Fort Myers Central Campus 2415 Grand Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901 239-334-3160

Week of: January 26, 2014 Grace News





God's Vision for Grace Church:

To partner with God in transforming people from unbelievers to fully devoted disciples of Jesus to the glory of God!

How do we live out that vision?

REACH! CONNECT! FORM! SEND!

We seek to **REACH** people who need Jesus, **CONNECT** them to God and other Christ followers, **FORM** them to have a growing relationship with Jesus, and **SEND** them into the world to serve God and others!

Message from Pastor Arlene:

150 times in the Bible, Jesus said these words: "do not be afraid." Jesus seemed intent on giving us the message that he has come to bring the antidote to fear. So if that is true, why do we spend so much time afraid of what Jesus might be saying to us, asking us? Why do we spend so much time making excuses of why we can't follow Jesus completely, which is another way of saying,



why are we so afraid of being a fully devoted disciples of Jesus?

Sometimes it's because we are comfortable with the status quo. We know instinctively that to follow Jesus will mean that we will begin to change from worldly ways and desires. Sin has convinced us that attention to worldly things is what brings success, and to turn away from that scares us.

But really I think people are afraid of their own righteousness. They are afraid of the responsibility and restraints that being clean places on them. They are afraid of the pressure and the effort involved in righteousness.

Do not be afraid. God has created you, saved you, and has empowered you for all he has planned for you. God will not call you to something that he will not equip you to accomplish: following Jesus, and following his mission for your life. Do not be afraid! I am with you in the journey!

Pastor Arlene Jackson ajackson@egracechurch.com

YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

Worship Attendance by Campus January 13-19, 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 2,039 Grace Community Center: 257
Fort Myers Shores Campus: 192 Fort Myers Central Campus: 345

Fort Myers Central Campus Giving:

General Fund: \$2,004.00 Missions: \$174.00



All About WORSHIP

Organist: Dr. R. Thad Goodwin btsdad@aol.com Choir Leader: Robin Ziel robinleez@comcast.net

Worship Leader: Pastor Jedson Rodrigues <u>jrodrigues@egracechurch.com</u>

Band Leader: Chris Jackson coj1234@hotmail.com

Worship Times:

Sunday Traditional Service at 8:30am (hymns, organ, robes!) Sunday Contemporary Service at 10:00am (a kickin' band & jeans!) Wednesday Contemporary Service at 6:30pm (a bit of everything!)

If you would like to play in the band, or learn the sound board or visual tech, see Chris Jackson (the drummer) to find out audition dates and training times. To sing with the Praise Team, no exp necessary, see Jedson Rodrigues (the lead singer). To sing with the choir, see Robin Ziel (8:30 Sunday lead singer).

Holy Communion We share the "Lord's Supper" the first Sunday of every month, and the Wednesday evening following, ALL are welcome. We use grape juice for those who cannot drink alcohol.

SOULFUL SENSATIONS coming Wednesday, January 29:

"Soulful Sensations" gospel group will bless us by leading us in their soul-filled worship. You will not want to miss this night of special music! Worship @ 6:30, free dinner @ 7:30, and 12 Step recovery groups (one for men, one for women) at 8:00 as well as Bible Studies!

Ingathering of Food! Be part of our food ministry that serves over 300 meals a week by bringing canned fruits, veggies, and nonperishables to the basket in the sanctuary.

NEXT SUNDAY DIRECTLY AFTER CHURCH, we will be staying in the sanctuary TOGETHER, to write our life mission statements, Make your whole life an environment where you can hear God's voice better.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Director of Children's Ministry: Venia Joray <u>vjoray@egracechurch.com</u>

Middle & High School Leader: Shannon Kania <u>Shannon.Kania@gmail.com</u>

Babies and Toddlers! We love your little ones. Grace Church provides quality loving care during Sunday contemporary worship service and on Wednesday evenings!

Grace Kidz! Calling all Elementary School aged children for crafts, Bible learning, worship and games during Sunday a.m. contemporary worship & Wednesday evening worship.

