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



Week of: December 14, 2014 Grace News



TO ALL 2014 VOLUNTEERS!



Sunday, Dec. 14 5:30pm—? DJ, Barbecue, at Pastor Arlene's house, to

Celebrate YOU!
See inside message for more information!

To a Party in Your Honor!

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:

To everyone who volunteered in any ministry here at Grace Central this past year, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart! You know the joy of serving Jesus and you are a blessing to this church and to me!



You are invited to a **PARTY IN YOUR HONOR** on Sunday evening, December 14, 5:30pm at my house to say "Thank you" and "you are appreciated!" Everything you do is necessary to continue our ministry to partner with God in his loving takeover of planet earth by Jesus!

My address is 1025 NE 2nd Street, Cape Coral, Florida, 33909. We will have John Nichols as a DJ, and Dan McMillan will barbecue! Dance, enjoy, celebrate with one another. I hope you can all make it. Please let the office know if you're coming! It is a joy and a privilege to be "with you in the journey!"

Pastor Arlene Jackson ajackson @egracechurch.com



All About WORSHIP

Pianist: Amy Carothers

Choir Leader: Robin Tkac <u>robinleez@comcast.net</u>
Band Leader: Chris Jackson <u>coj1234@hotmail.com</u>

Worship Times:

Sunday Traditional Service at 8:30am (hymns, piano, robes!) Sunday Contemporary Service at 10:00am (a kickin' band & jeans!) Monday Celebrate Recovery Service at 6:45pm (a different groove!) Wednesday Contemporary Service at 6:30pm (a bit of everything!)

Christmas Dates to Remember!

<u>December 17—Wednesday Worship 6:30pm</u>

<u>Birthday Party for Jesus!</u> The Children will host their annual party in our regular Wednesday worship service at 6:30! Dinner 7:30!

December 21—Sunday Evening 6:00pm

<u>Blue Christmas!</u> Sometimes Christmas can be melancholy, if you or someone you know has suffered a loss. Come and share worship in an environment that understands! Candlelight.

December 24—Wednesday Worship 6:30pm

<u>Christmas Eve!</u> Welcome the Christ child during our regular Wednesday time of worship, music by the Celebrate Recovery band. Carols, live nativity, candlelight! Dinner after at 7:30.

December 25—Thursday Morning 10:00am

<u>Christmas Day!</u> Enjoy worshipping Jesus, families all together in worship. Then later in the day...

<u>Christmas Dinner! 5:00pm</u> Let's enjoy Christmas dinner together, free of charge, all the fixin's!

December 31—Wednesday Worship 6:30pm

New Years Eve! Worship as usual at 6:30, dinner at 7:30, then... New Years Eve Party! Music and fun, snacks and friends, in the parking lot until midnight!



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Director of Children's Ministry: Venia Joray <u>vjoray@egracechurch.com</u>
Middle & High School Leader: Shannon Kania 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.

It Continues! We will spend the next 3 weeks in a Wintery Wonderland, surrounded by all the snowflakes we can imagine! <u>UNFROZEN</u>—LET US GO! The story of Christmas—Jesus' birth—too important to keep to ourselves! We want a desire to know Jesus and help others meet him as well.

Isaiah 9:2 (NIV) "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned."

Mark your Calendar: Birthday party for Jesus will be during services Wednesday, December 17th 6:30pm. Plan for a glimpse of Children's Ministry "UNFROZEN" experience!

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!

Middle School youth will be studying various lessons over the next several weeks. Their schedule is as follows: **This Week:** 12/17 "Gifts for Baby Jesus" -Matthew 25: 14-30, 12/24 Christmas Eve service, 12/31 "No Garbage Allowed" Psalm 51:10, 1/7/15 "Jesus is the Rock" - John 14:6.

Senior High youth are studying different people of the bible and will be using the following schedule: **This Week:** 12/17/14 Esther: What Time Is It? 12/24/14 Christmas Eve — Service in the sanctuary for all youth. 12/31/14 Timothy — I'm Just a Teenager, They'll Never Listen. 1/7/15 Discipleship — What Do You Mean I have to Have Discipline?

REACH MINISTRY



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

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!

2014 Community Festival Positive feed back on our Community Festival continues to come in. Many families have expressed their appreciation for a fun family event that they could enjoy with their children. Remember to pick up your Santa Pictures.



CONNECT MINISTRY

Connect Leader: Sharon Woods skaywoods63@gmail.com

Food, Glorious Food! Every week the Kitchen Team serves over 500 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, juice, 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 office and don't forget to come and enjoy the good food!

Kings & Queens—Chess anyone? The 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6:30pm our chess enthusiasts get together and enjoy the game. All skill levels accepted even those who want to learn the game! Email Sharon Woods or contact Dancing Marc for more info!

CONNECT MINISTRY continued...

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!

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 for more information about this team.



FORM MINISTRY

Form Leader: Sharon Davis <u>sdavis@egracechurch.com</u>

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: January 15-18. Women's: January 22-25, 2015.

Men's Emmaus Reunion Group—Our Men's Emmaus Reunion Group will be starting again in January. This group is for any man who has been on the Walk to Emmaus. They will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

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 January—March 2015. Never done the "UHS"? Start with the Matthew 28 day challenge or the Acts 28 day challenge. Book marks are on the FORM wall!!

Prayer— How is your prayer life? If we are honest, most of us would say it could use some work. Someone has said that when we work, "we work", but when we pray, God works. His strength is available to praying people. There are several very good books on prayer, including the Bible, to help you to begin a daily prayer life. Start Today!! God is waiting to hear from you!

Small Groups — If you have been looking to join a small group, you will like this new format. It only takes getting together with two or three friends. All material is provided!! You can still start a new small group. Contact Sharon for more information.



SEND MINISTRY

Send Leader: Terry Rhodes trlpn@aol.com

Franklin Park Elementary— **THE TIME IS HERE!!** Tuesday, December 16th 1pm. Gather at church, load toys and transport to Franklin Park for set-up. Wednesday, December 17th and Thursday, December 18th 8am. Gather at church to travel to Franklin Park for Christmas toy distribution. Mark your "Let's Connect" card, just show up or see Bill Guyn to be a part of this exciting "giving back" opportunity. **Be God's Hands and Feet up close this Christmas!**

Global mission conference—February 4-8, 2015. There are many opportunities to get involved now. If you are interested in being involved mark our "Let's Connect" card, email Terry Rhodes or contact Kelly Duffy, naplesladybutg@yahoo.com.

RECOVERY MEETINGS



Men's Recovery Leader: Scott Thornton <u>Scotthardythornton@yahoo.com</u>
Women's Recovery Leader: Rochelle Redmon Rochelleredmon@gmail.com

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

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

Monday Celebrate Recovery Worship Service and "small groups!" Testimony by Monica R. 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 at 6:00, Worship at 6:45, and 12 step recovery groups at 8:00. Break every chain through the power of our mighty God!

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

Advent is upon us and there will be many opportunities to worship at all the campuses. Watch for dates and times as we enter the holy season!

Blue Christmas at all campuses December 21st 6pm. Christmas day service 10am Central Cam-

pus only! Free Christmas dinner 5pm Central Campus only!

YOU COUNT TO GOD AND TO US!

Worship Attendance by Campus December 1—7, 2014!

Cape Coral Campus: 1,572 Grace Community Center: 210
Fort Myers Shores Campus: 193 Fort Myers Central Campus: 465

Fort Myers Central Campus Giving:

General Fund: \$3,650.53 Missions: \$133.00



Mobile app available!



www.egracechurch.com

