



GRACE NOTES

OCTOBER 2024

INTERIM MINISTRY

I really had very little understanding of Interim Ministry until Clint, April and I were charged with serving as the search committee for an interim pastor. It has been a long (nearly 2 years) process to find and call Cheryl Duke to serve as our interim pastor. The Presbytery directs us to first call an interim minister before we begin our search for our new installed minister. The interim pastor usually serves for a 2 year period and cannot become our permanent pastor. In addition to guiding us in our search for a permanent minister, we have expressed to Cheryl that we would like to see continued growth in our membership. She has some ideas.

One of the benefits of transitional/interim ministry is to provide the opportunity for our church to discern who we are as a congregation and to gain a clearer understanding of the attributes we are searching for in our future pastor. The interim pastor can guide us through this process. Our interim pastor will hopefully take the time to observe our congregation, to see the good things we are doing in ministry and encourage us in these areas. The interim pastor may challenge us to make some changes that we are not all comfortable making. It is very important for each of us to express our views and concerns. We need to each take an active role in prayerfully discerning who God is calling us to be as members of the body of Christ.

Prayers for us all as we embark on this transitional journey,

Debbie Harris

INTERIM PASTOR - CHERYL DUKE

Cheryl comes as a new member of Saint Augustine Presbytery from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. Born in Kansas, she has lived most of her life in Florida and Virginia. A widow of two wonderful men, she is now keeping busy with ministry and as mama to 5 Maltese dogs. Since earning her D. Min. Degree in 1986 she has served as a pastor to congregations in Virginia, West Virginia, Michigan, Kentucky and Florida. She owns a home in Dade City and claims family by birth and friendships in Dade City, Panama City, Georgia and California, a child in Illinois and relations by marriage in Illinois, North Carolina, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Virginia.

She will be living in Gainesville in her vintage 1991 "Country Coach" on the church property. Her hours will vary somewhat depending on the work to be done but normal hours will be Friday through Sunday afternoon. Please feel free to reach out via phone, text message, email or a note on her door. She welcomes opportunities to visit and even more, hopes you will invite your friends who do not have a church home to come with you to meet her. She will begin her work with Grace Church on Friday October 25 and her first Sunday to bring the message will be October 27. If you are in worship on October 20th , you might just see her and some "adopted family" fresh from a "mud run" in nearby Brunnel, FL.

The Worship Committee reminds church members and friends that the 2024 Flower Calendar is posted in the narthex. Fresh floral arrangements are \$35 and you may place your name on any selected date of your choosing. Please note that roses added to your arrangement are in addition to the \$35.00 and are \$5.00 each.



Prayer Requests

Please join us in lifting up prayers for those who have immediate concerns:

The Butler Family (on the death of Jerry's brother George)

The Crane family (on the death of Sherry)

Lois Ferguson

Kathy Franks

The McAlpine Family (on the death of Bob)

Phyllis Manning

Faye Tripp

Wayne Wagner

Mary Williamson

Those effected by Hurricane Helene

Also pray for those with longer term needs:

Margie Baker

Jerry Butler

Michael Crane (Carl's brother)

Holly and John Durst (Lois Butler's sister and brother-in-law)

Donna Fidler

Janine Groner

Billie Jean Jones

Pauline Kirk

Laura Raizada

Libby Richardson

C D Weaver

Our Military

First responders

The people of the Ukraine, Israel, the Gaza Strip

Our Church.



If there are other people or concerns that you would like to add or delete from this list, please contact Lois Butler by phone at 352-262-5893 or by email at treasurer@gpconline.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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10/1 - Margie Baker

10/1 - Mary Ellen McAlpine

10/8 - Bob Franks

10/9 - Beth Hartwell

10/18 - Aidan Collins

10/21 - Mohan Raizada

10/23 - Jennifer Hemphill



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

10/31 - Katie Bauman & Doug Hackett



Please call the church office at 352-376-5654, if your special day is **NOT** listed or is **NOT** correct.

HURRICANE HELENE

Hurricane Helene made landfall late on September 26th near Perry, Florida, as the first known Category 4 storm to hit Florida's Big Bend region since records began in 1851. As of Friday evening, at least 40 deaths had been reported in multiple states. The impact of Helene will be felt across multiple states. With the storm surge, wind damage, and flooding, it is crucial to have the necessary resources to support the many communities that will be affected. Your generous gifts will bring hope and encouragement.

PDA is in communication with FLAPDAN (Florida PDA Network) and National VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster) to share information and coordinate resources as damage is assessed. PDA anticipates requests for National Response Team deployments and emergency grants in multiple presbyteries.

Please join us in praying for everyone who was in the path of Hurricane Helene.



Session Meeting Highlights

September 9

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & MISSION - Debbie Harris

St. Francis House – Next meal will be prepared/delivered on Friday, 10/18
Family Promise – dinner at Covenant Wed, 9/11 - dinner at Westminster Wed, 9/25 - Fulfilling the Promise luncheon and fundraiser Thurs, 9/26 - will donate \$225 at the luncheon (\$125 budgeted amount plus an addition \$100
Fellowship Hour – people have been signing up to host
Grace Giving Mission for September is personal hygiene products and paper goods - October canned fruits and vegetables.
\$1 Fund for 4th quarter Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Fellowship Hall was decorated in orange and blue as requested by the Crane family
Soup, salad, dessert goodbye luncheon is planned for Rev Don after his last sermon with us on 10/6
Next Meeting - 10/1 at 11:00am

ADMINISTRATION & Personnel - Jay Collins

Barney Plisko asked to speak to the session
Nursery workers pay has been increased to \$30 per hour

