



THE GRACEVINE

Grace Presbyterian Church

518 Roselawn Blvd., Lafayette LA 70503

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Website: www.gracelafayette.org

JULY 2023

Facebook: [gracelafayette](https://www.facebook.com/gracelafayette)

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Celebrating our independence

Every year around July 4th we tout our independence through speeches, parades, and fireworks displays, and celebrate it further in family get-togethers that include tourism, picnics, swimming, and many other activities.

Simultaneously, and on a daily basis, we see or experience examples of people helping people in many heart-warming ways that serve to illustrate on a more personal level our actual *dependence* upon one another for practical and indispensable help.

We are justly proud of the freedom(s) we enjoy, and for which so many have lived and died on our behalf. Nevertheless, with such freedom and independence come great responsibility. Because we worship and serve a God whom we believe wants similar advantages for all people everywhere, we are called to seek similar freedom and independence for all.

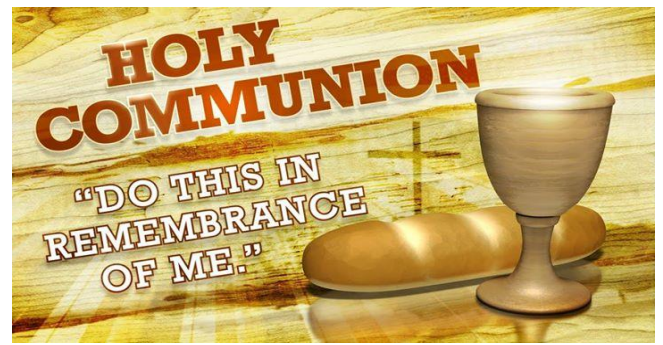
Assisting those who need help is a way of seeking their freedom and independence from want and the systemic forces that tend to keep them dependent. It helps restore human dignity.

--Pat Wadsworth

Church Security Training

The PSL is partnering with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to host a **Church Security Training on Saturday, July 15th from 9am-4pm at University Presbyterian Church in Baton Rouge**. The training will cover a wide array of challenges to churches from individual disruptions in worship to active shooter protocols. The trainers presenting will bring security expertise alongside Presbyterian values and theological understanding. It is designed for ushers, elders, pastors – people who deal with the public, and are responsible for keeping our congregations safe when they are gathered.

This event is FREE, thanks to the Great One Hour of Sharing and PSL Per Capita offerings. There is a cost of \$15.00 for a boxed lunch if wanted. Registration is limited to 50 participants and it is recommended that 2-3 people per congregation attend. We have at least one representative for Grace Presbyterian Church attending so far. Please let us know if you would like to attend and would like more information.



Sunday Worship Schedule

10:30 a.m. Worship

Church Office Hours

M-Thur. 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastor's Office Hours

M-Thur. 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

COMMUNION - will be celebrated during our **10:30 a.m.** worship service on **Sunday, July 2nd**. As usual, we invite those who watch our worship service via Facebook Live to gather your communion elements ahead of time so you will be able to take communion with us.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Dawson Jones**
- 5 Pam Sanders**
- 6 Patrick Harrington**
- 13 David Jones**
- 14 Melissa Gonzalez**
- 19 Linda Griffis**
- 22 Betty Tucker**
- 24 Katharine Schendel**

The Presbyterian Women encourage the congregation to support **United Christian Outreach** by bringing non-perishable food items and paper products to worship on the 1st Sunday of the month. **Our next collection will be on Sunday, July 2nd**. Any monetary donations can be mailed to their P.O. Box. Please contact the church office for the mailing address. Our collection on the 1st Sunday of June was very light. Needs tend to be higher during the summer months with children not attending school. **Please consider donating to our next food drive on July 2nd!** Thank you to everyone for continuing to support UCO.





**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

The Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering 2023

Grace's Presbyterian Women will celebrate their Birthday on **Sunday, July 23rd**. They will also be providing lunch for everyone after worship on this day.

The Birthday Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. It gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds up to five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each.

This year's recipients are:

1. Making Miracles Group Home (Tallahassee, Florida)

This home helps young mothers break the cycle of abusive relationships, addiction, incarceration and early motherhood. MMGH provides a 1-year, live-in program designed to support young mothers and help them develop skills to live independently and care for their children.

2. Berhane Yesus Elementary School

This elementary school is located in the western highlands of Ethiopia. They seek to change lives by sharing the "Light of Jesus" and by providing the best possible educational experience for the children of Dembi Dollo. They provide children with the possibility of a better future by preparing them for a rigorous high school education and a life of Christian service. The school is the first entry point to education for children of subsistence farmers, migrant workers and displaced groups of people.

There will be a basket in the back of the Sanctuary on Sunday, July 23rd for those who wish to donate to the Birthday Offering. Please make checks payable to Grace PW Women.

Please stay for lunch after our 10:30 a.m. worship service on July 23rd!

The Presbyterian Women meet monthly for Bible Study. The ladies "normally" meet in member's homes on the 3rd Monday of each month at **11:00 a.m.** Everyone is not expected to host.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11th at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Margaret Boone.

After Bible Study, anyone who wishes will go out to lunch as a group. If you would like more information about the Presbyterian Women & PW Events, you can contact Margaret Boone at (337) 981-2475 or email marboone@yahoo.com.

Committee Meetings

SESSION – will meet on **Tuesday, July 18th at 6:00 p.m.** Please let Sandy Stewart know if you are an Elder and cannot attend this meeting.

MDO BOARD – will meet on **Thursday, July 20th at 2:15 p.m.** Please let Tim Conner know if you are on the MDO Board and cannot attend this meeting.

