



GRACE NOTES

May 2025

Help Send a Child to Camp This Summer!

A Special Easter Appeal for Scholarships to the Montgomery Center

Dear Friends,

As we prepare to celebrate the hope and renewal of Easter, we're reminded of the power of community, generosity, and the life-changing love of Christ. This season, we invite you to be part of something that will bring joy, growth, and spiritual nourishment to the lives of children in our community.

For generations, the Montgomery Center in Starke, Florida has been a sacred place of rest, play, and encounter with God. Nestled under towering oaks and set along the peaceful lakes of north Florida, Montgomery offers a summer camp experience unlike any other – one filled with campfires, laughter, worship, and deep, lasting friendships.

But as you may know, the cost of camp has risen sharply in recent years, putting this transformational experience out of reach for many families. That's why we're reaching out to you – former campers, church partners, community organizations, and faithful supporters – to help us create a robust scholarship fund.

Every gift, no matter the size, goes directly to helping a child attend camp this summer.

- A donation of \$50 might cover food for a few days of camp for one child.
- A gift of \$170 could pay for a full day of camp.
- A full scholarship gift of \$850 sends a camper for an entire week of memories and spiritual growth.

Whether you experienced Montgomery's magic firsthand or simply believe in the importance of faith-based youth programs, we hope you'll consider a generous Easter offering to help us reach as many children as possible.

Let's work together to make sure no child is turned away from camp due to financial need.

You can give online at <https://onrealm.org/MontgomeryCenter/give/summer> or send a check to Montgomery Center, 88 SE 75th Street, Starke, FL 32091. Please mark your gift "Montgomery Camp Scholarship."

Thank you for your love, prayers, and support. May your Easter be filled with the joy of the risen Christ – and the joy of knowing you're helping children find Him in the beauty of summer camp.

The Rev. Dr. Clinton Cottrell

President, Montgomery Board of Trustees



**MONTGOMERY
CENTER**
EST. 1957

Session Meeting Highlights

March 10

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

- The budget must be amended to reflect Rev. Green's compensation package.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & MISSION

- Family Promise — Purchased and delivered meals for 3 families on April 10th.
- Grace Giving Mission for May is Tuna/Canned Meat .
- Put together a Cookie Bar Reception in Fellowship Hall following a 4:00pm recital by the American Guild of Organists on 4/26/25

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONEL

- Rev. Larry Green begins full time for Sunday Worship on 5/4/25 for Communion Sunday
- Hannah Luciano has been doing a great job as GPC's Admin Assistant.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

- Pulpit supply schedule is complete
- Elder Suzie Cornelio will be last guest speaker on Sunday 4/27.
- Rev. Green begins full time Sunday 5/4/25 with Communion.
- Cordelia Opal Parker, great-granddaughter to Faye Tripp was baptized Easter Sunday with the Christ candle lit.
- The committee is reviewing the responsibilities of the Worship & Music Committee and will have a final version at the May Session meeting.

PROPERTY & OPERATIONS

- On **April 1st**, Jared Davis cleaned debris from all rooftops and walkway coverings, gutters, sidewalks, and the back parking lot. He also checked roof leaking locations and found a few questionable areas that may be the cause of the leaks. He provided Property & Operations with his recommendations
- On April 2nd, a large branch fell on the fence around the old manse. It crushed part of fence and Kirk Mead's 8ft ladder.
 - The estimate to clean up trees around manse with debris removal to prevent more damage in the future is **\$6,000**. Motion to fund our of Manse repair fund & Presbyterian Disaster Relief grant was approved.
- Committee is reviewing the responsibilities of the Property & Operations committee and will be presented at next Session meeting.
- May 17-18 is GFAA's Artist's studio tour. 3 of the 4 studios will be open to the public 10am-5pm –Flouthern food truck has been invited to come back to GPC during this time.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2025

BLOOD DRIVE

May 4th | 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Grace Presbyterian Church
3146 NW 13th St. Gainesville, FL
32609

All donors will receive a donor t-shirt!

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers



Let's support our community in participating and spreading the word for this blood drive!

