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

> Week of: June 8, 2014

Grace News

STACE

THE HOPE OF CLOSE

New Sunday Series

Do... bet's discover what we can do together! Meet the "Send" team after Church today, 11:30!

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:

Today in my University of the Holy Spirit Bible reading, I encountered this verse written by the apostle Paul, in Romans 14:12-13: "Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God. So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall."



There's a "pop culture" phrase these days that says: "Don't judge me!" It's a sometimes funny nod to the fact that people judge one another all the time about the smallest things, whether it's over eating peanut butter and banana sandwiches or liking a type of music. Someone gives you the "eyebrows-up" look, and you can smile, mouth full of PB&B and respond: "Don't judge me!"

But more serious than judging is the practice of condemning. People can fall prey to condemning others for the quality or (lack thereof) of their relationships, their spiritual life, their actions, and we can even condemn others for the sins they commit, when we deem them as worse than ours.

I like the Apostle Paul's statement and suggestion when it comes to our propensity to condemn. His statement is: "each of us will give a personal account to God." This is obvious and true. A reminder of this helps us to divert our attention from others to our own spiritual condition. And then Paul makes a suggestion: that we live in such a way that we will not cause others to stumble. It occurs to me that if another believer watches as we condemn, that tempts them to condemn. But if another believer sees us act with mercy, the believer can be strengthened to do likewise.

Good wise words from my friend, the apostle Paul today. Let's be wise and heed them! And as always, I will be with you in the journey!

Pastor Arlene Jackson ajackson@egracechurch.com



All About WORSHIP

Organist: Dr. R. Thad Goodwin <u>btsdad@aol.com</u> Choir Leader: Robin Ziel <u>robinleez@comcast.net</u> Band Leader: Chris Jackson <u>coj1234@hotmail.com</u>

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 or the Praise singers, please see the drummer, Chris, to find out how. To help in the sound booth, also see Chris! 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: BAND NIGHT! Worship all the hour, beginning at 6:30pm. Afterwards, enjoy free dinner at 7:30, and Christian 12 Step meetings: one for men, one for women at 8:00. Come get refueled in the middle of the week!

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.



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.

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 #7: Take back your power! You are in charge!

Principle: whoever you believe to be in charge of your feelings, you have placed in charge of you.

Application: Instead of saying 'Don't make me pull this car over, " say "I'm going to pull this car over until the seat belts are fastened and everyone is safe." Instead of saying "You drive me nuts," say "I'm going to take a few deep breaths and calm myself down. Then I will talk with you." When children refuse to do what you ask, state, "I'm going to show you what I want you to do." Then help them be successful! A big help here is they see you managing your stress by taking a break to calm down, not losing your cool and demanding your way. Consistency and follow-through are key here!

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!

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>

<u>NEW THRIFT STORE HOURS: FRIDAY—MONDAY 10AM—3PM</u> SPECIALS FOR THRIFT STORE

New Merchandise! Check out the new items!

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— Join the Reach Team as they become "Jesus with skin on" to our neighbors in their "Love thy Neighbor" event. Meet at the church Saturday, June 28th at 9am.



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...

Men's Club! Thursday June 12th at 6:30pm the Men's Club will be in the dining hall for dinner, prayer, projects, speakers, and general friendship with a few dozen of their pals! All men are welcome. This is an easy way to become a part of the body or Christ here at Grace Central!

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!

Free Movie Night! The second Saturday of each month is Movie Night. We have a great time eating free popcorn and watching the movie with a few dozen of our Grace family. Next free movie night is this Saturday, June 14th. We will watch the movie "Ragamuffin" based on the life of Rich Mulllins a musical prodigy who rose to Christian music fame only to walk away and live on a Navajo reservation. Mark your calendar and come join the fun! We'll save you a seat!





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.

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 bookmark on the FORM wall!!

Global Leadership Summit is Coming! August 14 & 15 is this year's Leadership Summit. The reduced rate is \$79.00 for this 2 day event. The Summit will be telecast at the Cape Coral campus. If you are interested in attending this two day event mark your Let's Connect card or email Sharon at sdavis @egracechurch.com.

Prayer Team! Everyone needs prayer. This team prays over the Let's Connect cards, the seats in the sanctuary, the Pastor, the church, and the people who come to the altar rail during worship services. Prayer works! Talk to Sharon about joining this team.



SEND MINISTRY Send Leader: Terry Rhodes <u>trlpn@aol.com</u>

Mission Prayer 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 this week. This week's partners are CV & Judy Elliott serving the world through New Mission Systems International. Please remember to pray for the Elliotts and their mission work.

Collections through the Summer — Please remember to bring in those school supplies for Franklin Park Elementary School . We will deliver school supplies in August for the beginning of the school year. Operation Christmas Child collection begins now! Find the list of items needed on the SEND wall.

"Do Something" June 8th, 11:30am How can we as the church spread Jesus' love to our neighborhood. We need ideas on what our neighbors need! Bring your ideas today to this meeting so we can be the hands and feet of Jesus to our neighbors. Next meeting is June 18th at 5:30pm.

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

GRACE COMMUNITY CENTER

4151 Hancock Bridge Pkwy North Fort Myers, FL 33903 239.656.1320 **Worship Times:** 10:00AM - 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

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

Trip to the Holy Land: CHANGE IN DATE!! Grace Church is putting together a cross campus trip to the Holy Land, February 22 to March 2, 2016. The cost will be approximately \$3,300 which includes the majority of all expenses. This date change allows more time to save for this big trip. If you are inter-

ested in going, write it on your Let's Connect Card and we will contact you when time gets closer.

YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

Worship Attendance by Campus May 26—June 1, 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 1,377 Fort Myers Shores Campus: 212 Fort Myers Central Campus Giving: General Fund: \$3,590.27 Grace Community Center: 209 Fort Myers Central Campus: 402

Missions: \$72.50







www.egracechurch.com

