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



Week of: April 27, 2014 Grace News

Sunday Message Series

#god

#thesustainer

#thereconciler

#thecreator

#theheadofthechurch

jesus Revealed



#easterseries

STATECHURCH



Today after Church at 11:30. Gather by the welcome desk!

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!

Our Values at Grace Church:

- 1. We are unashamedly God centered!
- 2. We are passionately People-focused!
- 3. We are strategically Team Based!

Our Strategy for Making Disciples at Grace Church:

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!

A Message from Pastor Arlene:

I have been challenging myself lately to read, study, and understand the words and actions of Jesus in the New Testament. There is so much good to be learned and applied in my life from the Bible, but I have heard God asking me to pay particular attention to Jesus: what he said, what he did, who he hung out with, why he came. I do believe when we understand Jesus, we will understand God, ourselves, and others much better. Just



today I read these words from Jesus, spoken to his 12 disciples, and recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, 10:8: "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!"

This is what Jesus asked of his disciples then, and his disciples now. It is a challenging word that we might disregard as not applying to us because we can't raise the dead or cure diseases or cast out demons. But I think we can! We can give healing words and encouragement to those who are sick in body, mind, and spirit. We can hold out a hand of help that can lift a person from a dead existence into a new life. And as for demons, many of us have been plagued with what can only feel and seem like demonic worries, fears, anxiety, and anger, amongst others. As followers of Jesus, we have the answer to each of these, and the answer is in a relationship with Jesus and his people.

The last part of Jesus' words really hits me hard...give as freely as you have received. Instead of excuses as to why we can't be like Jesus, what if we just gave all we could, because Jesus gave to us? I invite you to learn more about Jesus yourself, you can find his words and actions in the 4 Gospel books of the Bible: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John & the book of Acts. I am with you in the journey!

Pastor Arlene Jackson ajackson@egracechurch.com



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!)

Worship Ministries: If you play an instrument and would like to be part of the Praise Band, please see the drummer, Chris, to find out how. To help in the sound booth, also see Chris! If you would like to sing with the Praise Singers, see Pastor Jedson to find out how. If you would like to sing in the traditional choir, see Robin Ziel (the lead singer) to find out how. Use the creative gifts God has given you to praise him!

Holy Communion: At Grace Central, we share in Holy Communion the first Sunday of the month as well as the following Wednesday. If you know you need Jesus, you are welcome at this table! If you wonder "does this mean me?" The answer is yes. Come as you are. We use grape juice for those who cannot drink alcohol.

Wednesday Worship: Worship with us every Wednesday at 6:30. This week: Lesson Night, by Pastor Arlene. We will continue the Series "Living the Good Life!" Afterwards, enjoy free dinner at 7:30, and Christian 12 Step meetings: one for men, one for women at 8:15. Come experience being refueled in the middle of the week!

<u>Ingathering of Food!</u> 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.



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.

THANKS to all the Grace Kidz supporters who donated candy! We love your help!!

ATTENTION PARENTS: looking for positive ways to parent? Be sure to check here for the next ten weeks as your children's ministry team shares some ideas - These will take practice and consistency - start today!

TIP #1 TELL CHILDREN WHAT TO DO *Principle*: What you focus on, you get more of. *Application*: Instead of saying "no pushing, you know better than to push your brother!" TRY: "When you want your brother to move, say 'move please,' try it now. **Focus on what you want your children to do.**

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 youth will be using the Discovery 2014 material and studying, "What we Believe". This week our youth will be learning about Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness.

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>

NEW THRIFT STORE HOURS: FRIDAY—MONDAY 10AM—3PM

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— Wanna have some fun and share the joy of the Lord? Join us as we plan for Laundromat Karaoke on May 10 from 1pm-4pm. Music, hot-dogs, free laundry; a blessing for all! We'll get together Sunday, May 4, at 11:30am, after the 10am service and go over details. The karaoke will be held at a nearby laundromat. All are welcome, come join us. Church is FUN!



CONNECT MINISTRY

Connect Leader: Ed Horne <u>dukeoakfan@comcast.net</u>

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!

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!

CONNECT MINISTRY continued...

Chess Anyone? Would you like to play or learn to play chess? This new group would love for you to join them and enjoy the game of chess as you grow together in Christ. The group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. Contact Connect Leader, Ed Horne, or just show up and enjoy the new friends. Next meeting is May 1st.

Grace Central Women— Many women attended and enjoyed our first Grace Central Women's Luncheon. As a response to your comments we are beginning a Women's Brunch on the 3rd Saturday from 9—11AM.. Our first brunch will be May 17th. Come connect with other women & enjoy bagels, coffee & time together. Watch for more Info!

Hospitality Volunteers! Are you friendly? That is all it takes to 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!



FORM MINISTRY

Form Leader: Sharon Davis sdavis@egracechurch.com

What Are You Waiting For? Isn't it time you joined the Family? Our next membership class IS TODAY from 11:30—2:30pm. Join us after the 10:00 service!

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 and Women, May 29-June 1, 2014.

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! Get the new bookmark on the FORM wall!!

Coming May 18th!! Informational meeting about a new ministry team forming to implement the nationally acclaimed Jobs for Life. Jobs for Life (JfL) is a national non-profit organization that provides Christ-centered tools and support needed to prepare people for success at work and life. JfL's work readiness

program centers around more than just helping men and women prepare for work. JfL is about transforming lives through the application of God's Word to real-world situations. Prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be a part of this new team.



SEND MINISTRY

Send Leader: Terry Rhodes trlpn@aol.com

Mission Partner Focus: Each week there is a card for one of our mission partners. We are asking you to sign the card in the hallway and pray for that mission partner during the week. This week's partner is ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization).

Mission Bucket Focus — In April we will focus on our Operation Christmas Child missions and all the money collected in the metal buckets will go toward that project.

Coming Mission Trips! Check the send wall for applications to the up-coming mission trips. Is God calling you to another country? The following trips are available: Cuba, July 19-30, 2014, Juarez/El Paso, July 20-29, 2014, Costa Rica, August 23-30, 2014, Atlanta, GA Operation Christmas Child, November 26-30, 2014.

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

Have You Heard? Celebrate Recovery is coming to Central Campus in the next few months

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:

Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon 10AM - 3PM

CROSS-CAMPUS Events & Activities

THE WOMEN OF GRACE invite you to join us at our Spring Luncheon on Saturday, May10 at 10:00am at the Grace Community Center. Hear our "own" Grace Church author, Dr. Carol Kennedy, and other ladies as they tell how God "unlocked" their lives. Tickets are \$10.00. For more info. mark your "Let's Connect" card.

Young Adult Missions: Be a part of the conference wide project to fund young adult missions by donating your old jewelry, costume & or the real deal, for resale at this years annual conference. Jewelry can be dropped off in the office.

YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

Worship Attendance by Campus April 14-20, 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 3,223 Grace Community Center: 341
Fort Myers Shores Campus: 556 Fort Myers Central Campus: 507

Fort Myers Central Campus Giving:

General Fund: \$1,941.83

Missions: \$453.68



Mobile app available!



www.egracechurch.com