The Big Red Bus will be parked on GPC's Front Lawn for maximum view from the road.

Please share with your friends, family and neighbors

Breaking News!!!

Jennifer Tucker, who is new in the position of receptionist with the Presbytery of St. Augustine, called the church to let us know that the Presbyterian newsletter of May 14th will feature Grace Presbyterian, and she is looking for some details. We have been asked to email her with 3-5 interesting facts about the church. I have thought of a couple, but would like to hear yours. Email me please. I will compile and email our facts to Jennifer. If you would like to contact her directly, her email is reception@staugpres.org.

Our Daily Bread booklets for May are available in the narthex



\$1 FUND OFFERING

Our \$1 Fund Offering for the month of May will go to St. Francis House.

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 May we will be collecting Tuna/Canned meat



ELDERS ON CALL

Elders on Call
for May are:

WT Chesnut– 352-256-8628
Karen Russ– 352-262-5419

Two elders volunteer to be on call to help church members and friends who may need assistance when the church office is closed.

The Worship Committee reminds church members and friends that the 2025 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:

Annette McGee
The Crane family (on the passing of Sherry)
Holly Durst (on the passing of her husband, John)
Kathy Franks
Phyllis Manning
Faye Tripp
Wayne Wagner
Mary Williamson

Also pray for those with longer term needs:

Margie Baker
Jerry & Lois Butler
Michael Crane (Carl's brother)
Donna Fidler
Janine Groner
Billie Jean Jones
Pauline Kirk
Laura Raizada
Libby Richardson
C D Weaver
Our Military
First responders
Those effected by Hurricanes Helene & Milton
Those effected by the California wildfires
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

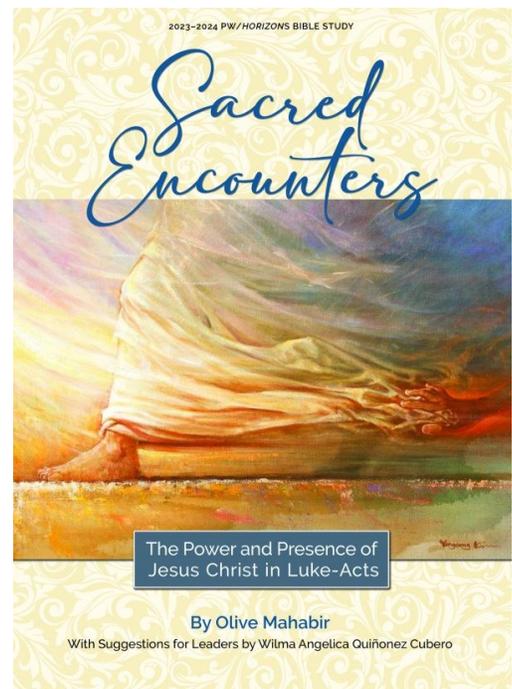
Men's Noon Lunch & Fellowship



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, May 13th at 12:00 noon in the library. Diane Millican will lead our study of **Lesson 9** 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.



MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	2	3
4 8:30-2pm Blood Drive w/LifeSouth on Front Lawn 9:45 Choir Practice 11:00- Worship-Communion 7:00-ESWT(AA)	5 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	6 7:00 pm– Barbergators	7 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	8 11:00 AM Con- gregational Life & Mission Com- mittee Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show	9	10
11 9:45 Choir Practice 11:00 Worship 2 pm-Girl Scouts 7:00-ESWT(AA)	12 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group 6:00 pm– Session Meet- ing in Church	13 12:00 pm-Anna Circle 7:00 pm– Barbergators	14 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	15 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gaines- ville Harmony Show Chorus	16	17 10am-5pm GFAA Art- ist Studio tour
18 10am-5pm GFAA Artist Studio tour 9:45 Choir Practice 11:00- Worship Worship Committee 7:00-ESWT(AA)	19 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	20 7:00 pm– Barbergators	21 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	22 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gaines- ville Harmony Show Chorus	23	24 Girl Scouts
25 9:45 Choir Practice 11:00- Worship 7:00-ESWT(AA)	26 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	27 7:00 pm– Barbergators	28 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	29	30	31