

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



Week of:  
August 31, 2014

grace  
CHURCH News



FREE!

Finding Freedom in our Finances!  
Sunday series continues this week!



## Child Protection Class

For anyone who wants to  
work with our kids!  
Today 11:30-12:30

This Saturday, September 6

# CAR WASH

At Trinity United Methodist Church, 2979 Lincoln Blvd., Ft Myers  
Let's help this struggling church show Christ's love to their neighborhood!

## 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:

Earlier this week in my University of the Holy Spirit daily devotional readings (get a bookmark from the "Form" wall in the hallway if you want to join me in daily devotions), I read chapter 33 of the Old Testament book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah was a prophet through whom God chose to speak a word to the people of Judah about their idolatry and impending consequences of their sin. They would be taken captive by and be exiled to Babylon. As you can imagine, this was not a popular message. People didn't want to hear that. And frankly, Jeremiah didn't want to speak it. He argued with God that he was too young, too introverted, too unsettled, but to no avail. God had a message, and Jeremiah had to tell it, because God said he had to. If you read Chapter 33, count how many times it says "the Lord said" or "the Lord told me." You will find that before Jeremiah said anything, he prefaced it by saying that the Lord was giving him the message (probably hoping that they didn't "shoot the messenger.")



Have you ever had to have a difficult conversation with someone? One of the things we learned at the Willow Creek Leadership Summit was the importance of having crucial conversations, those that can change the trajectory of our life or another person's. Loving honesty is important, but it is also not a free pass to let our tongues run free. Like Jeremiah, we need to be sure we are actually hearing a word from God before we pass it on. Is this what Jesus would have us say? And also like Jeremiah, we must know that it is God and not ourselves that is compelling us forward to have the conversation. Do you have any conversations God is telling you to have today? I do, Seek ye first the Kingdom of God! I am with you in the journey.

*Pastor Arlene Jackson* [ajackson@egracechurch.com](mailto:ajackson@egracechurch.com)



# All About WORSHIP

**Organist:** Dr. R. Thad Goodwin [btsdad@aol.com](mailto:btsdad@aol.com)

**Choir Leader:** Robin Tkac [robinleez@comcast.net](mailto:robinleez@comcast.net)

**Band Leader:** Chris Jackson [coj1234@hotmail.com](mailto: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!)

## **Sunday Message Series Continues This Week! "FREE!"**

What a great time to invite your friends to church. Everyone has money troubles! God wants us to have freedom in our finances. But many of us are experiencing bondage instead! For the next two Sundays, let's begin to be set free from our money struggles!

**The Band!** If you play an instrument and would like to join the band, please talk to Chris, the drummer, or mark your Let's Connect Card!

**The Choir!** If you would like to join the traditional choir for 8:30 Sunday Worship, see Robin the lead singer or mark your Let's Connect Card!

**The Praise Team!** If you want to sing with the Praise Singers, see Chris the drummer or mark your Let's Connect Card!

**Holy Communion:** At Grace Church Central campus, we serve 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! Come as you are. We use grape juice for those who cannot drink alcohol.

## **Wednesday Worship: The Series continues...COURAGE!**

Worship begins 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 by the Holy Spirit in the middle of the week!



# CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Director of Children's Ministry: Venia Joray** [vjoray@egracechurch.com](mailto:vjoray@egracechurch.com)

**Middle & High School Leader: Shannon Kania** [Shannon.Kania@gmail.com](mailto:Shannon.Kania@gmail.com)

## **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 in Grace Kidz we are looking to see **"WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?"** Using every day items: Pencil, Notebook, Folder, & Ruler to discover a word from God!

**Piggy Bank University**—Grace Kidz are learning the biblical principles related to money! EARN-GIVE-SAVE-SPEND— Be sure to pick up the 'make it stick' handout each week to help with discussions related to money. Create opportunities for your child to practice these principles-it will be critical to how they handle money as an adult.

**Child Protection Class** — **TODAY**, 11:30am all those interested in serving with Children or Youth please be sure to attend.

## **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!

## **24/7 Experience!**

Our high school youth will be spending the next two months traveling with 7 of their peers across the county to meet with some radical Jesus-followers. As we travel along-side these students we will be discussing topics such as following Jesus, love, justice, unity, spiritual gifts, the meaning of being "in the desert" and mission. Each session will include an interview with people who are making a difference in the world: Shane Claiborne (The Simple Way), Gary Haugen (International Justice Mission), Damian Boyd (College minister and national speaker) Steve Fee and Candi Pearson (Passion recording artist), and Ralph Winter (Producer X-men). This week's lesson is on Spiritual Gifts.

# REACH MINISTRY



**Reach Leader: Chris Jackson** [coj1234@hotmail.com](mailto:coj1234@hotmail.com)

**Thrift Store Leader: Judith Seright** [serightjudith@yahoo.com](mailto:serightjudith@yahoo.com)

**THRIFT STORE HOURS: FRIDAY—SUNDAY 10AM—3PM**

**THIS WEEK ONLY: OPEN WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3rd. 6—6:30, 7:30—8:30**

**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! Email Judy and take a shift!

**Reach & Send Teams** invite you to join in a **car wash** at Trinity United Methodist Church, at 2979 Lincoln Blvd. in Fort Myers this Saturday, September 6th. Meet at Trinity Church at 9:30am. We are going to help Trinity show the Love of Jesus to their neighborhood.