WORSHIP & MUSIC - Karen Russ

Communion was served on 9/1 - next communion 10/6
Sanctuary piano tuned on 9/4
Celebration of Life for Sherry Diane Crane was held on 9/7
Contract with One License was canceled
Pulpit Supply 9/29 - Rev Larry Green
Choir practice rehearsal Sunday at 9:45 am in preparation for Advent services
Lessons and Carols - 12/8
Committee will meet 9/15 after the worship hour

PROPERTY & OPERATIONS - Jay Collins

Manse repair - cleaned roof and repaired shingles - cleaned sidewalks, backpatio & porch - HVAC work
Church office A/C leakage addressed - ceiling tiles replaced
Gutters at walkway coverings need to be cleaned out by hand from the ground
Sanctuary gutters have a lot of mud/dirt that will need to be cleaned out by hand

OTHER BUSINESS

Patricia "Patsy" Bellis will be baptized and join the church on 9/22
Rev Don will moderate the 10/14 Session Meeting

Our Daily Bread booklets for September, October and November are available in the narthex



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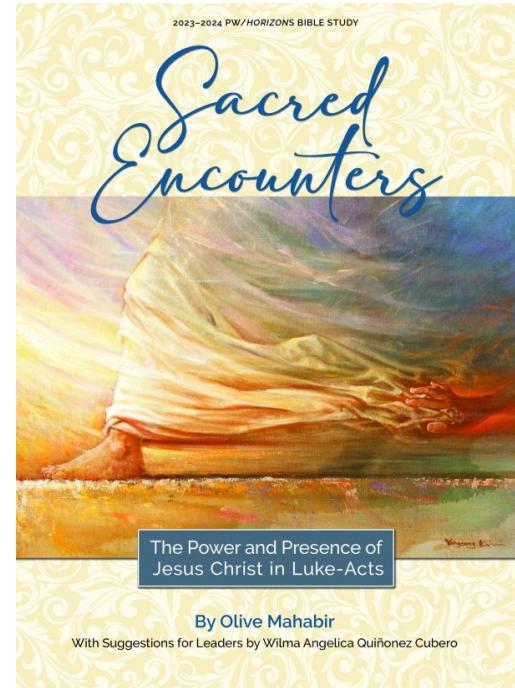
Men's Noon Lunch & Fellowship



The men of the church are invited to meet each Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm in the library for fellowship. Please bring your own brown bag lunch, beverages will be provided.

Circle News

The Anna circle will meet on Tuesday, October 8 at 12:00 noon in the library. Diane Millican will lead our study of Lesson 2 "The Exorcism in Gerasa" in *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* by Olive Mahabir. Please bring your study book, Bible and your own brown bag lunch and beverage. All women are welcome. Please come and enjoy the fellowship.



The finance committee would like to keep the congregation informed about our General Fund income and expenses and our pass through donations. If you have any questions, contact Lois Butler at 352-262-5893 or treasurer@gpconline.org.

	August	Through 8/31
Income	\$ 5,895.44	\$ 75,836.26
Expenses	\$ 7,615.22	\$ 73,201.27
Pass Through Donations		
Two Cents a Meal	\$ 8.00	\$ 160.04

For it is in Giving That We Receive

Ways to Support Grace Presbyterian Church:

1. Mail a check to the church office.
2. Use your bank's online bill pay system.
3. Use the electronic funds transfer from your savings or checking account.
4. Use a debit/credit card at the link on our website under the giving tab (there is also an image that you can click).

Elders on Call

**Elders on Call
for October are:**

**Jay Collins 352-870-2843
Faye Tripp 904-307-4082**

Two elders volunteer to be available to church members and friends who may need assistance. When the church office is closed, these elders are on call to help.

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 pm – Barbergators	2 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch	3 11:00 am Congregational Life & Mission	4 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus
6 9:45 – Choir Practice 11:00 – Worship Service Communication Pastor Don's Farewell Luncheon 7:00 – ESWT(AA)	7 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group	8 7:00 pm – Barbergators	9 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch	10 Girl Scouts	11 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	12 2:00 pm Arabic Evangelical Church
13 9:45 – Choir Practice 11:00 – Worship Service Guest Pastor – Rebekah Rodgers Worship Committee 7:00 – ESWT(AA)	14 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group	15 7:00 pm – Barbergators	16 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch	17 Girl Scouts	18 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	19
20 9:45 – Choir Practice 11:00 – Worship Service Guest Pastor – Joe Rigsby 7:00 – ESWT(AA)	21 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group	22 7:00 pm – Barbergators	23 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch	24 Girl Scouts Grace Notes Articles Due	25 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	26
27 9:45 – Choir Practice 1:00 – Worship Service Welcome Interim Pastor – Cheryl Duke 7:00 – ESWT(AA)	28 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group	29 7:00 pm – Barbergators	30 7:00 pm – ESWT(AA)	31 Girl Scouts	Pastor Cheryl Duke at Grace	

OCTOBER
2024

Grace Presbyterian Church
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Gainesville, FL 32609

Phone: 352-376-5654
Email: office@gpconline.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.GPCONLINE.ORG

Please don't forget our Special Offerings

TWO CENTS A MEAL



We invite every member of the congregation to prayerfully contribute a few cents at each meal. This offering is held the first Sunday of each month, but feel free to contribute on any Sunday to help alleviate hunger and poverty.

\$1 FUND OFFERING

Our \$1 Fund Offering for the months of October through December will go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

GRACE - GIVING AND SHARING MISSION

Grace - Giving and Sharing Mission is a food and household item collection benefiting the Bread of the Mighty Food Bank. For the month of October we are collecting canned vegetable and canned fruit.

