



Grace Presbyterian Church

1415 Airport Road
Panama City, Florida
32405

Return Service Requested



*Come Experience Grace!
It is the purpose of Grace,
to share the gospel, to
equip the saints, and to
serve others so that all
people may experience the
love and joy of Jesus!*

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1415 Airport Road
Panama City, FL. 32405
850-769-4000

Regular Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday
8:00am – 12:00pm
1:00pm – 5:00pm
Friday
8:00am – 12:00pm
Phone: 850-769-4000
Follow us online at:
www.gracechurchpc.com

On Youtube, Facebook
& Instagram at:
Grace Presbyterian
Church
Panama City, Florida

Ministry Staff

Pastor: Rev. Eric Spoon
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Huffaker
Youth & Children’s Director: Jason Williams
Director of Grace Preschool: Susan Ackermann
Administrative Secretary: Beverly Halley
Pianist: Deborah Collins
Nursery Administrator: Tabitha Speed
Nursery Administrator: Lily Hoisington

Grace Cares Ministry

FOOD PANTRY
THURSDAY
8:15am – 11:30am

FINANCIAL AID
THURSDAY
9:00am
(by phone only)

*“Small enough to feel like family...
Big enough to make an impact!”*



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” Jeremiah 29: 11

To My Church Family,

Happy Easter!

It has been said that once you leave, you can never go home again. I do not believe this to be true. You can go home again but the home you go to may not be the same one you left.

At the beginning of March, I went “home again” for a little rest and relaxation. It was not the home I grew up in. It was not even my home. It was my mom’s home and besides the rest and relaxation, I went to be with her to celebrate the two-year anniversary of my dad passing. We had no real game plan. We had no real agenda. All we were doing was celebrating my dad’s life and trying to do it in a way that was not sulking that he was gone but helped us remember him for who he was: so, we did things that we know he would have enjoyed doing. Other than maybe some new restaurants, we did things that we had done before but all seemed so new to us. We were “home again” anywhere from 10 to 30 or more years ago in reminiscing. So yes, I do believe you can go “home again.”

When we celebrate Easter, we celebrate going home again because that is what Christ did. Christ’s resurrection was Christ going back to His heavenly life with the Lord. And He was doing this so we can do it too: so that when we go to our eternal “home again” we can spend it with the Lord. It really is a beautiful message that not enough people know and understand.

But “home again” is not just what happens to us when we complete our baptism; it is the life we are living right now to celebrate and remember what the Lord has done for us. The Holy Cow Revitalization Committee is actively working with the different Ministries of Grace to create a “home again” plan for the church that takes what we know from the church’s history and makes it new and fresh for the future but what are you doing for Christ and Christ’s church?

Between Easter and Pentecost, there are 50 days. And from what we know from our Wonderful Wednesday Bible Study on the Book of Acts is that the day of Pentecost is the start of the church and now the birthday of the Christian church. For the 50 days after Easter, we should actively be living in a “home again” time where we are celebrating and remembering who we are as God’s people, as Christ’s church, and as Holy Spirit driven people and then doing something about it. It may not be the same home you left but that does not mean you cannot go there. You never know what new stories you may learn, updated sights you may see, and amazing people you may introduce to Christ because of it.

This year go “home again” and let God use you and lead you wherever God wants you to go! My “home again” trip to my mom’s home was exactly what I, and we, needed to celebrate and remember the past and help us both move into the future. Now it is your turn to do the same. Do not wait to get started because the journey to forever begins today!

*Blessings in Peace,
Rev. Eric Spoon*

Your OCC Committee is SO excited!! The Panama City Kiwanis Club has given us a \$500.00 grant to purchase school and hygiene supplies for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! Our thanks to Rev. Huffaker & Rev. Spoon for making this happen! YIPPEE!



April Sermons

April 2, 2023 (Palm Sunday)

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a/Matthew 26: 14 – 27, 66

Sermon Title: “Betrayal and Brokenness”

April 6, 2023 (Maundy Thursday/Communion)

April 9, 2023 (Easter Sunday)

Sermon Scripture: Jeremiah 31: 1 – 6/Matthew 28: 1 – 10

Sermon Title: “A Love Forevermore”

April 16, 2023 (2nd Sunday of Easter)

Sermon Scripture: Exodus 15: 1 – 11/John 20: 19 – 31

Sermon Title: “Do You Believe?”