This Month's Teaching The children will be following the same material as the current sermon series *Dare to Dream*. Talk with your children about this great series and share with each other what you are learning.

Wednesday Nights: We are sharing dinner in the classroom around a big table like at home. This is a great time for leaders to connect with kids, hear about their school experience and share like a family. Then, on to the fun stuff! Crafts, games, music and more fun!

Pennies of Purpose: In conjunction with Operation InAsMuch, the children are collecting pennies to 'transform' into quarters to help 'feed the machines' at Laundromats in March 2014! They have set some goals - \$300 raised and Ms. Venia gets a pie in the face - \$400 and Ms. Jami - \$500 and it's Mr. Ken \$600 and it's PASTOR ARLENE!!

Youth Group! Middle School and High School students gather to hang out on Wednesday night at 6:30 for dinner, interaction with the regular worship service, as well as bible study, prayer, games, and general fun in the Youth House. Must like music, Lock-ins, movies, road trips and food! The new study for the "New Year" is Mike Slaughter's **Dare to Dream**.

Youth House Wish List! Looking to clean out your old Xbox Games, we are hoping for E or T rated games to add to our collection. We also need additional Xbox controllers and battery packs. We are always in need of "Snack Food" for the teens, chips, pop corn, cookies, and drinks.





Reach Leader: Chris Jackson <u>coj1234@hotmail.com</u> Thrift Store Leader: Judith Seright <u>serightjudith@yahoo.com</u>

COLD WEATHER MEANS WE CAN USE BLANKETS AND JACKETS

Volunteer at TURN AROUND! Make connections with the neighborhood, and let them know all about our church! Join this crazy team of sorters, sellers, checkers and stockers. Lend an ear and a hand to our neighbors! Are you good at lifting, sorting, and stocking shelves, then contact Judy to work during the week. Email Judy and take a shift!

Reach Team We on the Reach Team know that it sounds a bit odd, but we LOVE to surprise people, and love up on them, and help them out, and do things for them. We do these acts of kindness, not for our own egos or pride, but to show them that they are loved by us and by Jesus. Of course, to those of you with these gifts to reach out into the community, these crazy things may seem perfectly normal—and you are the people we are looking for. Come join the Reach Team! "Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words!" Contact Chris Jackson at the above email for more information.



Connect Leader: Ed Horne dukeoakfan@comcast.net

Food, Glorious Food! Every week the Kitchen Team serves over 350 meals ...with no budget to buy the food! All donations of food are appreciated. Some of the items we always need are as follows: coffee, lemonade mix, pancake mix, peanut butter, jelly, yellow rice, dishwashing soap, cereal, powdered coffee creamer, sugar and did I mention **COFFEE.** Donate any of these items or anything else you might have by dropping them in the "Food Basket" located inside the sanctuary door and don't forget to come and enjoy the good food!

Free Movie Night! Join us Saturday, Feb.1st. for the romantic comedy entitled "A Strange Brand of Happy". Movie starts at 7pm and as always is accompanied by free popcorn. Other refreshments available at a nominal fee.

CONNECT MINISTRY continued...

Visitation Team! Come join us to visit, call, email or write those who are new to our church. We try to contact each new visitor every week. Perhaps your heart leans towards those who are ill, shut-in, or in the hospital. This team visits those people as well. Email Ed or mark your "Let's Connect" card to be a part of this team!

Hospitality Volunteers! Are you friendly? Then you can help on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings at the **Welcome Desk**, as a **Greeter**, or as an **Usher**. You can serve in the **Parking Lot** and wear the cool orange day-glo vest! This is a great entry point and a way to meet absolutely everyone! E-mail or see Ed Horne!

Acts of Grace is meeting today in Room #3 at 11:30am to fine tune ideas for future productions. Join this vibrant team. All are welcome!!



