

December 24, 2023

Welcome to Grace Community Church, a Presbyterian Church in America. If you are worshiping with us for the first time, we pray that you may know the Gospel's transforming grace in Jesus Christ.

Today's Scheduled Activities:

Sunday School: 9:45-10:30am

Adults (Fellowship Hall) — Westminster Shorter Catechism Q82-Q84
Ron Brightwell

Men(Nursery) – Aspiring to a Noble Work – Dr. Steve Jennings

Children (Library) – “God Showing Grace in the OT”

Morning Worship Service: 10:45am – “A Peace to Fight For ” - Isaiah 9:6-7

Dr. Steve Jennings

Sunday Evening: 6:00pm— Christmas Eve Service

Weekly Calendar:

Monday 2:15pm Women's Prayer - contact Janis Stevenson

Tuesday 9:15am Men's White Horse Stable – Not Meeting

Wednesday 6:30pm Prayer Meeting – Not Meeting

Friday 10:00am Women's 'T' Room – Not Meeting

Fellowship and Announcements: check website for additional details

- Christmas Eve Service tonight at 6:00pm
- Weekly activities cancelled. No SS or evening Worship 12/31.
- Women's Fellowship January 19th, at 6:30pm location TBD.
- Annual Congregational Meeting January 28, 2024 at 6:00pm.

November 2023				
	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$ 75,768.55	\$ 14,743.05	\$(10,514.21)	\$ 80,496.65
Deacons Fund	\$ 13,216.01	\$ 599.00	\$ -	\$ 13,815.01
Special Outreach Fund	\$ 9,204.18		\$ (151.05)	\$ 9,053.13
Restoration Fund	\$ 5,355.48	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 5,655.48
Hurricane Fund	\$ 60,671.51	\$ 1,199.53	\$ -	\$ 61,871.04
Total	\$164,215.73	\$ 16,841.58	\$(10,665.26)	\$170,891.31

Pastor: Rev. Brent Bergman – 727-692-1865

Elder: Ron Brightwell

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Order of Worship

Theme: The Peace of God

Announcements

We receive
the **Call to
Worship** in
accordance
with

Love Candle Lighting

Barbara Francis

Prelude

The prelude is a time to prepare for the worship of our holy God. Pray that God would meet His people as we gather. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

Hebrews
12:28

*Let us offer
to God
acceptable
worship,
with
reverence
and awe.*

Hymn #218: Angels From the Realms of Glory (v. 1,2,5)

Call to Worship *

The service begins with a scriptural “call to worship.” It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts. Worship is a reflexive and deliberate response to His gracious call.

Isaiah 26:1-4

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: “We have a strong city; He sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks. Open the gates that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in. You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.”

We offer the
**Prayer of
Invocation**
in
accordance
with

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation *

This prayer exalts the Name of the Lord and invokes His presence and communion as we come to worship Him.

Psalms
22:3 KJV

Hymn #203: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

*But Thou art
holy, O thou
that inhabits
the praises of
Israel.*

**Please stand if able.*

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism Q40-42

We offer our
**Confession of
Faith**

in accordance
with

Hebrews
10:23

*Let us hold
fast the
confession of
our hope
without
wavering, for
He who
promised is
faithful.*

Q40: Leader: Why was it requisite that the Mediator should be God and man in one person?

All: It was requisite that the Mediator, who was to reconcile God and man, should himself be both God and man, and this in one person, that the proper works of each nature might be accepted of God for us, and relied on by us, as the works of the whole person.

Q41: Leader: Why was our Mediator called Jesus?

All: Our Mediator was called Jesus, because He saveth His people from their sins.

Q42: Leader: Why was our Mediator called Christ?

All: Our Mediator was called Christ, because He was anointed with the Holy Ghost above measure; and so set apart, and fully furnished with all authority and ability, to execute the offices of prophet, priest, and king of His church, in the estate both of His humiliation and exaltation.

Prayer of Confession Assurance of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:11-17

We offer the
**Prayer of
Confession** in
accordance
with

I John 1:9

*If we confess
our sins, He is
faithful and
just to forgive
us our sins and
to cleanse us
from all
unrighteousness*

Therefore, remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands- remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He himself is our peace, who has made us both one and broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

Good and Gracious King – (bulletin insert)

We offer the
**Prayer for the
Congregation**

in accordance
with

1 Peter 5:7
*Casting all your
anxieties on
Him, because
He cares for you*

Prayer for the Congregation

Etienne - Haiti

We offer our
**Tithes and
Offerings**
in accordance
with

Malachi 3:10.

