



Grace Presbyterian Church

1415 Airport Road
Panama City, Florida
32405

Return Service Requested



*Come Experience Grace!
It is the purpose of Grace, to
share the gospel, to equip
the saints, and to serve
others so that all people
may experience the love and
joy of Jesus!*

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1415 Airport Road
Panama City, FL. 32405
850-769-4000

Regular Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 850-769-4000
Follow us online at:

www.gracechurchpc.com

On Facebook at:
Grace Presbyterian
Church
Panama City, Florida

Ministry Staff

Pastor: Rev. Eric Spoon
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Huffaker
Youth & Children's Director: Jason Williams
Director of Grace Preschool: Susan Ackermann
Administrative Secretary: Beverly Halley
Pianist: Deborah Collins
Nursery Administrator: Leah Rudek

Grace Cares Ministry

**FOOD PANTRY
LIMITED
FINANCIAL AID**

**THURSDAY
8:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

*Where Everyone Is Welcome,
No One is Perfect, and
Anything is Possible!*

If this was a newspaper....the front page would be:



300 Gospel Opportunities packed by Grace Presbyterian Church!

One of the most successful years ever and with many varied groups helping, Grace packed & readied for shipping 300 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

Through your gift-filled shoeboxes, we are bringing good news and great joy to children in Africa, Asia, Europe, Central America, South America, and the Pacific Islands. Boys and girls are coming to know Christ and leading their families to follow Him too. Churches are being planted and new generations of evangelists are rising up through The Greatest Journey, Operation Christmas Child's discipleship program just for shoebox recipients.

Thanks to so many of you for your labors of love & devotion

Jim McQuagge for picking up 30 (HEAVY) shipping cartons

Jamie Williams promoting & organizing packing day

Youth for assembling cardboard boxes

Men's group and several individuals who provided additional \$\$ for shipping

Patti Jo & Ronnie for afternoon treats

Melanie Spoon promotion to Girl Scout Troup # 3040

And so many more....GOD IS GOOD !!



Preschool News



From the Director's Desk,

Happy December! December is always a very busy month here at the preschool. The children have been preparing for the upcoming Christmas program which will take place on December 14 and 15 at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. The children have been practicing and enjoying Christmas songs during music class with Ms. Skyler since the start of November! I hope you will all be able to join us for this wonderful program. This is always a fun time for the children and a great time for us all to get together as a school and church family.

Wednesday, December 22, will be our last day of preschool and after school care as we break for the holidays. Although Bay district schools will start back on Friday, January 7, the preschool and after school care program will not start back until Monday, January 10.

Merry Christmas to you all and a Blessed New Year!

Susan Ackermann
Director



DECEMBER SERMONS

December 5, 2021 (2nd Sunday of Advent/Communion/Peace)
Sermon Scripture – Malachi 3: 1 – 4/Luke 3: 1 - 6
Sermon Title: “Wait”

December 12, 2021 (3rd Sunday of Advent/Joy)
Lessons in Carols

December 19, 2021 (4th Sunday of Advent/Love)
Sermon Scripture – Micah 5: 2 -5a/Luke 1: 39 -45
Sermon Title: “Respond”

December 24, 2021 (Christmas Eve/Communion/Christ)
Sermon Scripture – Isaiah 9: 2 -7/Luke 2: 1 – 20
Sermon Title: “Celebrate”

December 26, 2021 (1st Sunday of Christmas)
Rev. Jim Huffaker Preaching



Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2021

5:00pm

Join us for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Service on December 24, 2021 at 5:00pm in the sanctuary. We will be celebrating the birth of Christ as the body of Christ. Be sure to come early and enjoy the music of our very own Wind Ensemble Musicians.

Come worship with us and celebrate the New Born King!



DECEMBER TEAM

Laurie Combs
Brenda Dye
Elizabeth Dickson
Jay Hall
Beverly Halley
Cheryl Picken
Carolella Trappe
Jamie Williams

Presbyterian Women of Grace

Meetings for December

Thursday, December 2, PWCT @ 2:00pm

Thursday, December 9, AM Circle @ 9:30am

Monday, December 13, LNO Circle @ 6:30pm

Tuesday, December 14, AM Circle @ 9:30am



To My Church Family:

Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock. Isaiah 26: 4

Who thought that when we began 2021, we would be in such a positive place in life? COVID-19 is settling down. Attendance in worship is staying steady. Giving is going strong. The community is beginning a strong chatter about who Grace is what is going on at Grace, especially with the Christmas Light Extravaganza in the field starting to really take shape. New groups have made Grace their home and people from those groups are beginning to ask about worship opportunities and children and youth programs in the church. Many who left Grace at some point in time have made their way back to Grace with several recommitting their membership fully to our church family. The church building, inside and out, is looking better and better every day as we make improvement after improvement. After the way 2020 went, how many actually believed that 2021 would be such a wonderful year?

The truth is, 2021 has been great for Grace! When I interviewed at Grace, I saw a potential in Grace that I knew that this congregation had something special within it. There was a clear sign that the people of this congregation wanted to make an impact in the lives of those within the church walls as well as those beyond our congregation. And this is happening in bigger and bolder ways with each passing day. It is a beautiful life being lived out here at Grace!

