

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



Week of:  
September 14,

grace  
CHURCH News

New Sunday Series!  
Jesus says...

NOW HEAR THIS!



Want to start reading the Bible?  
Take the 28 Day Challenge!



Get a Bookmark of Daily Readings from the "Form" wall today,  
And let Sharon in the office know you "took the challenge!"

## 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 Bible reading, I encountered the prophet Jeremiah in the Old Testament (the story of the Jewish people, centuries before Jesus came on the scene.) The people of Judah have seen better times. They have been captive, and they have been in battle. They are now only a "remnant" of their former selves. Finally, battered and weary, they ask the prophet Jeremiah to consult God and tell them what God would have them do. Should they stay where they are or should they return to Egypt is the question. And they promise that whatever God says they will do it. We will obey the Lord, no matter what! Sounds like the perfect set up doesn't it?



I cannot count the number of times I have told God that I would do whatever he wanted me to do, and then when he revealed something, I just didn't do it because I didn't like his idea. Well, the people of Judah did the same thing. Jeremiah said, "God says stay where you are," and they said, "that can't be right! So we're going to do what we want." They justified and hemmed and hawed, and even accused Jeremiah of lying about the message from God! Jeremiah assured them that God said if they returned to Egypt, they would encounter all sorts of things that would harm them: plagues, famines, and fighting. But they just wouldn't listen to anything that didn't agree with what they already wanted.

On Sunday we begin a new message series called "Now Hear This!" We will be looking at 7 of the parables Jesus told, and he prefaced with "let those who have ears hear!" I want to be a Christ follower who asks for God's wisdom and direction, and then heeds it, don't you? Let's take that journey together.

*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!)

## **Celebrate Recovery Worship Service, every Monday**

**beginning October 6!"** If you have a hurt, a habit, or a hang-up that is hurting your relationship with God, with others, and with yourself, this is the perfect healing place for you. Dinner will begin at 5:30, Worship will begin at 6:30, and 12 step recovery groups will start at 7:45. Break every chain through the power of our mighty God!

**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: COURAGE! The last teaching in this series!** 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.

## **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.

## **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 country 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 artists), and Ralph Winter (producer X-men). This week's lesson is on Wilderness.

# 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—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** wishes to thank all those who participated in the car wash at Trinity UMC as well as those who joined us yesterday for our “Love thy Neighbor” event. We will be planning many more events like these over the next few months. Our annual Community Festival is coming the first weekend in December. Mark your calendars now so you won’t miss all the fun. Watch here for more information and how you can be a part of this year’s many activities.



# CONNECT MINISTRY

**Connect Leader: Sharon Woods** [skaywoods63@gmail.com](mailto:skaywoods63@gmail.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!

**Acts of Grace—** Come join this fun-loving group of people as they use their gifts to illustrate some of Jesus’ parables. New people are always welcome to join this open group. They will be meeting at 8:30am on Saturday for the next 7 weeks as they prepare to illustrate 7 of Jesus’ parables. Check them out, join in!

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

**Chess Club!** Come join the game that happens the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month. Kings & Queens is our chess players group that get together twice a month to enjoy a game of chess and hang out with likeminded people. (skill level not important) Check it out this Thursday, September 18th 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.

**Hospitality Volunteers!** Are you friendly? That is all it takes to help for Sunday or Wednesday 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! Mark your "Let's Connect" card and we'll contact you!



# 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. Never done the "UHS"? Start with the Matthew 28 day challenge or the Acts 28 day challenge. Get any of these bookmarks 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** — Tired of doing life on your own? Would you like to have a group who would share you joys and sorrows? Small Groups do this! Consider joining one today. Mark your "Let's Connect" card.



# 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!

**Mission Prayer Focus:** Each week there are cards of encouragement to sign in the hallway. This week we are asking you to sign the card as well as focus your prayers on our mission partners CV & Judy Elliott who serve the world through New Mission Systems International.

**Mission Bucket Focus!** For the next three months the money in the buckets will go toward our Christmas gift giveaway at Franklin Park.

## 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.

## YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

### Worship Attendance by Campus September 1—7 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 1,486

Grace Community Center: 233

Fort Myers Shores Campus: 197

Fort Myers Central Campus: 357

### Fort Myers Central Campus Giving:

General Fund: \$3293.18

Missions: \$130.00



**Mobile app  
available!**



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

