for March 2023.

Guatemala:

AIR Guatemala is part of our Presbytery's PATH (Presbyterians' Answer to Hunger) 5 Cents a Meal program. For the first time since the pandemic, AIR has been able to sponsor summer mission trips to replant decimated forests and build fuel efficient stoves and cisterns in Mayan communities. A new mission hub/training center is being constructed near Panajachel, where communities are on a wait list to receive training and support. The indigenous Mayans suffer among the highest malnutrition rates in our hemisphere. AIR's trained technicians teach farmers how to grow successful crops and start businesses, giving them the income they need to sustain their families. AIR families don't migrate, as they are thriving in their communities.

August 2022

Volume 65, Issue 7



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m.

Online

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.- Noon

1655 Peel Avenue

Orlando, FL 32806

Phone 407.898.6571

E-mail: churchoffice@grace.to

WWW.GRACE.TO

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To

Rally Day

Sunday, August 21, 2022

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

All ages, children, adults, grandmas, grandpas, aunts, uncles EVERYONE will meet in the Sanctuary for an uplifting "Be The Light" time with Pastor Bill and Ms. Sheryl, a short devotional and some great singing will begin our time. After our time in the sanctuary, we will move to Conway Hall for a continental breakfast. What a great way to start a new year of learning and growing together!

SHINE Kids Club

Kindergarten through 5th Grade

SHINE begins Wednesday, September 14.

4pm - 6pm

Here is our fun schedule:

4:00 - 4:20 games and fun

4:20 - 4:30 snacks

4:30 - 5pm homework and reading time

(we will have folks ready to help with homework)

5pm - 6pm We will be working on a presentation for the holidays (singing, dancing, painting, crafting...)

You can register online or give Ms. Sheryl a call 407-898-6571

Please continue to support the work of the church by mailing your tithes and offerings to the church 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.