But I have to admit that this also makes me a little anxious. All throughout history churches have had a tendency to see things going well because they leaned on the Lord and when things were strong, they began to lean on themselves. Look what we did. Look who we are. A whole litany of what are essentially negative thoughts become prevalent within the life of that congregation. The people begin thinking less about how they need to trust in the Lord and more about how they think they are the best before God. We cannot slip into the mindset that just because things are going well that we no longer have a mission as a church for Jesus Christ to live out – loving God and loving one another while making disciples of all nations. Now is not the time to take on how wonderful we are, but rather to celebrate how amazing God is!

There is one month left in this calendar year. Let's make the season of Advent the greatest month of the year as we continually and faithfully give for God. We will celebrate Christ's birth at the end of year, not because of how amazing we think Grace Presbyterian Church is because of what we have done but because of what God has done, is doing, and will do for us and for this world. Let's glorify God yesterday, today, tomorrow, and forever and always trust in the Lord who is our everlasting rock and glory!

Blessings in Peace,
Rev. Eric Spoon



Men's Sunday School Class

Men of the Church, are you looking for a men's only Sunday school class? The Ministry of Christian Education is looking to form a new men's Sunday school class beginning next year. To make this happen, we need to know if there is interest in having a men's Sunday school class and who would like to step up and lead the class. If this is something that would fit your interest, please contact Pastor Spoon and let him know. Thanks!



Preschool Christmas Program

We are looking for volunteers to greet families and celebrate the children of the preschool, while helping with other activities such as serving food, on December 14 and 15 for the preschool Christmas Program. This is a commitment from about 9:30am to 1:00pm. Please let Ronnie Wilson know if you are able to help serve as we seek to be Christ's hands and feet in the world.



Ark Encounter Trip Information

An information package outlining the proposed trip in the early spring to visit the Ark Encounter/Creation Museum/Dollywood is available. This information has a proposed dateline, as well as an estimated cost. Please see Janet Pitts to obtain this information package if you are interested in going on this trip or if you have any questions. Thank you.



Men of Grace: The Men of Grace will not be meeting in December. We will resume meeting in January.

Gracevine Info for January: Due Friday, December 10. Please submit any items you would like to appear in the January edition of the Gracevine by the deadline. Please send information to Janet Pitts at cookiegirl54@yahoo.com OR to the church at gracechurchpc@gmail.com.

Proverbs 31 Guild – Meets the second Monday of each month in Bell Hall @ 11:00 a.m. Contact Ronnie Wilson for more information.

YOGA BLISS – Faith and Fitness – Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. – Bell Hall
Contact: JoAnn at 850-819-1246.

SAINT ANDREWS BAY QUILTERS' GUILD – Meets here at Grace each month. If you enjoy quilting and fellowship visit their website <http://www.sabqg.org> for meeting times and membership information.

The Women's Club of PC, Environment Dept. meets the fourth Tuesday of each month in Room 202 at 10:00 a.m. For more information, contact Almeda Huffaker or Cheryl Picken.



Want to spend an evening with your family and friends this Christmas season enjoying the lights, sounds, and beauty of this magical time of the year? Then make plans visit Grace to experience the wonderful Christmas light display behind Bell Hall. In the entire month of December every evening you will be able to witness a Christmas light show you will never forget! The display will continue until Wednesday, January 5, 2022. There is a suggested \$5 donation per adult, and a \$1 donation for kids, but everyone is welcome, and no one will be turned away!

As you may know Scott Fester, who grew up in Grace, will be featured in Season 9 of The Great Christmas Light Fight which will air on ABC on Monday, November 29. Be sure to tune in to find out how Scott did! Then, please come by to see his display in person!!! This will be a drive/walking event with kids' activities nightly, Santa photo opportunities, hot cocoa, interactive areas, special guest appearances, and so much more!

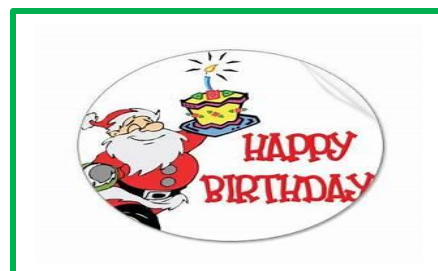
Times of lights are:

Monday - Thursday 5:30pm - 10:00pm

Friday - Sunday 5:30pm - 11:00pm

Christmas Eve 5:30pm - 12:00am

Christmas Day 5:30pm - 12:00am



1 Will Dent
6 Edward Pipkin
8 Pam Howell
8 Sally Rosales
10 Susan McQuagge
10 Don Patterson
12 Patty Slawson
17 Brittan Walker
18 Patsy Moates
21 Marshall Mann
21 Susan Ackerman
26 Barbara Smith
26 Carolella Trappe
30 Zachary Mann
31 Peggy Lewis

STEWARDSHIP

The members of the Ministry of Finance & Stewardship wish to thank all of you who have given of your time, talents, gifts, and tithes throughout this year.

The Stewardship luncheon in November gave an opportunity for our members to visit while enjoying a meal together on Pledge Sunday. We are grateful to all who helped with the meal and a special "Thank You" to all who returned your 2022 pledge cards in such a timely manner!

It is very helpful to our Session to be able to plan how Grace Presbyterian can continue to serve God's purposes in 2022.

If you haven't yet returned your pledge cards, it's not too late!