

GRACE notes

GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



JUNE 2011

VOLUME 54, ISSUE 6



MEET DR. JOHN COLE OUR INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR

Grace Covenant's Session is happy to introduce to Grace

Covenant's congregation **Dr. John Cole**, who will serve as Interim Senior Pastor beginning June 1st and will preach for the first time at both communion services on June 5th. You can meet and welcome Dr. John in the Narthex after the first service and, joined with his family, in Conway Hall for cake and refreshments after the second service.

Dr. John is a Florida native who was born to and raised in a Presbyterian family in Daytona Beach. After graduating from high school, he entered Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, graduating with honors in 1986. He then enrolled in the University of Virginia for his master's degree. After a few years employment with a Memphis bank, he went back to school at Florida State University, earning a law degree with honors. He practiced law in Daytona Beach as an attorney and mediator until he felt the call to enter seminary.

He then earned a degree in theology and a doctor of ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Following graduation in 1997, he was first called as an associate pastor in North Carolina, then a solo pastor in Kentucky, and recently senior pastor in Ormond Beach. Following interim pastor training, he met with our interim pastor search committee, which recommended his session-approved relationship with Grace Covenant.

Dr. John's wife Bette, a native of Memphis and also a Florida State graduate, is a pre-school teacher in Volusia County. Their son Jacob is a senior and daughter Jessie Grace is a junior at Spruce Creek High School.

Dr. John's business and legal background will augment his pastoral ministry here, as he joins with Grace Covenant's able and caring staff in serving our congregation. He will reside in Orlando during the week while he ministers here. We know you will welcome him as he comes to serve the Lord Jesus Christ and his body of believers in Grace Covenant church.

DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

June 3– Scrapbooking

June 5-11– IHN@Conway UMC

June 12– Pentecost

June 14– Family Fun Nite

June 17– Trivia Night

June 20-23– Vacation Bible School

June 30– Book Discussion Group

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SUMMER SERMONS	2
BOOK CLUB	4
STUDY AND FUN	5
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES	6&7
DEACON'S CORNER	8
MUSIC NOTES	10
CALENDAR	15



Dear Friends,

Carol and I cannot begin to put into words our appreciation for the expression of kindness and love we received from you during the events of the weekend of my retirement. The Friday evening dinner and “roast” was simply amazing. The meal was delicious, the presence of so many of you who were able to attend was overwhelming, and the surprise packed program featuring celebrities such as Stuff, and Dan Kimble, filled us with laughter and warmed our hearts. Then came the Sunday reception. It was a perfect climax to the weekend. We cherished this opportunity to be with all of you in a relaxed setting to share memories and best wishes.

It was obvious to us that many, many, people had put in long hours and a great deal of hard work to make the weekend a blessing for us.

Thank you! Thank you for your cards. Thank you for your gifts. Thank you for your kindness. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. Thank you for your laughter and your tears. Thank you for your love. But, most of all, thank you for giving me the privilege of being your pastor, and for sharing faith and life for all these years. May God bless you, every one!

With love always,

Bob and Carol Eckard



**SUMMER
SERMON
SERIES**

Supplying Our Needs: Summer Sermons Remind Us that God Provides!

After almost three decades, Grace Covenant says goodbye to a beloved pastor. What do we do now? Time and again, throughout history, the people of God have found hope by looking back, remembering what God has done, so that we can have faith in what God will yet do. This Summer, we will consider two places where God’s people were beginning anew—first in the Book of Acts, then the Book of Genesis. There, we will see how they found strength for the journey ahead. Together, so will we! The sermons, texts, themes, and hymns are below. I encourage you to read along to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

~ Dr. John Cole

<u>Date</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Theme/Events</u>
6/5	OT: Micah 6:6-8 NT: Acts 1:6-11	“Why Do You Stand Looking Up Toward Heaven?”	God provides

Hymns: #142 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”; #387 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”;
#144 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

Continued on page 11....



KORNER KOMMENTS FROM REV. HARV O

THE JOURNEY BEGINS -- Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church – launched in a Sunday School class in the home of A.J. Smith on the corner of Bumby and Kaley in 1946 – chartered in 1947 - has brought the redeeming love and peace of Jesus Christ to the greater Conway area for 64 years!

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES – What is God calling us to do now – in this “**interim**” time?

“INTERIM” – What does it mean to have an “Interim Pastor”? Well, quite simply – the word “interim” means “temporary” or “in between.” It is neither a scary word; nor a scary concept. *It gives our faith family a wonderful opportunity to pause – look at our mission – and prepare in excitement for the anticipated arrival of our new permanent, installed Senior Pastor.* Pastoral ministry, including Candy’s, remains the same. Our familiar programs continue.

