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October 2023
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**GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1655 Peel Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
Phone: 407.898.6571
E-mail: churchoffice@grace.to
www.grace.to

SHINE Kids Club

Kindergarten through 5th
Grade

Saturdays

October 21

November 18

9am - 11:45

Songs, Stories, Snacks, STEAM
activities and tons of fun!

Come to one or all three, each
one is different!

Register online

<https://grace.to/grace-kids/>



October 28

To volunteer contact

Lori Lampman

Sunday, October 29

One Service

And the

Annual Picnic

South Driveway

To:

Grace Notes

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

October 2023

Where Does the Time Go?

I was sitting in my recliner on a Saturday morning watching a college football pregame show when I received a phone call from someone I had not spoken to in quite a while. "Why the heck is Diana Ibarra calling me?" I wondered. Well, I found out soon enough! She was calling to see if I could preach for Grace Covenant for the month of October. As it happened, I was available. "Sure!" I told her. "Glad to help."

Not long after I got off the phone with her, Dan Williams called from the presbytery. "I bet I know why you're calling,"

Looking Forward

October

- 1 World Communion
Sunday
- 14 Pumpkin Arrival
- 15 Reformation/All Saints
Sunday
- 15 Pumpkin Patch Opens
- 21 SHINE
- 21 Workday in the
Sanctuary
- 28 Buddy Break
- 29 Fifth Sunday, One Service
- 29 Congregational Meeting
- 29 Annual Picnic

November

- 18 SHINE
- 18 Rummage Sale
- 24 Thanksgiving Day
- 26 Decorate Church

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

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I told him. Sure enough, he said I might be getting a call from Diana soon, asking if I could preach at Grace Covenant a few Sundays. “You’re too late, Dan!” I just talked to her. So he told me the same backstory that Diana relayed—that the minister they just called suddenly resigned. I could not imagine what that was like, and I was grateful to be a resource in a time of need.

Well, next thing I knew, folks from the Administration and Personnel Committee met with me and asked if I could be a Temporary Pastor for a year. By that time, I was getting reacquainted with many folks I had not seen in nine or ten years, when I had interned as an interim youth co-director. And again, I was happy to serve.

It’s hard to believe that was a year ago already! Time is really strange like that. In the present, it can zip by or crawl. Some events in the past can seem like a thousand years ago. Others feel like they were yesterday. And we never know what the future looks like until it becomes the present. We plan and anticipate as we should, but ultimately, we entrust the care of our lives, individually and collectively, to God. None of us know how long we have on this earth in this life, and God calls us to do what we can, when we can.

It is in this spirit that I continue to encourage you all to be generous with your ***Time, Talents, and Treasure Together***. As I mentioned last month, that is the theme of the generosity campaign for this year. We only have so

**Happy
Birthday
Happy
Anniversary**

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

Small Blessings Child Care

It's been smooth sailing as we glide into another new school year. This school year promises to be full of exciting learning activities. Ben Franklin said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn." Miss Sheryl holds Chapel for the children to learn about God with Bible stories and songs. Thank God for our teachers who lay the foundation for education and discovery, for the rest of a child's life. SBCC children are learning basic shapes and colors and are developing number and language skills, comprehension and thinking skills and so much more. The Bible verses are Genesis 1:1, John 1:3 and Psalm 139:14. God Bless all teachers, staff, volunteers, children and parents, especially at SBCC on the GCPC campus.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle had their first meeting of the fall on Monday September 11th. We welcomed three new members. Our lesson was on Martha led by Barbara Hart. The lesson provided an environment for a lively discussion! Next lesson will be led by Carol Ivey. Servants Heart continues to be our community project. The diaper ministry has become very important especially for young families in need. All are welcome and we look forward to an exciting year of fellowship. Any questions, please contact Barbara Hart or Carroll Frazier, co chairs.

much time to give our talents and treasure together to the kingdom of God and the kingdom of God's people. Let us make the most of God's gifts to us in all of these areas. If we do so, we can be confident that Grace Covenant will live fully into its potential to be a source of hope for the community of faith as well as the community of friends that surrounds our property.

I have learned much from you all this year, and I have more to learn still. I am grateful to have this opportunity to grow in Christ with you. It has not all been smooth, but it has been a gift. I pray it continues to be a gift to both you and me as we follow Jesus--together!

Workday in the Narthex and Sanctuary
Saturday, October 21, 9am-Noon,
Paint outside, 8:30am
Bring pail, microfiber cloths, vacuum

In Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Don Lein. His wife, Sarah, passed away on August 31, 2023.

The Pumpkin Patch

Pumpkins are being delivered Saturday, October 14th at 9am - We need help unloading the truck. Lots of coffee, water and snacks provided - it usually takes about an hour to get everything off the truck. Let Sheryl know if you can help. Give her a call at 407-898-6571 extension 106 or email her at gracekidsnow@gmail.com

Volunteers are also needed to "man the patch". There will be a sign up located in the narthex. Come be part of the pumpkin patch fun!

Grace Needs a New

Facilities Coordinator!!

In April 2023, our current Facilities Coordinator, Bobby Bond, tendered his resignation. He graciously shared that he would stay on until a replacement was found. Since then, the Property and Admin Teams have worked together to determine the needs of the church and to develop a job description. At the August 2023 Session meeting the job description was approved and a copy is available upon request.

If you are someone who is good at fixing things, responsible, dependable, has the knowledge of general maintenance, or know of someone who is, we are looking for someone who can work up to 20 hours a week (averaging around 12 to 15 hours) and be on campus during the day. For more information, please

reach out to Jim Malcolm, Admin Team Moderator; Joe Waddell, Property Team Moderator; or Pastor Jody Mask. To apply for the position, please contact Jim Malcolm Admin Team Moderator 407-312-1461.

GCPK Annual Picnic

October 29

Outside on the

South Front Driveway

The Menu will be catered by Oakwood Smokehouse and Grill (as in the past two years) with chicken, pulled pork, BBQ beans and coleslaw.

Please bring, to share, your favorite HAND HELD DESSERTS (that fit on a napkin)...such as brownies, cookies, bar cookies or cup cakes. Nothing that needs to be sliced and served.

It's a fun time outside, so come dressed for a picnic with friends and family!

Hospitality Team!

PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS

beginning October 14

Monday - Friday 3:30p - 6p

Saturdays 11a - 6p

Sundays 3p - 6p

ROOTED Youth Group

Sunday evenings, 5:15p – 7p

Watch for events and news on

Facebook - Grace Covenant

PC Youth

IG - Rooted.grace.covenant.

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch has returned and will meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Please contact Shelvey Johnson if you plan to attend.

Book Club

Panera Bread, S. Semoran

Tuesday, October 24 at 7pm

Keeping Lucy

by Tessa Afshar

D.E.C.K 2.0

6pm -11pm Second Fridays
Craft with others for any amount of time. Questions: contact the church office

Rummage Sale

Saturday, November 18

08:30 AM-1:00 PM

Conway Hall Gym

Setup: Friday, November 17

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Volunteers Needed

Friday: Table Setup, Sorting Treasures

Saturday: Sign Holders out front, Negotiators, Money Handlers, Take Down. Drivers take some items to Russell Home or Good Will after sale.

Will start accepting donations Sunday, November 12. Please bring to Conway Hall or side door of gym.

Need your help to make sale the Best Ever! Please start cleaning closets, garages, kitchen items. Will accept furniture, rugs, lamps, clean clothes, linens, tools, planters, kitchen items, kid toys. Sale profits to benefit college scholarships and gardens.

Coordinator: Lori Lampman/
churchoffice@grace.to