

Grace Notes

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church October 2021



Generous Life

Each year the elders of the church develop a proposed budget. Just like you and your family, the church has to make hard decisions about what income is available to meet its anticipated expenses for the coming year. Supporting the mission of the church, maintaining multiple buildings in which to worship and house resident ministry partners, employing a talented staff, and raising up the next generation of believers takes money. And the church needs to know how much money the members of the church are able and willing to pledge to the financial support of the church.

Of course, stewardship is about more than developing an annual budget. Giving to the church is about devotion, not dollars. Making a commitment to support the body of Christ is about caring for others without regard to the cost to ourselves. Responding to God's call to bless others as we have been blessed is a reflection of a life of grace and generosity that conforms to the good news of the gospel. When we love God's church, we are eager to give freely of our time, our talents, and yes, even our money to support it.

How can you show your love for Grace Covenant and demonstrate your willingness to provide for its financial support? Pray about how God is calling you to live a generous life. Then make your commitment to the church for 2022.

Grace Covenant is celebrating 75 years of ministry to our local community and around the globe. Through your generosity, future generations will celebrate many more years to come.

Looking Forward

October

Wednesdays - SHINE
17-31 - Pumpkin Patch
3 - World Communion Sunday
10 - Third Grade Bibles
23 - Food Packing Event
24 - New Member Class and Luncheon
24 - ROOTED Youth Group Car Wash
31 - Kirkin' Service

November

Wednesdays - SHINE
14 - Church Picnic
21 - Hanging of the Greens
25 - Thanksgiving
28 - Season of Advent Begins

December

5 - Best Christmas Pageant Ever
15 - Blue Christmas Service
24 - Christmas Eve Service
25 - Christmas Day

See the church calendar online:

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

REJOICE
in the Lord

Philippians 3:1-14

Thank You

Dear Grace church,

Thank you all for your love, support, and prayers. I am so grateful for the gift cards I received. This has been a tough time and all your prayers and support have been appreciated. I cannot thank you enough.

Megan Blair

To my Grace Family,

Many, many thanks to all of you for your cards and prayers during my recent illness. I am much better now. Your concern for me is greatly appreciated.

Wayne Champion

Small Blessings Child Care

Fall Into an Exciting New School Year

School is back in full swing. We are looking forward to great things to learn and explore. We would like to welcome our newest staff members - Ms. Minerva (cook) and Ms. Carmen (VPK 4A) to the Small Blessings family. Currently we are looking to add a few more to our family.

Chapel - Our Director of Children's Ministry, Ms. Sheryl, will be leading the K3 & VPK in Chapel for Bible stories and fun songs. The theme for the year is Creation - Discovering God's Joy for us.

Extracurricular activity - Sports4Fun Soccer with Coach Anton. It's a great time to be at SBCC.

The baby room - Ms. Madeline R. says, "how wonderful it is to care, love, and be a part of each child's development". We will be busy with blocks, puzzles and puppets, story time, coloring and painting too.

The toddlers are "off to a great start" says Ms. Norma. They are on the go, as toddlers are and each month they will learn a new color, shape and number. We are delighted to have them at Small Blessings.

K2 - "Exciting new beginning" says Ms. Brenda. The K2 children will be learning letters in the alphabet, counting and recognizing numbers 1-10. We will sing new songs and in Bible time we will learn about God and Bible verses each month.

K3 - "It's good to be three" says Ms. Barbara and Ms. Glenda. This year the children will be learning about God and His love for us. As well as focusing on using our words, having helpful hands, listening ears,

watching eyes and following directions. There will be lots of arts and crafts and so much more.

"Our VPK4 students will have an awesome new school year " says Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Emily and Ms. Carmen. The themes are Ready Set Go, My Favorite Things, Work and Play together, Fabulous Florida, Apples, Fall , Life on the Farm and Australia! In math we will be counting and reading learning phonics and vowels. Lots of fun and exciting times!

We give thanks to God and our teachers, staff and parents. What an extraordinary ministry to have on our GCPC campus. Please pray for all and the children this new school year.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle had their first meeting of the fall on September 13. We welcomed new members as well as previous members. Our study on 1st Peter has prompted some good discussion and thoughtful comments. We will be continuing our support of Servant's Heart with our diaper supply and monthly offering . We will be participating in their turkey drive for the holidays. We collect \$10 Publix gift cards which are particularly helpful for those who do not have cooking facilities. All are welcome to participate in this drive.