FORM MINISTRY

Form Leader: Sharon Davis sdavis@egracechurch.com

Dive Deeper! Each week on the Form wall there are copies of the sermon notes along with questions and thoughts to help you go deeper into the Sunday sermon. We call this "Dive Deeper" because it allows an opportunity to process what we have just heard in the sermon in a different and deeper way. Pick up a copy of these notes and see where God leads you, or join the 11:30 discussion group that meets in the Youth House. This informal group uses these notes and discusses together how the sermon applies to their lives. This is an open group so you can join at any time. 2014 first sermon series is based on Mike Slaughter's *Dare to Dream* material. This week's theme: "Losing your big buts"

University of the Holy Spirit! The Grace Church daily Bible reading and devotion plan where you are guaranteed to get a personal word from God every single day! This quarter's bookmarks are on the "Form" wall or contact Sharon Davis for more details.

Is it time for you to Join the Family? Our next membership class will be held today, January 26th from 11:30 –4:00. Join us if you are interested in making Grace Church your church home.

Walk to Emmaus! The object of the Gulf Coast Walk to Emmaus is to inspire challenge and equip the body of Christ in Southwest Florida for Christian Action. This is a 3 day retreat. If you haven't been on this walk and would like to attend check the FORM wall for an application. Next walks are: Men, May 22-25, 2014 Women, May 29-June 1, 2014.



SEND MINISTRY

Send Leader: Terry Rhodes trlpn@aol.com

Operation InAsMuch — Our bucket money through February 23rd. will go toward **OIAM**, Operation InAsMuch, this mission project will take place **March 1**, **2014**. The funds will be used for "feed the machine" to pay for people's laundry for the day. At the **OIAM Display:** Sign up sheets for the different projects are now available, please pick one up and turn it in to the church office as soon as possible. Items to be collected now, see the list on the board. Order T-shirts and ball caps now.

Go Global Mission Week! February 26th — March 3rd. Several cross campus events are being planned and any small group can sign up for a missionary to speak to them. Small group leaders if you would like to have a missionary address your group please contact the church office as soon as possible to get this scheduled.

RECOVERY MEETINGS



Men's Recovery Leader: Scott Thornton <u>Scotthardythornton@yahoo.com</u> Women's Recovery Leader: Sarah McMillan <u>smcmillan@egracechurch.com</u>

Monday: CA at 8:00pm
Tuesday: CA at 8:00pm

Wednesday: 12 Steps for Christians for Men at 8:00pm

12 Steps for Christians for Women at 8:00pm

Thursday: AA at 7:00pm **Friday:** AA at 8:00pm

GRACE CHURCH...one church in many locations!

CAPE CORAL CAMPUS

13 SE 21st Place Cape Coral, FL 33990 239.574.7161

Worship Times:

8:30AM - Traditional 10:00AM - Contemporary 11:30AM - Contemporary

FORT MYERS CENTRAL CAMPUS

2415 Grand Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901 239.334.3160

Worship Times:

8:30AM - Traditional 10:00AM - Contemporary (WED) 6:30PM - Contemporary

FORT MYERS SHORES **CAMPUS**

14036 Matanzas Drive Fort Myers, FL 33905 239.694.2797

Worship Times:

10:00AM - Contemporary 11:30AM - Traditional

GRACE COMMUNITY CENTER

4151 Hancock Bridge Pkwy North Fort Myers, FL 33903 239.656.1320

Worship Times:

10:00AM - Contemporary

GCC THRIFT STORE

4151 Hancock Bridge Pkwy North Fort Myers, FL 33903 239.656.0122

Hours:

Tues-Sat: 10AM - 4PM Wednesdays: 10AM - 5:30PM

FMC THRIFT STORE

2415 Grand Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901 239.244.5712 Hours:

Sat-Sun-Mon 10AM - 3PM



CROSS-CAMPUS

Events & Activities

Go Global Mission Week! February 26-March 2nd

Our next big cross campus event is our week long Global Missions Conference. Many opportunities to hear our Global mission partners will be available. You can schedule a speaker for your small group or attend any of the events held throughout the

week. One of those events is a breakfast hosted here at Central Campus on March 1st. Watch for more details on this and other events!



Mobile app available!





www.egracechurch.com

