

THE GRACEVINE

Grace Presbyterian Church

518 Roselawn Blvd., Lafayette LA 70503

E-mail: gracpreb@lusfiber.net

Website: www.gracelafayette.org

MAY 2023

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

Phone: 337-984-6400

When Do We Graduate?

This past weekend we attended the graduation of one of our grandchildren, our oldest granddaughter. She received her master's degree in public health with a specialization in epidemiology. Later this month we will attend the high school graduation of one of our grandsons.

I'm sure we all remember how good it felt to graduate from anything. Graduation is typically the culmination of some amount of hard work. Graduation gives us the feeling of completion and of accomplishment. Thus it is usually accompanied by some sort of certificate describing the task(s) completed and signed by someone in official capacity. I have my diploma from seminary hanging on my office wall at home, and it will soon be 49 years since I received it. Incidentally, I also recently ran across my certificate of graduation from Cub Scouts, stating my qualification to become a Boy Scout!

While I've been at pastoral work for more than the 49 years represented by my seminary diploma, I've also been at this Christian lifestyle/commitment for even longer than that. I am also well aware that many of you have been "at it" much longer than I, and I respect that tremendously!

Many of us have been dutifully attending church and Sunday school since we were baptized (usually as babies); we've participated in youth groups, camps, retreats, and conferences; all the while trying to learn how to be better Christians. Many of us have participated in the administration of the church's "business" from year to year, and some elected to special offices in the organization for that purpose.

So, when do we "graduate"? When do we receive our "diplomas," acknowledging all we have done and how hard we have worked? When will our work be complete?

In his second letter to Timothy, the apostle Paul, knowing that he was nearing the end of his life, wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (NRSV) In other words, he had done all that was asked of him, and he was about due for some sort of recognition. He went on to say, "From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing." (vv. 7-8)

We can't stop working at this life as long as we're living! The work is never complete because God is never "done" with us in this life. I find that a comforting thought, and I hope you do, too! We are never "finished" in God's eyes, as He seeks to constantly bring to fuller and fuller completion in our quest to fill the image of Christ in our lives. There is, however, a reward and a recognition awaiting us when we are done here, and we are promised that it is a glorious culmination of our lifelong relationship to Him!

- **Rev Pat**



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.



SESSION:

Class of 2023 - Margaret Boone, Lynne Castle

Class of 2024 - Betty Adams, Tim Conner, Terry Wolford

Class of 2025 Mary Conner, Jysele Jones
Clerk of Session Sandy Stewart

DEACONS:

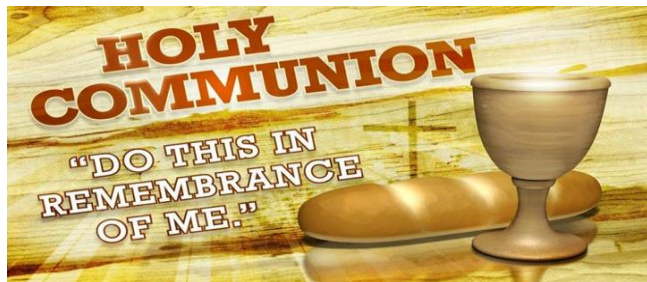
Class of 2023 - Carolyn Armstrong, Elke Hitt, Jean McLain, Sandy Stewart

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

David Jones (2023)

Paul Guillot (2024)

Tim Conner (2025)



COMMUNION - will be celebrated during our **10:30 a.m.** worship service on **Sunday, May 7th**. 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.



The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, May 29th** to observe Memorial Day. Church Staff will be back in the office on Tuesday Morning.



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, May 7th**. Thank you to everyone for continuing to support UCO. United Christian Outreach also accepts gently used clothing items. Any monetary donations can be mailed to their P.O. Box. Please contact the church office for the address.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dave Blackshear**
- 14 Gray Guillot**
- 17 Jeff Elmore**
- 18 Dave Severson**
- 31 Mary Ann Daigle**

Committee Meetings

SESSION – will meet on **Tuesday, May 9th** at **6:00 p.m.** Please let Rev Pat know if you are an Elder and cannot attend this meeting.

MDO BOARD – will meet on **Thursday, May 11th** at **2:15 p.m.** Please let Tim Conner know if you are on the MDO Board and cannot attend this meeting.



If anyone would like to bring flowers to place in the front of the sanctuary on Sunday Mornings, please add your name to the signup sheet located in the Fellowship Hall or let Margaret Boone know which Sunday you would like. You can reach Margaret at (337) 981-2475.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

The Presbyterian Women meet monthly for Bible Study. The ladies “normally” meet in member’s homes on the 3rd Monday of each month at **10:00 a.m.** Everyone is not expected to host.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 8th at 10:00 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.