*Bring the full
tithe into the
storehouse*

Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Giving is an act of worship.

We receive the
**Scripture
Reading**

in accordance
with
1 Timothy 4:13

Scripture Reading*

Luke 1:67-79 (p.856)

*Devote yourself
to the public
reading of
Scripture*

Hymn #201 O Little Town of Bethlehem (v 1-4)

**Please stand if able*

Prayer for Illumination Preaching of God's Word

We offer the
**Prayer for
Illumination**
in accordance
with Psalm
119:130

A Peace to Fight For – Isaiah 9:6-7 (p.573)
Dr. Steve Jennings

*The unfolding
of Your words
gives light; it
imparts
understanding
to the simple.*

1) Peace with God -Through the Gospel (Romans 5:1)

2) Peace in the Midst of the World- By Providence (John 16:31)

We submit to
the
**Preaching of
God's Word**
in accordance
with
Romans 10:17.

3) Peace with Others- By Forgiveness (Matt 10:34-39, Eph 2:11-17)

*So, faith comes
from hearing,
and hearing
through the
word of Christ.*

4) Peace with Myself -Peace of Conscience (1 John 3:19-22)

No Christ – No Peace
Know Christ – Know Peace

**Hymn #296: All Hail the Power of Jesus Name
(v 1,3,5,6)**

We receive
the
Benediction
in accordance
with Leviticus
9:22-23

Then Aaron
lifted up his
hands toward
the people
and blessed

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Weekly Prayer Guide

(December 24 – December 30, 2022)

Please notify us of new prayer requests or answers to prayer. You may call the church office at 727-789-2124 or e-mail the information to faithkeeper77@juno.com.

Sunday: Prayer Theme: **Peace of God** *Being justified by faith, let us have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and through him let us have access into that grace in which believers stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2*

Monday: Prayer Needs: **Etienne - Haiti** *Heal us, and we shall be healed; save us, and we shall be saved, for you are our praise. Jeremiah 17:14 Do not be angry with us forever but revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you. Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation. Psalm 85:5-7*

Tuesday: *We thank you that the powers that are set over us are servants of God for our good; Romans 13:4 that they seek the welfare of our people and speak peace to all our people. Esther 10:3*

Wednesday: *In Christ Jesus let us, who once were far off, be brought near by the blood of Christ; for he himself is our peace, who has broken down the dividing wall of hostility between us, that he might reconcile us to God through his cross, thereby killing the hostility, and so making peace. Through him, therefore, let us, who have made ourselves strangers and aliens, become fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. Ephesians 2:13-19*

Thursday: *That you have forgiven all our iniquities and healed all our diseases; Psalm 103:3 and in love you have delivered our lives from the pit of destruction, for you have cast all our sins behind your back. Isaiah 38:17*

Friday: Give thanks for our church body and pray for our sanctification, the Pastors, the Elders and Deacons, and **Miller family**. *We bless you for the redemption we have through Christ's blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of your grace, which you have lavished upon us. Ephesians 1:7-8*

Saturday: *When we have eaten and are full, we have reason to bless you for the good land that you have given us, Deuteronomy 8:10 a land which the eyes of the LORD our God are always upon, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. Deuteronomy 11:12*

Grace Community Church PCA exists for ...

The proclamation of God's grace.

God's will for His Church is for the Church to proclaim and defend Truth (I Tim. 3:15) so that God's people may avail themselves of the ordinary means of grace in order to grow in grace and manifest the fruit of the spirit. (Col. 1: 5-6, WSC* #89)

The growth of God's people.

God's will for His people is to enable them to more and more die to sin and live unto righteousness. (I Thess. 4:3, WSC* #35)

The magnification of God's glory.

God's will is for all things to glorify Him. So, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, it is to be for the glory of God. We are to let our light to shine before men so that they might see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. (I Cor 10:31; Matt 5:16). Therefore, man's chief end is to "glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." (WSC* #1)

*Westminster Shorter Catechism

Missionaries We Support

Financial & Prayer	Prayer
Matlack MTW Prayer Ministry	Aldo Mondin – RUF @ USF
Kawachis France	New Life Solutions
Etienne Haiti	Genevan Institute
	Christ the King Chapel

Scriptures quoted are from the ESV unless otherwise noted.

Next Communion: January 7, 2024

Next Benevolence Offering: January 14, 2024