

A manger filled with hay and a white cloth, set against a starry night sky. The manger is made of dark wood and is supported by two legs. The hay is piled high around the white cloth. The background is a dark, starry night sky with a gradient of colors from dark purple to light green. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

December 16, 2018

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

Where will the love of God in Jesus go to reach and redeem me?

1. Jesus goes _____ to reach and redeem me.

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.

Micah 5:2 (NLT)

Philip went to look for Nathanael and told him, "We have found the very person Moses and the prophets wrote about! His name is Jesus, the son of Joseph from Nazareth." "Nazareth!" exclaimed Nathanael. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" "Come and see for yourself," Philip replied.

John 1:45-46 (NLT)

2. Jesus goes _____ to reach and redeem me.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2 (NLT)

When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:10-11 (NLT)

GRACE NEWS

If you want more information or to volunteer with any of these opportunities, please make a note on the Let's Connect card.

What's up with the 9:41? Why do the church bells chime at 9:41 every day? Why does church start at 9:41 on Sunday? Matthew 9:37-38 says 'Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." We are praying for laborers and we are praying that God would equip us to be harvesters! Set your phone alarm and join us in praying at 9:41 every day for our community, and the (941) area code. Use the prayer card available at the Info Desk to pray scripturally.

Blue Christmas –TONIGHT, 7:00 pm A service of healing and hope. If the holidays are not a happy time for you.

Christmas Elves – TODAY at 11:00 We need SEVERAL volunteers to help with Christmas events (Blue Christmas, Trolleys, Christmas Eve) please plan to attend an informational meeting after the service today in the worship center.

Christmas Offering – Please pray about giving your first and best gift to Jesus this season. A Special Christmas offering will be on collected on today, on the 23rd, and on Christmas eve. Take an envelope home and pray about it.

A Hunger for Healing for Women – January 16th, 6:30 – 8:00pm Join Pastor Patti on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Learn how to apply the Twelve Steps to alleviate emotional pain and stress for practical spiritual growth in Christ. Indicate on your connect card or call the office to register.

Samaritan's Purse – If you are planning on going to help on January 3 – 5, please attend the informational meeting, on December 30th at 11:00 after the service. If you cannot attend the meeting, let the office know.

LET'S CONNECT

PLEASE TEAR OUT AND DROP IN BOXES AS YOU EXIT

Date: / / 1st Time Visitor

How did you hear about Grace Church?

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birthday: / / Male Female

I would like to meet with the pastor.

MY DECISION TODAY

- I said **YES** for the first time, and became a follower of Jesus.
- I decided to **RENEW** my relationship with Jesus.

We have resources to help you with your decision.

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY FOR: _____

Public Prayer List For Pastors Only

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

SMALL GROUPS

I want to join a small group.

SMART GIVING

go to: egracechurch.com/give

-OR-

text any amount + "Sarasota" to:

239.205.3123

(like this: 100 Sarasota)

An effective and time-saving way to give your tithes and offerings without carrying cash or writing checks.



Trolley Time – Friday, December 21, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Sing Christmas carols, enjoy hot chocolate and make new friends. Trolleys will leave the church every half hour to Enander’s Winter Wonderland, where you can walk through their glittering display, then catch a trolley back to Grace Church. Please register online at egracechurch.com/Christmas.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Explore the Bible – Sundays, 8:30am – 9:30am in the Gathering Place

Pastor Bible study – Tuesdays at 7:30 am, meets in the Gathering Place

Fishing Club – 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the Gathering Place - Learn from a speaker and 'hook-up' with fellow fisherman. Dinner available for \$5.00.

City Commit – Men’s group, Wednesday mornings 6:30am-8:00am in the conference room

Step Up – AA meeting Wednesday mornings at 7:00 am in the Gathering Place Meeting room.

Prayer hour – Wednesdays, noon – 1 pm in the Worship Center. Come join us in praying for our church, our neighborhoods, the 941, & the nations. Come if you are in need of prayer.

Praise & Worship practice – Wednesdays, 6:00 – 8:30 in the Worship Center

Sprout - 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month - Food distribution by All Faiths Food Bank from 10:00 – 11:30.

Community Clothing Connection - Open the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month from 10:00 – 11:30 am. Most items are only \$1.00

Grace on the Bay Kayaking – 2nd Saturday of the month, leaving from Vamo Drive Park at 9:41am. Bring your own kayak or call the office and we will bring one for you!



egracechurch.com/sarasota

Phone: 941.966.3306

email: sarasota@egracechurch.com