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February 2023
Volume 65, Issue 11



**GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
1655 Peel Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
Phone: 407.898.6571
E-mail: churchoffice@grace.to

Sunday Worship
8:45 a.m. / 10:45 a.m. /
Online

Office Hours
Monday–Thursday: 9 am – 3 pm
Friday: 9 am – noon
WWW.GRACE.TO

To:

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

10 FEB 05.00 - 09.00 PM

Middle & High Schoolers will baby sit so you can have a night out & so they can raise \$\$ for camp!

Movies • Crafts • Games • Pizza

MESSAGE US FOR DETAILS!
EMAIL: YOUTH@GRACE.TO



Saturday
February 11
10am-1pm

A free
Parents Day Out
Respite Program

Contact Sheryl
to volunteer!
407-898-6571

Grace Notes

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

February 2023

An Artistic Approach to Lent

How do you express your creative instincts? Do you make art? Maybe you build things. Perhaps poetry or prose is your creative outlet. Or you might be content to appreciate the creative output of others, which is perfectly fine.

Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday on February 22. At Grace Covenant, we will be looking to our artistic side to be a Lenten companion. After all, the word “Lent” has etymological roots in the season of spring as well as the idea of “lengthening light” which reminds us of longer days as we leave winter behind. In particular, we are using the life and work of Henri Matisse to color our journey through the Lenten season this year.

Matisse once said he liked to pray with a pencil: “At the moment I go every morning to say my prayers, pencil in hand; I

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Looking Forward

February

- 5 - Scout Sunday
- 10 - ROOTED Parents Night Out
- 22 - Ash Wednesday
Worship Service, 6:30pm

March

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Lenten Lunches
- 19 - Blessing of the Quilts Sunday

April

- 1 - Easter Egg Hunt
- 2 - Palm Sunday
Communion
- 5 - Hops for Haiti
- 9 - Easter
ROOTED Golf Tournament
TBD

See the church calendar online:
<https://www.grace.to/announcements/weekly-calendar/>

Thank You

To “M” Waddell and Grace Covenant

On behalf of our students and families we want to thank you for the gift cards that were provided by your church with immense generosity.

It is because of our amazing community members like yourself that we can fully support our students and their families. Thank you again and Happy New Year, 2023!

Mrs. Fowler, Pershing School

Still Stitchin’ with Grace

Was a great year for the ladies of Still Stitchin’ with Grace, a total of 249 quilts and 80 pillowcases were made and delivered to Winnie Palmer Children’s Hospital, Harbor House, Ukraine, and to the tornado victims in Kentucky.

We appreciate every one of you for the cash donations, and fabric that have been received. We hope this year we will be able to surpass our numbers of 2022.

Ruth Circle

In January, we continued our study of the twelve women of the Bible. We learned about Abigail who was a woman of wisdom and discernment. She was able to confront issues while helping to heal relationships.

We continue to welcome new members while supporting those with continued membership. Our numbers are growing for which we are most appreciative.

Servant’s Heart is the recipient of our outreach. With our diaper ministry we will also be adding canned goods and for Easter will be putting together Easter baskets for the children they serve.

All are welcome to Ruth Circle. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 10 am . Blessings, Barbara Hart

New Contact Info

Mary Jane & John Neusaenger

Dan McDonald

Session Summary January 2023

In January, the session approved a budget for 2023. It also approved the revitalization of the 5 Cents Per Meal offering benefiting hunger relief through the presbytery. It also approved dates for special offerings of the synod and General Assembly.

The session began a “meeting partnership” with the deacons. One deacon will be present at every session meeting, and one active elder will be present at every deacon meeting. We are confident that this “mutual indwelling” will bear fruit in our common ministry.

In people news, the session was grateful to re-elect Diana Ibarra as Clerk of Session and Bruce Lampman as Treasurer. It nominated folks for the boards of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church Foundation and Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Inc. for the respective annual meetings of those bodies. It also approved a new member of the board of Small Blessings Child Care.

Finally, it elected two commissioners for the March meeting of presbytery and approved requests to use the sanctuary for non-worship gatherings.

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stand in front of a pomegranate tree covered in blossom, each flower at a different stage, and I watch their transformation... filled with admiration for the work of God. Is this not a way of praying?”

Lent is traditionally a season of solemn introspection and even self-denial. Fasting is common, in addition to other spiritual disciplines. But it can be a time of development as well as denial. In pursuing our creative gifts, we affirm the image of the Divine Creator in us.

So mark your calendars with pencil, colored ink, or crayons and plan to join together on Ash Wednesday for soup and bread in Conway Hall at 6pm. Then we will have a brief reflective worship including imposition of ashes at 6:30 in the sanctuary.

Look for a weekly devotion using Matisse’s life and art as a companion to our scriptures and Lenten disciplines. Sunday School lessons and the sermon series will also be colored by the material. We hope that this artistic approach to Lent will be meaningful for you.



**Happy
Anniversary**

Happy Birthday

**Please contact the
church office for a
copy of this list.**

Small Blessings

Love is what it is all about at Small Blessings. Jesus continues to show His love to each of us. We love watching our babies up to our VPK children grow in so many ways and their love for learning is so inspiring. The children are learning love, 1 John 3:23 “love one another” and Matthew 28:20 “Jesus is always with us”. We are so blessed to have Ms. Anibel in the baby room and love welcoming back Miss Nisha, who returned to K4A. Small Blessings hopes all the love that is given by so many comes back to you.



Psalm 32:1, NRSV

Book Club

Tuesday, February 28 7pm
Panera Bread, S. Semoran
Barefoot

by Sharon G. Brown

ROOTED Youth Group

Sunday evenings
Middle school 4:15 - 6:00 pm
High school 5:00 - 7:15pm.
Watch for details on events
and news on Facebook:
Grace Covenant PC Youth
and Instagram: @rootedgpcpc

D.E.C.K 2.0

6pm -11pm
Second Fridays,
Discover, Explore, Create, &
Know the joy of cultivating
your creativity with other
crafters. Drop in for any
amount of time. Questions:
contact the church office.