

Grace Notes



Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

October 2022

God Is With Us!

We are experiencing change at Grace Covenant. I'm not very fond of change, how about you? Sometimes I get mad, other times I'm sad and then sometimes I just feel nothing (that's the scariest). This week a fellow ministry partner reminded me that feelings are okay, they are. We can take our feelings and lean into the One who never changes, the One who is our rock. Change is certainly inevitable, but in every change, there is God's **preparation and presence**. God is the place we can go... He will always be there.

God will never say, "I've had it". God has never had it with us. God will still recognize us. God will still love us. We are his children, he chooses us and He will never leave. **That's called grace!**

God is always there...even in, especially in, the dark.

Let us all lean into the One who is our rock.

See you Sunday!

Sheryl – Director of Family & Community Outreach

"I will not leave you or forsake you..."

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:1,5,9).

Week of Spiritual Renewal and Prayer

What if the times we most desperately seek to avoid in life are actually the moments we most greatly need? It's in these difficult times that God desires to do some of His deepest work in us. During the week of October 3 - 9, as a congregation we will embark together on the "Journey of Trust". A devotional is being mailed to your home. Each day will include a devotion, prayer prompts and a link to a short video. The video will be on our Facebook page as well as our website. Watch your mailbox and join together on the JOURNEY OF TRUST.

Looking Forward

October

2 - World Communion Sunday

17 - Pumpkin Patch Opens

16 - Third Grade Bible Sunday

22 - Nathaniel's Hope Buddy Break

23 - Commitment Sunday

November

1 - All Saints' Day

13 - Annual Picnic

20 - Hanging of the Greens

24 - Thanksgiving Day

December

14 - Blue Christmas Service

24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.

See the church calendar online:

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

Pumpkin Patch

October 17 - 30

Monday-Saturday 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday, October 23 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Games! Photo Op! Crafts!



Thank You

The Outreach Committee (your Grace in Action Team) is so thankful for our many hard-working volunteers who made our September Food Drop a huge success. Despite short notice, together we were the hands and feet of Jesus, helping to feed 480 families in our neighborhood! Amazing! We also took three carloads of food to the Russell Home. We are especially grateful for the support of our awesome Scout Troop 23. Thank you all!

Ruth Circle

I joined Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in 2009. At that time Ruth Circle had been in existence for many years. Elaine Simpson was the chair and Joyce Aubrey was the Bible teacher. It was a place for women of faith to meet in fellowship with one another. In these past 13 years there have been changes to the circle.

As the circle grew, an added dimension was the call for community service. Ruth Circle wanted to find an organization that was faith based to pass on religious materials, the Word and also help children.

In time, we found Servant's Heart. They are able to find families in need and deliver food on a weekly basis. Often these families are referred by the school system.

We have begun a new study (Twelve Women of the Bible) led by Winnie Rutherford and the circle is flourishing. We have welcomed several new members as well as the office staff!! Please join us at any time and let us know if you have any questions. Barbara Hart

New Address

Rick and Kathie Richert McKenzie Elliott

Daily Bread

808 W. Central Blvd. 11:15am - 1:00pm Wednesdays
October 5, November 9 and December 7

Daily Bread is a Christian Service Center program which provides nourishing meals to the homeless of our community throughout the year. Carpooling is encouraged.

Contact the church office to join the team.

Cooking with Grace

Monday October 19 6 p.m. on Zoom

Contact Carolyn at Carolyn@findingnewjoys.com to receive more information, the recipe and Zoom invite.

Attention Crafters!

Saturday, December 10, Noon - 5pm

Get out your glue guns and sharpen up your scissors! Grace Covenant will sponsor a gift boutique booth at the Hourglass Collective Holiday Market. Get busy on those projects right away; more details will be coming about how to participate.

Small Blessings Child Care

October already! That's enough to make your pumpkin spin! We have welcomed both familiar and new faces. Welcome Miss Dayanara to our baby room, where we do tummy time and play with blocks and puzzles. And we have story time, music and puppet time as well as stroller rides. We would also like to welcome Ms. Brenda to the Toddler team. Toddler's favorite time is snack time! This month's focus is the circle, the color red and the number one. Also, welcoming Ms. Catelyn to K2, we are learning everything from shapes to counting. K3 is exploring and discovering many things in God's world through painting, stories, music and more. K4's love for learning new things is exploring Florida, Friendships, Family, and the world around them. Vowel names and sounds, counting to 10 and writing numbers will be our focus. We are off to a busy and exciting time. Ms Sheryl leads Chapel on Thursdays with Bible stories and songs. Thanks be to God for SBCC, our prayers continue with parents, all the children, teachers and staff for a successful new school year.