**Love Thy Neighbor-** We will again be going out and praying for our neighbors on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am -12 noon-ish. It is a true blessing to participate in these events and I encourage you to come be a part. We hope to have several teams going in several directions to maximize our impact, come join us & be blessed. As a team we go into various neighborhoods, stop at each house, pray for those living there and leave behind a card signed by the team which invites them to church. Call Chris Jackson 239 471-4001 if you have any questions, or just show up at the church on the 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am.



# CONNECT MINISTRY

**Connect Leader: Sharon Woods** [skaywoods33@msn.com](mailto:skaywoods33@msn.com)

**Food, Glorious Food!** Every week the Kitchen Team serves over 400 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!

## **CONNECT MINISTRY** continued...

**Movie Night!** The second Saturday of each month we have a free movie with popcorn, and other goodies. September movie is "Mom's Night Out". All Allyson and her friends want is a peaceful, grown-up evening of dinner and fun - a long-needed moms' night out. But in order to enjoy high heels, adult conversation, and food not served in a bag, they need their husbands to watch the kids for a few hours ... what could go wrong? Join us Saturday, September 13th at 7pm.

**Men's Club!** A big thanks to all the men who showed up to help with the trimming and clean up around the Church on the 23rd. We appreciate your dedication. All men, please remember next men's club meeting is September 11th at 6:30pm.

**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. Mark your "Let's Connect" card to be a part of this team.



# FORM MINISTRY

**Form Leader: Sharon Davis**

[sdavis@egracechurch.com](mailto:sdavis@egracechurch.com)

**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: Men's: September 18-21st. Women's: September 25-28th.

**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! Bookmarks now available for July thru September. Get the bookmark on the FORM wall!!!

**Prayer Team!** Is God calling you to pray? This team prays over the prayer requests, the seats in the sanctuary, the Pastor, the church, and the people who come to the altar rail during worship services. Is this your "Do Something" calling? There is always room on this team and many different areas for you to fit into. Prayer works! Be a praying part of God's plan for this neighborhood! See Sharon about joining this team.

**Small Groups** — Do you belong to a small group? Would you like to be a part of a small group? A small group does life together. What does that mean? It means a small group becomes your loving family. Mark your "Let's Connect" card if you are interested.



# SEND MINISTRY

Send Leader: Terry Rhodes  
[trlpn@aol.com](mailto:trlpn@aol.com)

**Operation Christmas Child Packing Party** — Coming September 28th at 11:30am in Bryant Hall. We will be packing Shoe Boxes for children all over the world. Our goal is to pack 500 boxes on that day! Continue to support this project by donating in the metal buckets on Sunday through the end of August.

**Do Something — Reach & Send Teams** invite you to join in a **car wash** at Trinity United Methodist Church, at 2979 Lincoln Blvd. in Fort Myers this Saturday, September 6th. Meet at Trinity Church at 9:30am. We are going to help Trinity show the Love of Jesus to their neighborhood.

## RECOVERY MEETINGS



**Men's Recovery Leader: Scott Thornton** [Scotthardythornton@yahoo.com](mailto:Scotthardythornton@yahoo.com)  
**Women's Recovery Leader: Sarah McMillan** [smcmillan@egracechurch.com](mailto:smcmillan@egracechurch.com)

**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

**Celebrate Recovery Coming Soon!** The band has begun to practice, the materials are coming in, the leadership team is working hard. The bar-b-que team has a grill. **Mark your calendar! Monday, October 6th** will be the kick-off of our Celebrate Recovery ministry!!

# 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:

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

## 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

**Women of Faith 2014**—Happening in Orlando October 10 & 11. The super line up includes Patsy Clairmont , Sheila Walsh, Anita Renfroe and more! If you are a veteran WOF'er, consider inviting someone new. Carpooling and room sharing available, contact Robin Morrison for more details 239-340-8267.

**MEN'S RETREAT** - On September 13-14 men from all of Grace

Church's campuses are headed to Christian Retreat Center at Fort Myers Beach for 24 hours of worship, friendship, spiritual growth, great food, and tons of fun! Total price is only \$55, which includes overnight lodging, meals, and materials. The retreat begins at 9am Saturday and ends at 10am Sunday. Register online at [www.egracechurch.com/men](http://www.egracechurch.com/men) or call Leigh Jarvis at 239.574.7161.

## YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

### Worship Attendance by Campus August 18—24 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 1,716

Grace Community Center: 242

Fort Myers Shores Campus: 158

Fort Myers Central Campus: 348

### Fort Myers Central Campus Giving:

General Fund: \$3,406.16

Missions: \$95.00



**Mobile app  
available!**



**[www.egracechurch.com](http://www.egracechurch.com)**