April 23, 2023 (3rd Sunday of Easter)

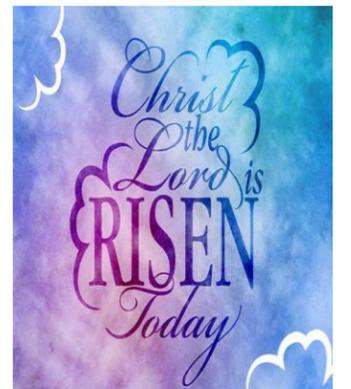
Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 51: 1 – 6/Luke 24: 13 – 35

Sermon Title: “Slow of Heart”

April 30, 2023 (4th Sunday of Easter)

Sermon Scripture: Ezekiel 34: 7 – 15/John 10: 1 – 10

Sermon Title: “The Gate Is Open”



BOOMERS & BUDDIES

Join BOOMERS & BUDDIES for lunch Thursday, April 20, @ Alice’s on Bayview. Let’s meet at 12:00 pm (noon) for food and fellowship. Alice’s is located at 1000 Bayview Drive, Panama City (St. Andrews). For them to be prepared for our group, please reserve with the church office by Tuesday, April 18.

GRACEVINE MAY DEADLINE

Please send any information you would like included in the May Gracevine to Janet Pitts at cookiegirl54@yahoo.com. The deadline is Tuesday, April 18.



**Grace Presbyterian Church
Session Highlights
March 19, 2023**

Your Session met on Sunday, immediately after Morning Worship, in the Youth Room. Lunch was provided by Bessie Goodwin and Jackie Smith.

The meeting began at 12:11PM with an opening devotional and prayer by Rev. Spoon.

All members were present along with our Treasurer, Clerk, and a guest.

Just so you know, Session members are:

Rev. Eric Spoon (Moderator), Robyn Cosson, Bill Dent, Brenda Dye, Linda Lee Fraser, Bessie Goodwin (Corp. Vice-Pres.), Ken Gray (Corp. Pres.), Hank Picken, Jackie Smith, and Jamie Williams.

Minutes from prior meetings of the Session, Corporation, and Congregation were presented and required no Session action. (FYI – New Robert's Rules no longer require motions to receive or accept presentations to the Session such as prior minutes <unless errors or changes are required>, and financial reports that haven't been audited.)

The following MOTIONS were properly made, seconded (if necessary), discussed and voted on by voice vote – all PASSED.

1. Floor privileges were granted to our guest.
2. A Fundraiser (pizza and ice cream) on April 30 (Sunday) with profits equally going to our youth, the Boy Scouts, and the Girl Scouts.
3. From Ministry of Christian Education – no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Our Treasurer presented seven pages of Financial Data for the two months ended Feb. 28, 2023 – discussion and explanations followed. Also noted was the purchase of a \$150K Certificate of Deposit for four months @ 4% annually, maturing in July.

Our Clerk presented, for first reading, changes and additions to our *Manual of Operations* and our Finance Ministry presented, for first reading, changes, and additions to our *Manual of Operations*, both which will be MOVED and VOTED on at our next Stated meeting on April 16.

Last on our Agenda was a written and oral report from our Commissioners to the Presbytery meeting on February 28, in Marianna.

Your **Officer Nominating Committee (ONC)** will be meeting soon and looking for members who would like to serve on this Session as the Class of 2026 – your service would begin in January of 2024 – so please give this thoughtful prayer and consideration if you are approached by any of them.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 1:18PM (just one hour seven minutes for this meeting – a record for shortness that probably goes back many years).

It's Time for a Party and Some Payback!

5th Sunday Lunch

April 30, 2023

Immediately Following Worship

Have you been looking for the perfect time to payback Jason and Rev. Spoon for their silly antics around the church?
Well now is your opportunity!

On April 30, we will have a Pizza and Ice Cream party for our Fifth Sunday Lunch immediately following worship. As part of this fun celebration, we will have a fundraiser event where for \$10 you can throw a tart size pie pan in Jason's face and for \$20 you can throw a full-size pie pan in Rev. Spoon's face (you can keep throwing until supplies run out). 1/3 of the funds raised will go to the youth of Grace, 1/3 will go to the Boy Scout Troop 850 and Cub Scout Pack 850, and 1/3 will go to Girl Scout Troop 3040. Free food, wonderful fellowship, and a chance to payback Jason and Rev. Spoon with pie in their faces: this is an opportunity you do not want to miss!

Please RSVP to the church office by April 24 if you plan to attend so we can have a count for food and pie.



Bay Wind Community Band Concert



**May 7, 2023
3:30pm**

Come and support some of our very own (Deb and Josh Collins) as the Bay Wind Community Band puts on a fundraiser concert here at Grace. It is a great concert for the family to enjoy!