Our **Presbyterian Church (USA) CONSTITUTION, Part II, Section G-14.0550** Talks to us about “Temporary Pastoral Relationships” – of which “**interim**” is one. **Interim** pastors have advanced specialized training for this role. They serve with a 12 month, renewable contract between themselves, our Session and the Committee on Ministry of our Presbytery.

An **Interim** Pastor is a pastor in every sense of the meaning of Teaching Elder; a Minister of Word and Sacrament. The only difference: They (we) may not serve as a permanent pastor in the church where we have served as an interim, ie GCPC.

So, the Rev. Dr. John Cole is serving as our **Interim** Senior Pastor. In reality, our Grace Covenant family is served by two “**interims**” – Dr. John Cole, as our Interim Senior Pastor and Rev. Harvey Oster, as our Interim Associate Pastor.

Next month, I will share with y’all the process for selection of a new, permanent pastoral staff. Stay tuned.

Grace Covenant – **the Beacon on Peel guiding us to safe haven in Jesus Christ** – is a happy family growing our faith for today and tomorrow. **GOD BLESS – all ye saints!**



GCPC Book Club will meet in Room 4, Smith Hall, on Thursday, **June 30**, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. We'll discuss "**God on a Harley**" by **Joan Brady**.



In the tradition of "The Celestine Prophecy" comes an inspirational, witty fable that offers life-transforming wisdom for us all. More than a novel, "God on a Harley" is a metaphor for self discovery, following one woman's quest for healing and life changing truths. A funny and often touching look at one woman's spiritual journey.

There will be no meeting in July. Our selection for **August 11th** is "**The Land Between**" by **Jeff Manion**.

This is a book dealing with what happens in life when we are suddenly thrust into difficult situations. How do we react when our lives suddenly seem to fall apart? The land between is where God meets us at the very hour of our need and uses these times to spiritually mature us and transform us into the person He created us to be.

In "The Land Between" author Jeff Manion uses the biblical story of the Israelite's journey through the Sinai desert as a metaphor for being in undesired, transitional space. After enduring generations of slavery in Egypt, the descendants of Jacob travel through the desert (the land between) toward their new home in Canaan. They crave the food of their former home in Egypt and despise their present environment.

Hmmmm Sound interesting? Please join us for our book discussions. Hope to see you soon.



Christian Education

ARE WE THEIR KEEPER?

The answer is yes. At each baptism in this church, the members stand and pledge to aid in the Christian nurture of the children. Nurture can be and is done in so many ways, but one important way is by sharing the stories of our faith in a Church School setting.

It is not necessary to be an "educated" Bible scholar to help kids know that God loves them and is there for them and there are adults in the church who want to tell them the Good News and love them for who they are. Curriculum is provided for you to follow; support is available. Please prayerfully consider how you might help in this area of ministry in the summer months or in the fall. Call the church office (407-898-6571) or E-mail (candy@grace.to) with any questions or to discuss where you might best serve.



PENTECOST IS JUNE 12TH... WEAR YOUR RED!



Study and Fun Club

The final regularly scheduled meeting of the season was held on May 5th and was absolutely wonderful – the highlight of the year. A very creative and inspirational Mother's Day program was presented followed by a covered dish luncheon of many homemade goodies.

We hope to see you at our first program of the 2011-2012 fiscal year to be held at 11:00 on Thursday, September 1st. If you have never been to our gatherings, come check it out. You will not be disappointed in the study or camaraderie.

Study and Fun is a group for men and women ages 55 and older. The only requirement for membership is a desire for enjoyable fellowship in the quest for greater knowledge. One does not need to be a church member so friends, relatives and neighbors are welcomed to participate.

Study and Fun meets twice per month, September through May. On the first Thursday a study program is presented in the John Calvin Memorial Hall conference room. Lunch is brown bag with drinks and dessert provided by the hostesses for the month.

The second monthly meeting is a visit to a fun or cultural destination, usually on the third Thursday. Afterwards lunch and fellowship is enjoyed at a nearby restaurant.

To learn more please contact **Roberta Eckard** or **Margaretta Douglas**.



Thank you Technology Team!

Without the Technology Team there would be
 no **PowerPoints on the sanctuary screens**,
 no **web site for Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church**,
 no **Grace Notes via the computer**,
 no **DVD's of special programs** for the congregation to enjoy,
 no **photos of events** on the big screens,
 no church participation in watching sporting events on the **big TV screen**,
 no **sound system** in the sanctuary, Conway or John Calvin Halls,
 no **computer based learning** for Sunday School in Smith Hall.

