



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](http://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: Leah Rudek  
Nursery Administrator: Tabitha Speed

### 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!"*

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Service

Join us December 24 at 5:00pm.

Communion will be served during this  
celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Please make plans to attend this beautiful service.



## Christmas Extravaganza November 25 - January 3

Grace Presbyterian Church will again be hosting  
"Beach Stilts Entertainment" Aka: Scott Fester's Christmas light show.  
This year it's going to be bigger and have more decorations!!! An event page  
will be up soon so you will know what is happening on certain days for  
Santa, face painters, aerialist, music, balloon artist, and so much more.

### GRAND OPENING DECEMBER 2!!!!

Weather permitting, the display will be open:

Sunday - Thursday 5:30pm - 10:00pm

Friday - Saturday 5:30pm - 11:00pm

Christmas Eve 5:30pm - 11:00pm

Christmas Day 5:30pm - 11:00pm

Cost: \$5.00 Donation Per Entry

\$1.00 S'mores

\$1.00 Hot Cocoa

\$10.00 Pictures With Santa





## Preschool News

### From the Director's Desk:

Although December is a short month here at the preschool, we are still very busy! As you would expect, the children are very excited about Christmas. It is the busiest month for making crafts and gifts and the children are learning about the birth of our Savior. The children have been working hard learning songs for our upcoming Christmas program too. The program will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 13 and 14 beginning at 10:30am in the sanctuary. After the program everyone is invited to a reception in the fellowship hall. All are welcome! This is such a great time to celebrate the holiday season with our preschool family and we hope you will all be there to join us!

Christmas break will begin on Thursday, December 22, and we will return on Monday, January 9.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

Susan Ackermann  
Director



## December Sermons

December 4, 2022 (2nd Sunday of Advent/Communion/Peace)

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1 – 10/Matthew 3: 1 - 12

Sermon Title: "Making Christ Known"

December 11, 2022 (3rd Sunday of Advent/Joy)

Lesson in Carols

December 18, 2022 (4th Sunday of Advent/Love)

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 7: 10 - 16/Matthew 1: 18 – 25

Sermon Title: "A Virgin Birth"

December 24, 2022 (Christmas Eve/Communion/Christ)

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 9: 2 – 7/Luke 2: 1 – 20

Sermon Title: "A Gift to Never Forget"

December 25, 2022 (Christmas Day)

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 52: 7 – 10/John 1: 1 – 14

Sermon Title: "Living Forever"



### BOOMERS AND BEYOND

Due to the busyness of the month of December, Boomers & Beyond Lunch Bunch will NOT MEET this month. Our next time of fellowship and food will be Thursday, January 19, 12:00pm @ Big Mama's, 620 W Beach Dr, downtown Panama City.

### GRACEVINE DECEMBER DEADLINE

Please send any information you would like included in the January Gracevine to Janet Pitts at [cookiegirl54@yahoo.com](mailto:cookiegirl54@yahoo.com). The deadline is Monday, December 12.





To My Church Family:

We have made it to December, the new year (2023) is just around the corner, and well, can you believe it? I know I cannot. As we live in what we call the post Covid world, Grace has taken what we have been given and made the most of everything we could. Now it has not been a seamless year, I would be lying if I said it had. Like everyone else in this area that we call our own backyard, the church has felt the good and bad of the year. We watched our electric bill go up and up. We watched the costs of our everyday expenses go up and up. We even watched the cost of having insurance for our church property go up and up. And sadly, our revenue to expenses is going to fall short, just a bit. For some, this may seem like the time to hang our heads in doubt, but we cannot forget that we have taken what we have been given and made the most of everything we could. So, for the sake of 2023, let's look at some of what this means.

Our budget is about to be approved by the Session during December. Had pledges stayed the way giving came in for 2022, compared to expenses, it was going to look very scary. But as of the time of writing this letter, we are pledged at \$263,800, an increase of \$27,600 from \$236,200 pledged for 2022 (thank you to the Ministry of Finance and Stewardship for your hard work). And we are doing this with the anticipation to meet and exceed all of our needs for 2023! Will you give faithfully in 2023?

And how about the amazing Trunk-or-Treat event we hosted with the help of the Ministry of Care, the Ministry of Christian Education, the Presbyterian Women, the Men of the Church, and the countless volunteers that made it happen? With an estimated 600-700 friends and family joining us on our property, it was an absolutely spectacular evening (thank you to Tabitha Speed for helping coordinate it all)! But this means we have to plan for bigger and better for next year. Will you volunteer faithfully in 2023?

And how about the wonderful work that is done each week through Grace Cares, serving on average 120-150 bags of food per week? We are doing this on top of the weekly financial aid we provide. But this is not the only benevolent cause that we support. Operation Christmas Child was as big as ever (thank you Joyce Bright and Jamie Williams for your hard work with this)! But we do not stop there with our giving. We have missionaries we support. We have families in our community we support. We have schools and non-profit groups we support. And the list goes on and on from here. Will you serve faithfully in 2023?

If you are anything like me, you are tired from the incredible year we had in 2022! But if you also anything like me, you would not trade it for all the world! I have absolutely loved 2022, even with all its up and downs, but I cannot wait to see what 2023 has instore for us! So, I have just one last question to ask: Will you joyfully walk with me in 2023?