CHOCOLATE PEPPERMINT DREAM **BESS TRUMAN'S RECIPE**

Melt together over hot water:

- 24 marshmallows
(10 miniature = 1 large)
- ½ cup milk

Remove from heat, cool slightly and stir in:

- 3 drops of peppermint flavoring
(or more to taste)
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/8 tsp salt
- Few drops of green food coloring

Cool until mixture mounds slightly when dropped from a spoon.

Fold in:

- 1 cup of stiffly beaten whipped cream
or 8 oz container of Cool Whip

Place in a chocolate cookie crumb crust and cover with crumbs.

If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with the congregation, you can email a copy of the recipe to the church office at gracpreb@lusfiber.net or bring a copy of the recipe to the office.



Elke Hitt has a new address. Make sure to update your church contact directory. Her new address is:

Senior Village Nursing Home
315 Harry Guilbeau Rd.
Room #301
Opelousas, LA 70570

The facility telephone number is (337) 948-4486. Elke can also be reached on her cell phone number listed in the directory.



Congratulations to **Heather Jones & Phillip Cooper** on their recent marriage. They married on **June 18th** (*Father's Day*) with family & close friends present to share in their special day. Heather is the daughter of David & Jysele Jones, sister of Danny Jones & has a son named Dawson.



Ray Stroup passed away on June 17th at the age of 80. A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church in Lafayette on June 21st. Ray and his wife Pam were previous members of Grace Presbyterian Church. Grace extends sincere sympathy and prayers to the family during this difficult time.

CAMP AGAPE

Camp Agape was held at the Feliciana Retreat Center in Norwood, LA the week of June 18th – June 24th. This year from Grace Presbyterian we had **Libby Gaspard & Julia Montgomery** in attendance. Libby was a camper and Julia was on the staff working with the recreation team.



MOTHER'S DAY OUT NEWS

MDO SUMMER SEMESTER – is going great. On really hot days, they have been letting the children have special treats to cool off, like watermelon & popsicles. Our Summer Semester will end on **Wednesday, July 26th**. That will be a full day. The following day, **Thursday, July 27th** will be a teacher work day.

MDO FALL SEMESTER – will begin on **Tuesday, August 15th**. The 1st week of **August (1st-3rd)** will be a break for the MDO Program and the 2nd week of **August (8th-10th)** will be a teacher work week. During the work week, the teachers will not only be preparing for the fall semester, they will also be doing some much needed painting and building repairs.

MDO REGISTRATION – Registration for Fall 2023-2024 semester is ongoing. There are still several open spots in the 3-year old class and in the 4-year old class. For more information or to register your child or grandchild, please call the church office at 337-984-6400 or email mdoatgrace@gmail.com.

MDO TEACHERS NEEDED – we are still looking for Nursery Teachers & Substitutes to join our MDO Team!! Potential applicants should be coachable, teachable, and love children.

If you are interested or know anyone that would be interested, please contact the church office at (337) 984-6400 or email our MDO Director at mdoatgrace@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and making you part of our fabulous team!



Mable's Table

8th Annual Backpack Project

Empowering Foster Children in Acadiana

FRIDAY, JULY 28TH

3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

School Supply List

1 Box of 24 Crayola crayons
1 Bottle of Glue- 4oz
1 pair of scissors- blunt or round tip
1 pk washable markers- classic colors- 10ct
2 plastic pocket folders with prongs
1- 2 pack of pink erasers

1 3x5 ruled index cards
1 wide ruled loose-leaf paper
2 yellow highlighters
1 wide ruled Marble composition book
1 pack of glue sticks
1- 12pk #2 pencils
1 zippered pencil pouch

*All items must be new and unopened

*Monetary donations accepted; \$75= one filled backpack

Benefiting Foster Children in Acadiana

*Donations can be dropped off to the Grace Presbyterian Church Office

It all began with a foster mom named Stephanie LeBlanc, creating an event to help foster children while teaching children the importance of volunteerism. Please join us this year for our 8th Annual Backpack Project. This year we are a new non-profit organization that stands alone to help at-risk children in our local community. In the past, we have partnered with other organizations.

Everyone is invited to help make this event successful again this year! We need school supply donations & also volunteers to help pack the backpacks at the event on July 28th. Thank you for your continued support each year and for letting us have this opportunity at Grace Presbyterian Church!

JULY

9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 11:30 am - Refreshments		9am-2pm MDO	9am-2pm MDO	9am-2pm MDO		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 <i>Communion</i> <i>Worship</i> <i>10:30 a.m.</i> <i>United Christian Outreach</i>	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>  <i>Office Closed</i>	5	6	7	8
9 <i>Worship</i> <i>10:30 a.m.</i>	10	11 <i>Presbyterian Women Bible Study</i> <i>11:00 a.m.</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>Church Security Training</i> <i>9 a.m. – 4 p.m.</i> <i>(Baton Rouge)</i>
16 <i>Worship</i> <i>10:30 a.m.</i>	17	18 <i>Session Meeting</i> <i>6:00 p.m.</i>	19	20 <i>MDO Board Meeting</i> <i>2:15 p.m.</i>	21	22
23 <i>Worship</i> <i>10:30 a.m.</i> <i>Lunch after Worship</i> <i>PW Birthday Offering</i>	24	25	26 <i>Last Day of MDO Summer Semester</i>	27 <i>MDO Teacher Workday</i>	28 <i>Mable's Table Backpack Project</i> <i>3pm – 5pm</i>	29
30 <i>Worship</i> <i>10:30 a.m.</i>	31					

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