Too many no's!

Thank goodness we have a Technology Team at Grace so that we can have

Yeses!

Thank you Technology Team!




		Barbara Browning	21	Luke Redick Anthony Nidhan
	10	Laurie Sparks Liam Frazier	22	Beth Meadows Craig Vetter Shannon Osborne
1		Ruth Shirek Doug Colson	11	Terri Parmele Don Barbour
			23	Tim Evans Rebecca Pace Anne Roberts
2		Gail Evans Teresa Holland Grace McCarey	12	Gail Barley Kimberley Whitmire
			13	Roger Vander Weide
4		Daniel Kimble, Sr. Colin Capatosto Chuck Schellenberg	14	Bobby Straight
			15	Jody Litchford Karen Arney Sandy Wright
5		Nathetta Patterson Jim Malcolm Susie Espinoza	16	Ferra Cockrell Sarah Connor
			17	Kent Barley
6		Tom R. Rainey	18	A. J. Munson Dawn Dinkel John Craig Talma Hannan
			19	Betsy Manno Trudy Phelps
7		June Bockus Susan Caray Jennifer Reynolds Madison Osborne	20	Lyndsey Boos Jordan Askew
			25	Timothy Diel
8		Kara Wiergacz Stover Dawn Bordenkircher Nick Pazar Alexandria Zella Wesley Harne	26	Sarah Seaver
			27	Georgia Lampman Jane Corser Ruth Santizo Sandra Lee Rhuemma Taylor
9		Katie Venable Maxine Gay	28	Ann Wilensky Jenny Whitmer
			29	Louise Watson Dana Hubay
			30	John G. Craig



- 1 Simon & Sonia Nidhan
- 2 Eugene & Joyce Aubry
- 3 Donald & Sandra Whitten
- 4 Kuo Eng & Kuen Huey Shiah Chen
- 6 Tom & Anne Eyerly
- 7 Owen & Jenny Townes
- 8 Bob & Dottie Wood
Dick & Wilma Beekman
Rich & Kristi McCarey
- 9 Herschel & Anne Hughes
- 10 David & Marci Long
Matt & Kristy Schlichenmaier
- 11 Tom & JoAnn Sanders
- 12 Roland & Sandra Smith
Gene & Barbara Baker
- 14 Bill & Karen Tompkins
Bill & Donna Fraser
- 15 David & Heidi Flinchbaugh

- 17 Tom & Joan Rainey
- 18 Carl & Heather Hoeltke
- 20 John & Kim Seaver
Reese & Pat Laughlin
- 22 Brian & Kathy Gallagher
- 25 Tim & Shirley Diel
- 26 Gene & Patsy Stalcup
- 27 Kermit & Maxine Gay
- 28 Rob & Melissa McCormack
- 30 Robert & Dorothy McWilliams




Births in the Church Family

May 5, 2011

Adrianna SallyD Alchin
 Daughter of David & Danielle Alchin
 Granddaughter of John & Sally Kest

May 12, 2011

Kaitlyn Marcella DeMarco
 Daughter of
 Morgan & Lindy DeMarco
 Granddaughter of
 Robert & Ann Taylor




New Address

BILLY COMER/LANCE COMER

SHERRI ASKEW


LORI BALES



May 8, 2011

Logan Daniel Bachmann
 Parents: Louis Christian Bachmann &
 Christine Bachmann

Louis Christian Bachmann
 (adult)



To the Friends and Family of:

Joann Pierson



Colin Hotchkiss & Mary Roberts

May 14, 2011





BOARD of DEACONS

The names and areas of responsibility of Deacon Board members are listed here for your reference. Deacons are ready to serve and assist you when called upon, so please save this page. If you would like to assist in any area of responsibility, please call Deacon Moderator Susan Smith.

Area of Responsibility	Deacon	
Transportation to Church	Susan Smith	
Transportation to Appointments	Susan Smith	
Home meals	Susan Smith	
Shopping/errands	Susan Smith	
Visitation	Barbara Bell/ Sandi Lee	
Grief Support	Herschel Hughes/ Dan McDonald	
New Member/Concern Notes	Judith Roberts	
Care Packages	Harlean Finney	



A REMINDER...

**Registrations for D.E.C.K.
must be in by June 11.**

Join us for an evening of fellowship, fun and SCRAPBOOKING....

What to Bring: Scissors, Solid Cardstock for scrapbook pages (12 X 12 or any other page size that you prefer), adhesive, ruler, pencil, pens, photos and a snack to share. (We will have layout ideas to help with your pages)

Date and Time: Friday, June 3rd, 7 p- 11 p

Place: Memorial Hall

Scrapbooking with Grace



FAMILY FUN NITE

Tuesday, June 14

6:29 pm

John Calvin Memorial Hall

This is a chance to enjoy some great food, have a lot of fun and meet some new friends.