Blessings in Peace,

Rev. Eric Spoon



**The Bay County Christian Youth Choir  
Presents:  
"Behold the Lamb of God: A Christmas Cantata"**

**December 18, 2022**

**Come sit back, listen, and marvel at the "true tall tale of Jesus," as written and originally performed by Andrew Peterson. Featuring the Bay County Christian Youth Choir, singers from First Presbyterian and Grace Presbyterian Church, and special guest musician Billy Radar. You truly will not want to miss this special concert.**

**Admission is free, but we humbly ask for donations to our not-for-profit group so that we can keep singing about Jesus and ministering to students in Bay County!**

**The program begins at 4:00pm and doors will open at 3:30pm at  
Grace Presbyterian Church.**

**Mark your calendars and please invite you friends and family!**

## **Preschool Christmas Program**

We are looking for volunteers to greet families and celebrate the children of the preschool, while helping with other activities such as serving food, on December 13 and 14 for the preschool Christmas Program. This is a commitment from about 10:30am to 12:00pm. Please let Ronnie Wilson know if you are able to help serve as we seek to be Christ's hands and feet in the world.



### MEN OF GRACE MEETINGS

The Men of Grace will not be meeting in December. We will return to our regular meetings in January 2023. Thank you.

### MEETING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER

**PROVERBS 31 GUILD** – Meets the second Monday of each month in Bell Hall at 11:00am. Contact Ronnie Wilson for more information.

**YOGA BLISS** – Faith and Fitness – Tuesdays at 4:30pm and Thursdays at 3:30pm in Bell Hall. Contact JoAnn at 850-819-1249.

**SAINT ANDREWS BAY QUILTERS GUILD** – Meets at Grace each month. If you enjoy quilting and fellowship, visit their website at <http://www.sabqg.org> for meeting times and membership information.

**DOORWAYS OF NWFL** – Meets the second Wednesday of each month in Bell Hall at 10:00am.



*1 Will Dent  
4 Martha Edmiston  
6 Edward Pipkin  
8 Pam Howell  
8 Sally Rosales  
10 Susan McQuagge  
10 Don Patterson  
12 Patty Slawson  
18 Patsy Moates  
21 Marshall Mann  
21 Susan Ackermann  
26 Barbara Smith  
26 Carolella Trappe  
31 Peggy Lewis*



### CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER

Thurs., Dec. 1 – PWCT @ 2:00pm  
Thurs., Dec. 8 – Thursday AM Circle @ 9:30am  
Mon., Dec. 12 – Monday, LNO Circle @ 6:30pm\*  
Tues., Dec. 14 – Tuesday Circle @ 9:30am

### DECEMBER TEAM

*Laurie Combs  
Elizabeth Dickson  
Beverly Halley  
Carolella Trappe*

*Brenda Dye  
Jay Hall  
Cheryl Picken  
Jamie Williams*



## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

WOW....What a successful year ~  
416 GO (Gospel Opportunity) Boxes!!  
Our best year EVER!

THANK YOU, GRACE!!! ~ Everyone was involved this year - from crafters to note writers, to kit makers, to packers, to those providing shipping costs - a HUGE Thank You to one and all.  
Let us continue this outreach as we pray for our boxes to touch & change the lives of the children who receive them.

Thank you, Grace, you are the BEST!!



### ***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](mailto: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**












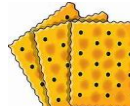












**GRACE PRAYS AT 2!**



# Reverse Advent 2022

How has the Lord blessed you to love and serve?  
This year, focus on giving rather than getting.  
Each day add an item to a box or paper bag.  
Between December 25, 2022 and January 3, 2023,  
bring the box to Grace Presbyterian Church and  
we will distribute the items to our  
Grace Cares clients.

**Bring back your colored wreath with  
your name on it for a special treat!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 27 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> Box of Cereal	28 Peanut Butter 	29 Stuffing Mix 	30 Boxed Potatoes 	December 1 Mac & Cheese 	2 Canned Fruit 	3 Canned Tomatoes 
4 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> Canned Tuna	5 Dessert Mix 	6 Plastic Jar of Applesauce 	7 Canned Sweet Potatoes 	8 Cranberry Sauce 	9 Canned Beans 	10 Box of Crackers 
11 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> Package of Rice	12 Package of Oatmeal 	13 Package of Pasta 	14 Canned Spaghetti Sauce 	15 Chicken Noodle Soup 	16 Tomato Soup 	17 Canned Corn 
18 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> Can Mixed Vegetables	19 Canned Carrots 	20 Canned Green Beans 	21 Beef Stew 	22 Canned Fruit 	23 Shelf Milk 	24 Christmas Eve Boxed Raisins 
25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b> Collection Week	26 Collection Week	27 Collection Week	28 Collection Week	29 Collection Week	30 Collection Week	31 Collection Week
January 1 <b>Happy New Year!</b> Collection Week	2 Collection Week	3 Collection Week	4 Grace Cares Bag Packing Day	5 Grace Cares Food Pantry Distribution		