Our next meeting will be Monday October 11 at 10 am. We will be meeting upstairs down the hallway from the office. We look forward to our continued study and wonderful community of support.

Any questions please feel free to contact Barbara Hart.

Book Club

Tuesday, October 26

7 p.m. Panera Bread on S. Semoran Blvd.

The selection for October Book Club is "The Keeper of Lost Things" by Ruth Hogan. It is a charming, clever, and quietly moving debut novel of endless possibilities and joyful discoveries that explores the promises we make and break, losing and finding ourselves, the objects that hold magic and meaning for our lives, and the surprising connections that bind us.

Contact Jane Heppner with any questions.

***Grace in Action
Invites You to Serve at Daily Bread***

October 13 - 14, 2021

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

8 volunteers per day are needed to serve lunch at



**Daily Bread, 808 W. Central
Blvd, Orlando, 32805, between
Parramore and Westmoreland.**

When you arrive, please pull into the driveway and go to the end, turn left and park in between the two buildings. There is a small sign that says "Daily Bread" on the building to your right. Enter through the back door and kitchen staff will be there to greet you.

All meals will be plated by volunteers in to-go containers and then be distributed by staff outside. There will be very little (if any) volunteer contact with the guests.

Please bring your own face mask (required by Christian Service Center) and wear your Grace in Action shirt.

Daily Bread, a *Christian Service Center* program, provides nourishing meals to the homeless of our community throughout the year. Emergency clothing, legal aid, and counseling are also provided on-site as part of the program. This is a collaborative effort of local churches, restaurants, grocers, hotels and bakeries providing the food and paper products necessary to feed these individuals. Three separate locations in Central Florida serve up to 500 individuals each day.

Sign up at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14mT-tf-SKyC3MHgbV0C-X2-UWaAgf79396VidHmw5ww/edit?ts=614217a8>

Or use the QR code:



***ROOTED Youth Group
Car Wash!!***

A car wash fundraiser benefitting the students and adult leaders participating in our 2022 summer mission trip will be held on Sunday, October 24 from 8:30am-1pm. Come to worship, drop your car off with us, give a donation, and when you leave, both your soul and car will be clean!!!! Tell your friends and neighbors!

Cooking with Grace

October 18

6 p.m. on Zoom

Each month, this group buys ingredients then meets online to cook together. To join them, contact Carolyn at Carolyn@findingnewjoys.com

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30pm at a local restaurant. Contact the church office for more information.

Meal Packing for Haiti!

Join your Grace in Action team as we pack 10,000 meals for Haiti in cooperation with our partner, My Neighbor's Children. This will be like the one we did several years ago: lots of fun! The event will be Saturday October 23 from 9 until noon in the Conway Hall gym. Face masks are **required** because we will be working closely together. Please wear your Grace in Action shirt. If you didn't get a shirt for the Second Harvest food distribution, we have shirts in stock again. Pick one up at the church office. For those who want to earn Community Service hours, please bring your forms.

Sign up at this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1UD658NWBVZ8UD16l6mShzChIC5vVNBgd6d8XbEHk6Ds/edit?ts=61435006>

Or use this QR code:



ROOTED Youth Group

ROOTED meets October 3 and 17 from 5:15pm-7pm. We'll have awesome dinners, games, music, prayers, announcements, and a lesson. Bring your friendz!!!

Please pencil in **ROOTED Lunch Bunch** for Saturday, Oct. 9, around 11:30am. Watch for details!

Parents and students – we are having an information meeting about our summer mission trips on Sunday, October 10 in Conway Hall, 5:45 - 7 p.m. Pizza dinner provided. We'll go over our possible trip details, dates, and fundraising ideas.

If you are in middle or high school, and even slightly interested, please attend.

No deposits, no commitments, just information.

Sign up to help with our mission trip car wash on October 24 from 8:30am-1pm. Wear comfy clothes that can get wet, sunscreen, and a smile! Come for part or all of the time.