All ages are together for a covered dish dinner (drinks, bread and dessert provided) followed by a time of fun around the tables.

All are invited to join us!



Trivia Night on June 17

Yes, this is the evening event that Dan Kimball mentioned at Dr. Bob's roast.

It's a night of hanging out with your friends and fellow church members figuring out what you do and don't know! We all bring snacks to share so it is a real Presbyterian event!

Bring your thinking cap, and your friends and your sense of humor.

We start at 7pm (not so sharp) and end about 8:30 (depending on the Trivia Master).

If you have questions about this, call **Laura Regier**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEEDS

If you'd like to provide some supplies for Bible School, here is a list of some of the things we will need. Just bring them to the Church office or leave in the box in the Narthex.

Goldfish Crackers

Twizzlers

Pretzel sticks

Chocolate chips

Cheerios

White Chocolate chips

Chow Mein noodles

Hot dogs

Vanilla wafers

Potato chips

Ketchup

Mustard

Relish

M & M's (regular size and mini; not peanut)



Music Notes

The summer months are upon us, and with that, we have changed our tempo from Allegro (very fast) to Moderato. We move at an easier pace for June, July and August, but still move forward as we continue our mission of providing music for worship. Here are ways you can serve God and our church.

1) A reminder that Chancel Choir will rehearse on **Sunday mornings at 10 am**, in the Choir Room upstairs from the sanctuary. We have easy anthems, and veteran choir members who look forward to having new faces next to them. We don't wear robes, and every rehearsal and Sunday Anthem is full of joy! We really need new singers! This summer is a great opportunity to give us a try, and make a difference by giving your time and talents! Our first Sunday morning rehearsal is June 5. Be there! If you don't think you read music very well, don't worry! There's plenty of help!

- 2) **SUMMER MUSIC CAMP: JULY 5-8.** This is a great week for our children to explore their voices, instruments and "World" music. Craig Upperque, our Orff specialist, will be with us. This year we'll explore drumming, rhythms and songs that are used in celebrating God's word throughout the world. We will sing in Swahili, Spanish, Latin, and oh yeah- English!

Camp tuition for everyone is \$10 for 4 days of great music making! Invite your neighbors, school friends, and best friends!

We'll also need adult and youth volunteers to help. You can find a list of how you can help, with the registration forms placed at the kiosk on Sunday mornings.

If you have questions, feel free to email or call Barbara Browning or Beth Meadows.

God's Blessings!

Beth Meadows



Lead a life
worthy of the calling ...
making every effort
to maintain the unity
of the **Spirit** in
the bond of **peace.**
Ephesians 4:1-3

Continued from page 2...*Supplying Our Needs: Summer Sermons Remind Us that God Provides!*



<u>Date</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Theme/Events</u>
6/12	OT: Num 11:24-30 NT: Acts 2:1-13	"Finding Our Voice"	Pentecost Unique Witness of GCPC

Hymns: #281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"; #322 "Spirit of the Living God";
#426 "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak."

6/19	NT: Matt 28:16-20 OT: Gen 1:1-2:3	"Ruach"	God's Sustaining Presence Trinity Sunday
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Hymns: #455 "All Creatures of Our God and King"; #288 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God";
#138 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

6/26	NT: Matt 10:40-42 OT: Gen 22: 1-14	"Belonging to God"	Giving Our Lives to God
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Hymns: #267 "All Things Bright and Beautiful"; #282 "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee";
#276 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

7/3-10 *Dr. Cole on Vacation*

7/17	NT: Matt 13:24-30, 36-43 OT: Gen 28:10-19	"Ladder of Success"	Imagining God's Future
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Hymns: #262 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"; #363 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me";
#339 "Be Thou My Vision."

7/24	NT: Matt 13:31-33, 44-52 OT: Gen 29:15-28	"Corrective Lens"	Faith Despite the World
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Hymns: #457 "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"; #384 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go";
#324 "Open My Eyes That I May See."

Continued on page 14...

Thank You, God!



Thank You to Everyone!

Because of all our love for Bob and Carol, a wonderful time was shared as we celebrated Bob's retirement. None of it would have happened without the 61 people who made up "The Magic of Bob's Ministry Team" and the 400+ who attended the dinner and roast! So many ideas, willing workers, happy participants and God's love made for an evening that will be remembered by the Eckard's and GCPC for years! The best compliment we can all have is that Bob and Carol loved the evening, and the girls were laughing too much to cry! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

M Waddell

Thanks to all that participated in the Spring Fling. You were all so wonderful, so entertaining and delightful! Looking forward to your next escapades...