**Presbytery of
South Louisiana**

PSL Event – June 3, 2023

Loretta Credo, Moderator of the Presbytery invites everyone to a PSL event on **Saturday, June 3rd** at **Abbeville Presbyterian Church from 10am-2pm.** This is a gathering, not a business meeting. Fellowship, food, & worship. It’s a catered meal, they just ask each congregation to bring a special desert for a desert contact. Everyone in our congregation is invited, kids included!

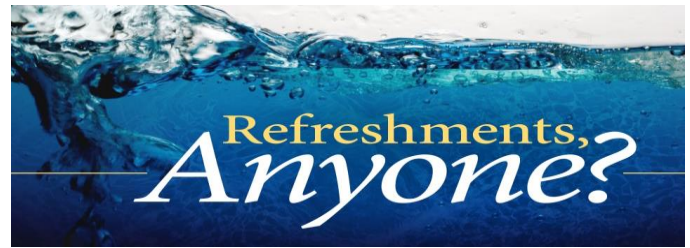
BIG NANNIE'S PRALINE CAKE

1 stick melted margarine
1 c. light brown sugar (packed)
4 Tbsp. light corn syrup
1 box butter pecan cake mix
1-1/4 c. water
1/3 c. vegetable oil
3 eggs

Mix margarine, brown sugar, corn syrup and pecans in a small bowl. Spray 9x13x2 pan with cooking spray and spread the pecan mixture evenly in the bottom of the pan. Prepare cake mix as directed on package using the water, vegetable oil and egg amounts shown above. Pour batter slowly over mixture in pan. Bake at 350 until cake springs back when touched lightly in center, about 45 minutes. When done, immediately invert pan on a heatproof serving tray or covered board. Leave pan over take for 5 minutes; remove pan. Ready to serve. It is also great with ice cream or whipped topping. Serves 12.

This recipe was from **Ellyn Macpherson** and was in the 2nd *"Bless This Food"* Presbyterian Cookbook. Ellyn used to make this cake every year for her dad's birthday – it was the only cake he wanted for his birthday!

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.



Please join us on Sunday Mornings after worship for Refreshments (and fellowship). **We need volunteers to bring snacks on Sundays! If you would like to volunteer to provide refreshments, please sign up on the list in the Fellowship Hall or let the Church Office know which Sunday you would like.** What should you bring??? Something simple.....like cookies or fruit. Coffee, water and lemonade are available at the church to use. Thank you in advance!



Hannah Grace Murphy was baptized at Grace Presbyterian Church on **Sunday, April 16, 2023**. She is the daughter of **Cassie & Jeremy Murphy** and granddaughter of **Valerie Lapointe**. Grace Presbyterian Church welcomes Hannah as part of the Grace Family!



MOTHER'S DAY OUT NEWS



MDO TEA – will be held on **Thursday, May 11th** at **9:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Each child's mother & their grandmothers get to enjoy breakfast with their child/grandchild while receiving many crafts that their child made them for Mother's Day! The children will also be performing a short singing program for everyone. They have been practicing for weeks. This event is one of the big events that our MDO Program is known for.



MDO GRADUATION – will be held on **Wednesday, May 30th** at **9:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. The Grace Pre-K Class will be performing for their families. They also each receive a special gift. After the graduation ceremony, everyone gets to enjoy cake and punch to celebrate.



We would like to extend a warm thank you to all our wonderful teachers with our MDO Program during the **week of May 9th**. The teachers work from 9am-2pm on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday each week. Our teachers are:

--Stacey Bravos
--Cindy LeBlanc
--Kim Menard

--Cheryl Simpson
--Kelly Dowling
--Michelle Packer



--Sidney Stewart
--Lana Gaspard
--Jaelyn Hebert

MDO REGISTRATION – Registration for our Summer 2023 and Fall 2023-2024 semesters is ongoing. For more information please call the church office at 337-984-6400 or email mdoatgrace@gmail.com.

MDO TEACHERS NEEDED – we are looking for 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!!



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	3	4 <i>MDO Board Meeting 2:15 p.m.</i>	5	6
7 <i>Communion</i> <i>UCO Collection</i> <i>Worship 10:30 a.m.</i>	8 <i>PW Women Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</i>	9 <i>Session Meeting 6:00 p.m.</i>	10	11 <i>MDO Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.</i> <i>MDO Tea 9:30 a.m.</i>	12	13
14 <i>Worship 10:30 a.m.</i>  <i>Mother's Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <i>Worship 10:30 a.m.</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Last Day Public School</i>	26	27
28 <i>Worship 10:30 a.m.</i>	29  <i>Office Closed</i>	30 <i>MDO Graduation 9:30 a.m.</i>	31			

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