THE Great Pumpkin Chase is Saturday, October 30 from 4:30pm-6:30pm. It's a city-wide scavenger hunt complete with finding someone dressed as The Great Pumpkin. We'll have games, food, drinks, and prizes galore!!!! **DEAD**line to sign up is Wednesday, October 27.

For more details on our events and other news, friend us on Facebook: Grace Covenant PC Youth, and on Instagram: @rootedgcpc

OCTOBER



Please contact the church office if you would like a copy of the birthday and anniversary list.

Please submit articles to
churchoffice@grace.to
Next Deadline - October 15

Support GRACE Covenant
When shopping on Amazon, go to
<https://smile.amazon.com/>
Designate Grace Covenant as the non-profit to support.

amazonsmile

Session Summary

September 16, 2021

Finance is developing the 2022 budget recommendation for Session approval in October. The Generous Life stewardship campaign kicks off October 10 and continues through Commitment Sunday on October 24 with a special Kirkin' celebration on October 31.

Pastor Melanie will be away October 17. Elder Jim Pate will preach. Dr. Kevin Urichko, former executive pastor at Northland and Pastor at Large with Shepherd Ministries is planning a marriage enrichment retreat in Smith Hall November 6 with a Sunday worship tie-in on November 7.

Approved a joint recommendation from Buildings & Grounds/Christian Ed to install blinds in Smith Hall. Funding by the Foundation from the Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure Fund.

Middle school leaders are needed to help grow our growing youth program.

Hospitality is hosting a new member luncheon October 24 and the church picnic November 14.

October Outreach events include: Daily Bread on

October 13 and 14; Pumpkin Patch beginning October 15; food packing event October 23.

Approved the recommendation from Technology to contract with Sound Stage for the installation of an additional monitor in the sanctuary. To be funded by the Foundation from the Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure Fund.

Youth Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser September 26.

Congregational meeting at 11:45 a.m. on September 26. Training September 26 or October 3.

Approved the recommendation of the Online Worship Enhancement Commission for the purchase of equipment (camera and switcher), installation and training by Systems Innovations. Funding from the Endowment Committed Funds - Session Discretionary 2021.

Received the written summary report of the Central Florida Presbytery meeting on September 14. Church video presented at Presbytery meeting.

Approved changing the church office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Removed Rosemary Golden (transferred to Tampa) and Barbara Moss (deceased).

In Sympathy

*We extend our Christian love and sympathy
to the families of*



Henry "Syd" Sydney Hooks - September 23, 2021



Maurice "Reese" Laughlin - September 23, 2021

Making the Most of Your Marriage

Saturday November 6, 2021

9am - noon

Are you thinking about getting married?

Are you newlyweds?

Have you been married for 50 years?

Mark your calendar now - this workshop is for you!

Childcare provided.

Register online <https://grace.to/ministries/community/>

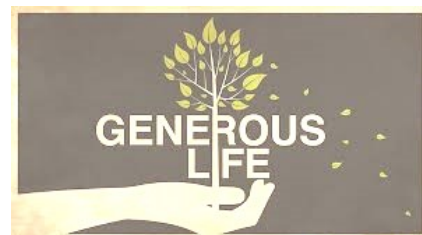
New Members Class and Luncheon

Have you been praying about becoming
a member of Grace Covenant?

Do you want to learn more about

Grace and membership in a Presbyterian church?

Join Pastor Melanie on Sunday, October 24.



*You will be enriched in every way
for your great generosity,
which will produce thanksgiving to God.
2 Corinthians 9:11*

October 2021

Volume 64, Issue 9



**GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m. and 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

To:

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PUMPKIN PATCH IS COMING!

Monday, October 18 – Sunday October 31

Monday – Friday

2:00pm – 6:30pm

Saturday's October 23 & October 30

10am – 6pm

Sunday, October 31

9:30am – 12:30pm

Come be the first and find
the best pumpkin in the patch!

Pumpkins go on sale for our
church family on

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:30am – 12:30pm



Pumpkin Delivery happening on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15**

We need volunteers to unload the truck.

Sign up in the narthex to be a Pumpkin Purveyor!

Bring your family and serve for 2 hours, let's share the pumpkin love 🎃

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.