Maundy Thursday Worship Service



**April 6, 2023
6:00 pm**

Please join us April 6 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary for a special Maundy Thursday worship service where we will celebrate the Last Supper as we make our final spiritual preparations for Christ to die on a Cross and to defeat death.

MEN OF GRACE

The Men of Grace will meet on **Thursday, April 27 at 5:00pm** to continue our fellowship and Bible Study based on The Andy Griffith Show. We will be discussing an upcoming fundraiser opportunity, so it is important that all men attend. We can't wait to see you there!

Preschool Happenings

Have you heard what is coming up in the preschool? No? Well, here is your chance! Read below and get involved!

April 4 & 5, 11:00am – Art Show

Come and see the children's art work and their singing with this special event that is open to all!

April 7 – Preschool and School Age After Care Closed

April 10 – 14 – St. Jude Trike-A-Thon

Want to help children in need with medical conditions? Contact Susan or Macey in the preschool office and donate as they do their part to help make a difference!

The goal this year is \$1,500.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

*8 Jackie Smith
10 Audrey Schmidt
18 Jonathan Williams
21 Brenda Dye
21 Joyce Bright
23 Gerri Jasperson
23 Joe Wayne Walker
30 Tabitha Speed*



CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR APRIL

Thurs., April 6 – PWCT @ 2:00pm
Monday, April 2 – Friday, April 6 – Holy Week
Sunday, April 9 - Easter
Sunday, April 23 – Combined Circle & Election
(After Worship, Monday Group Hostess)

APRIL 2023

*Susan McQuagge
Bessie Goodwin
Barbara Smith
Jackie Smith
Melanie Spoon
Karen Williams*

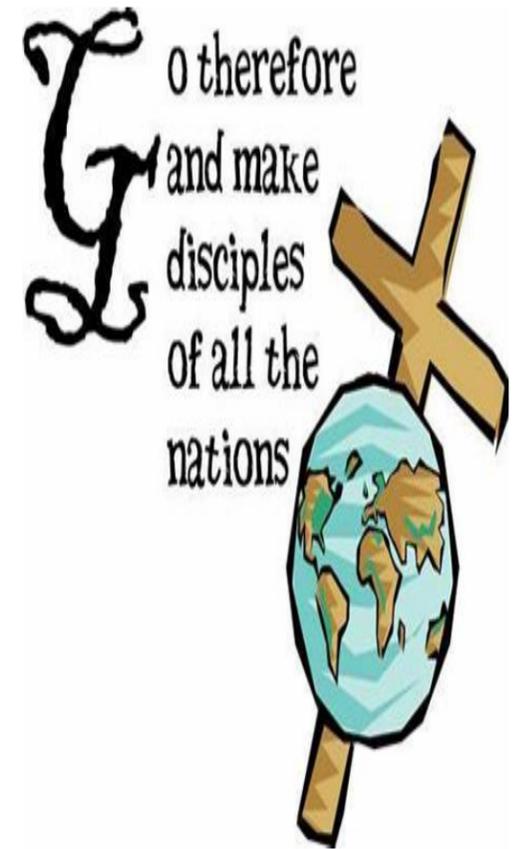
Bob and Kristi Rice

Have you been praying for our Missionaries, Bob & Kristi Rice in South Sudan? With a picture of them at the entrance of Grace, let us make it a practice to pray for them each time you pass their picture.

Bob is not teaching this semester; he is using the opportunity to focus on his doctoral research in the integration of the Gospel with South Sudan cultures. Bob is also involved in an ecumenical peace delegation.

Kristi continues to serve with a team facilitating healing and reconciliation workshops. Many new facilitators from various parts of South Sudan have been trained this year.

Please pray that God continues to open doors to bring healing, faith, love, and transformation to people who are hurting and to enable leaders to minister to those who are suffering.



Grace Is a Praying Church!!!!

Have you ever thought, "What can I do to help?" Maybe you have thought, "I am too old," or "I am too young," or "I am too busy," or "No one has ever asked me to help." Every one of us has the power to pray. If you would like to pray for others, please email Jim McQuagge at jimmcjr@gmail.com and he will add you to the email prayer list. But please make sure we do have a correct and current email address for you and just pray to the Lord! It is as simple as that. Just wait for an email and pray and let God take care of the rest. What are you waiting for, and remember, GP2 – Grace Prays at 2!

EVERY TUESDAY STOP AND PRAY!

GP2

GRACE PRAYS AT 2!