Ann Stegman

Thank you Dr. Eckerd for your visit while I was in the hospital; thanks to all who sent cards to me, and especially thanks to all who lifted me up in your prayers. This caught me by surprise and I so appreciate my church family. God is great and so are you!

Sincerely and with Christian love,

Kitty Mishler

Dear Fellow Church Friends,

I want to thank all of you who prayed for me, visited me, called me and covered any work detail for my wife during my stay in the hospital. I want to thank the Deacons for their fellowship and prayer and to Dr. Eckard for his visits and kind words. Grace Covenant has always been there for my family and I want to reiterate how important the Church means to me and my family. May God continue to bless me and my family and especially our Church.

Through Christ's Love,

Dwight Blair

Dear Friends,

We are so grateful to the Outreach Committee for your gift of \$381.25. Each gift accomplishes much in the care of these special children. We strive to serve our community in a way that will be an asset and a source of pride for friends like you. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Janet Russell Nixon

Director, The Russell Home

GCPC Friends,

Thank you for all the cards, calls, visits and prayers during my recent medical confinement. Dr. Eckard's visits were so welcome and comforting.

David Parks

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$256.25 to **Habitat for Humanity Orlando**. Your financial support allows us the opportunity to transform the lives of low-income, hardworking families with simple; affordable homes here in Central Florida.

Habitat is celebrating its 25 year anniversary and has placed over 180 families in Habitat homes but there is still and overwhelming need. With your support we are closer to making the dream of home ownership a reality. Ever Habitat family is a celebration of opportunity and we appreciate your partnership in changing lives! Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dee Danmeyer

Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity Orlando

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the residents of **The Duvall Home**, we would like to express our sincere gratitude fro your recent donation of \$381.25 to assist with the services through our Home. The donation will greatly assist with our mission in caring for the developmentally disabled in our care. This is only possible because of thoughtful contributions from people like you and many others who are about the well being of our special population.

Respectfully,

Martin J. Favis

President/Chief Executive Officer, The Duvall Home

Remember
Our
Military



Anyone who has a loved one serving in the military who would like to post his or her picture in the Narthex alongside the Service Flag, please give the pictures to Candy.



**CHRIS, CHRISTINE
AND LOGAN
BACHMANN**

**JOHN, DEBBIE AND
JEREMY MORGAN**

**CHICK & STELLA
MORGAN**

THE SESSION

CLERK: EILEEN SILVERS



- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| SHIRLEY ADAMMISSION | DEBBIE PAZAR |
| DANIELLE ALCHIN | CLARK PEARSON |
| BARBARA BAKER | SANDEE SMITH |
| ALISON BRANCH | JEFF STONEBREAKER |
| MOLLY CARVER | KAREN STRAIGHT |
| PHYLLIS CORNELL | RANDI SUTPHIN |
| PAULA CRAIG | JOHN TRACY |
| MARGARETTA DOUGLAS | TRACY UMPIERRE |
| CURTIS GIESECKE | JOE WADDELL |
| BRUCE JOHNSON | JOHN WOMACK |

Continued from page 11...*Supplying Our Needs: Summer Sermons Remind Us that God Provides!*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Theme/Events</u>
7/31	NT: Rom 7:14-25 OT: Gen 32:22-31	“Wrestling”	Discernment

Hymns: #466 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”; #356 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”; #302 “I Danced in the Morning.”

8/7	NT: Matt 14:22-33 OT: Gen 37:1-4, 12-28	“Wing-steppers”	Answering the Doubters
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Hymns: #420 “God of Grace and God of Glory”; #217 “O Sing a New Song”; #432 “Song of Hope.”

8/14	NT: Rom 11:1-2, 29-32 OT: Gen 45:1-15	“Rear View Mirror”	Providence
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Hymns: #476 “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!”; #554 “Let All Things Now Living”; #447 “Lead On, O King Eternal.”



**SUMMER
SERMON
SERIES**

Calendar
located at...
www.grace.to

JUNE 2011



**GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.grace.to

DR. JOHN COLE, INTERIM PASTOR
REV. HARVEY OSTER, INTERIM
ASSOCIATE PASTOR
CANDY VANDER WEIDE,
COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR



Beginning Sunday June 5th!

The Promise of the Spirit

by William Barclay

Led by:

Kristen Stieffel

Conference Room

John Calvin Memorial Hall

9:30 AM-10:30 AM