Book Club

Tuesday, September 27, 7:00 pm

Panera Bread on South Semoran

The Devil in Pew #7 by Rebecca Nichols Alonzo

In 1969, Rebecca's father, Robert Nichols, moved to Sellerstown, North Carolina, to serve as a pastor. There he found a small community eager to welcome him—with one exception. Glaring at him from pew number seven was a man obsessed with controlling the church. Determined to get rid of anyone who stood in his way, he Refusing to be driven away by acts of intimidation, Rebecca's father stood his ground until one night when an armed man walked into the family's kitchen. It is the true saga of relentless persecution, one family's faith and courage, and a daughter whose parents taught her the power of forgiveness.

DECK 2.0 - Extravaganza

Friday 6pm-11pm October 14

Please join us for some or all of our Crafting Event

For more info: call Regina 407-619-7299

Monday Night Bible Study

In the Conference Room 7pm

Contact the church office for more information.

ROOTED Youth Group

ROOTED will meet Sunday evenings from 5:15 - 7pm. Watch for details on events/news on Facebook: Grace Covenant PC Youth and Instagram: @rootedgpc

Session Summary

Session held a stated meeting on September 15, 2022.

- Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Assistant Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Central Florida was present and Rev. Bill Wisneski asked Session to give her voice in the meeting
- Session approved the baptism request for Kai Alexander Farrens; parents Catelyn Castagno and Jackson Farrens for October 9, 2022.
- Session heard reports from committees and groups
- The three-year agreement with Share the Care has been completed and signed
- A request was made for all minutes to be shared with all committee chairs for better flow of information
- After discussion, Session accepted the resignation of Rev. Bill Wisneski effective September 30, 2022. Pastor Bill's last day of effective ministry will be 9-25-22 and he will then take accrued vacation days.
- Session called for a Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday 9-25-2022 to request Presbytery to dissolve the relationship. Pastor Bill will moderate that meeting
- Rev. Greenawalt closed the meeting in prayer

International Mission News

Ukraine: The PCUSA Outreach Foundation, which supports all the church's international mission partners, reports partnerships with churches in Lithuania and Poland, as well as in Ukraine itself. In addition, the meals our church has packed have all been delivered to Ukraine. Our partners at My Neighbor's Children continue to deliver supplies to Ukraine.

***Happy
Birthday***

***Happy
Anniversary***

Please contact the church office for a copy of the birthdays and anniversaries.

To the Congregation from Pastor Bill

The Phantom of the Opera is Broadway's longest running show, but after 35 years it is coming to an end. The producer said, "As a producer you dream that a show will run forever. Indeed, my production of Andrew's 'Cats' proudly declared for decades 'Now and Forever.' Yet 'Phantom' has surpassed that show's extraordinary Broadway run. But all shows do finally close,"

My time, while not as long as Phantom, is at an end. It is with grief that we leave yet relying on God's hope that all will work out. May God bless this congregation.

Pastor Bill

Peacemaker Potluck

Wednesday, October 6 at 6 p.m.

Pastor Helivao Poget will be speaking at Park Lake Presbyterian. Pastor Helivao founded a ministry that provides a wide range of services for marginalized communities (youth, women, migrants and developmentally challenged people) and provides young people alternatives to criminal activity, substance abuse and prostitution. During her visit to the U.S., Poget will talk about her country's biggest challenges, which include human trafficking, domestic violence, poverty and prostitution.

The Outreach Committee is providing food for Grace Covenant and will need a head count. Please RSVP by September 29 to churchoffice@grace.to or 407-898-6571

For more information, please visit-
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/international-peacemaker-chaplaincy-program-provides-support-for-marginalized-people/>



October 2022

Volume 65, Issue 9



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

Giving families of kids with special needs a break

:

Buddy Break is a FREE Parents' Day Out/respice program where kids with all types of special needs (VIP kids) have FUN while their parents get a BREAK. At Buddy Break, VIP kids and their siblings make new friends, play games, do crafts, hear children's stories, enjoy music, and more! Meanwhile, parents get a break from their ongoing care-giving responsibilities.



Contact Sheryl Chernault to volunteer! 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.