

THE GRACEVINE

Grace Presbyterian Church
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NOVEMBER 2020

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OLD PHOTOS...OLD MEMORIES

This week one of my distant cousins posted a picture on his Facebook timeline that got me excited. It was a snapshot from 1965, and it showed his deceased mother and one of my deceased aunts together, both of whom I remember very fondly. I was excited because I had never seen this picture before. I had known both those women back then, but I had no other good photo of either of them! I immediately shared the photo with my sister and another cousin, to whom it was as meaningful as it was to me. Sharing the snapshot launched a discussion full of memories of those two women and our family, and we all enjoyed it. In fact, that cousin then shared three additional portraits of two children and one adult that were very old. We tried to identify all three of the pictured individuals, but could not come to a consensus on two of the three.

Unfortunately, there may not be anyone surviving who can positively identify the people in question, because those who could have died without sharing the information with our younger generation. That information died with them.

In Psalm 78 we read:

⁵ God gave his Law
to Jacob's descendants,
the people of Israel.
And he told our ancestors
to teach their children,
⁶ so that each new generation
would know his Law
and tell it to the next.
⁷ Then they would trust God
and obey his teachings,
without forgetting anything
God had done. (CEV)



God intends for us to pass along to our children and grandchildren our memories of what God has done for us and the people before us so that the information will not be forgotten and lost forever. Any generation that fails to do so risks losing the information for all time.

As the holidays approach and our families get together, there will surely be opportunities to share many memories, our faith stories and experiences among them. It is incumbent upon us to do our part in preserving not only our family memories, but our faith memories while we still can!

Oh, and don't forget to get out some of those old photographs and identify the people in them for your children and grandchildren as an act of faith and love!

--Pat Wadsworth



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS RE-OPENED!!

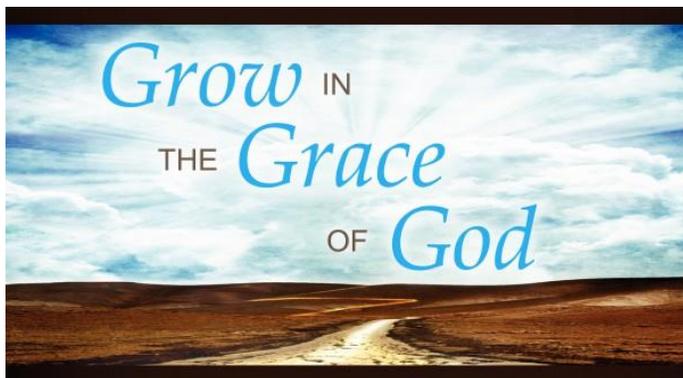
Grace Presbyterian Church resumed in-person worship on Sunday, October 4th. Worship is at 10:30am on Sunday Mornings. Below are some of the new guidelines we have implemented due to COVID.....

The “new normal” is as follows:

- Please plan to arrive at church earlier than before to allow extra time for the seating procedures.
- People attending services are to observe the six feet distancing guideline as they walk toward the building after leaving their cars.
- Entrance and exit will be limited to the wooden doors facing Roselawn Boulevard. This will restrict walking through the building to get to the sanctuary, thus preventing the need for more major disinfection. Please **DO NOT** enter through the kitchen using the keypad.
- As you are entering and leaving the building, including the narthex, please remain 6 feet apart at all times, except for family groups.
- **MASKS ARE REQUIRED.** You are encouraged to bring your own, but if you do not have one or forget it, masks will be available on a table in the narthex.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for your use before and/or after worship.
- Offering plates will not be passed; there will be an offering plate or basket at the entrance to the sanctuary that you may use before or after the service as you enter or leave.
- Bulletins will also be available at the entrance to the sanctuary.
- We will be using every other pew in an effort to social distance.
- We will stand during the passing of the peace. You can wave to each other.
- There will be singing, but masks must be worn during this time.
- The congregational prayers may be read by the congregation, again while wearing masks.
- The first three rows of pews will not be used to increase the distance from the minister to the congregation when he is not wearing a mask.
- At the end of the service, please dismiss by rows beginning in the rear of the church. Please observe social distancing as you walk down the aisle, through the narthex, through the wooden doors, and to the parking lot to your car. Pat will remain at the front of the sanctuary until everyone has exited.
- Fellowship Hall and the kitchen are closed off as we cannot have after church fellowship or before church meet and greet.
- The front bathrooms will be available. Please only one person or family group at a time in the bathrooms. There will be an “OCCUPIED” or “VACANT” sign hanging on the door. Please use the signs to indicate if the bathroom is available.

We know all of the above is difficult and laborious, but the Session made a unanimous decision to observe all of the above, understanding that being a Christian involves doing our best not to cause harm or illness to others. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep everyone safe and healthy.

If you need any further information, please call Pat on his cell phone at 337-781-1806 or by email at wad1@lusfiber.net. We look forward to seeing everyone in worship.



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.

*A Nursery is available every Sunday during
Worship in Room 4.*



COMMUNION - will be on **Sunday, December 6th**. If anyone is home bound and would like to receive communion, please let us know in the church office so that we can bring communion to you.



***Don't forget to set your clocks back
on Saturday night (October 31st)
before going to sleep!***

The Presbyterian Women encourage the congregation to support **United Christian Outreach** by bringing non-perishable canned goods and paper products on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Our next collection will be on **Sunday, December 6th**. Please consider donating to this mission of Grace Presbyterian Church.

There is a cabinet in the narthex under the big bulletin board where people can put food items & paper goods at any time. All these items will be gathered up each month when our donation takes place.



Thank you to everyone who has continued to support your church during the pandemic by mailing in tithes. Now that in-person worship has started, an offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary for donations. You can place your donation before or after service in the plate. If you are not ready or able to attend in-person worship, you can still mail in your donation if you chose to. **The Church Address is 518 Roselawn Blvd, Lafayette, LA 70503.**

Committee Meetings

SESSION – next meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 17th** at **6pm**. Please let Lynne Castle know if you cannot attend this meeting.

MDO BOARD – next meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 1st** at **5pm**.



KITCHEN WINDOW IDEAS - we are looking to change the window coverings in the Grace Kitchen. Currently we have mini-blinds over the windows (*the largest blind in the kitchen is currently broken*). We were thinking maybe drapes would look nice? But what color? What style? If you have any ideas, please contact Terry Wolfold at 337-233-8071 or at 337-501-2458. Any suggestions are welcome and appreciated!

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn't do it without you

Special thank you to **Joe Hunter** for all the time and hard work you have put into the Church over the past few months. We appreciate everything you have cleaned up and fixed for us. If it wasn't for volunteers like you, it would be hard to continue having a nice facility.



Because of the COVID crisis, the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of South Louisiana held their annual Fall Retreat on Zoom instead of at Feliciana Retreat Center.

The program was led by Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson, Associate Pastor at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans. The program concluded with communion. Attending from Grace PC were **Lynne Castle, Sandra Stewart and Margaret Boone**.

PW of Grace make an annual pledge to the Presbytery and to Churchwide PW. If you are a regularly contributing member of PW, please send a check to Margaret Boone if you wish to continue to participate in this endeavor.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1** Julia Montgomery
- 16** Joe Gonzalez
- 17** Katherine Conner Self
- 17** Sarah Gaspard
- 21** Johnathon Boone
- 22** Ellen Montgomery Vaughn

DECORATE the Church

It's that time again to decorate our Church for Advent. We need your help on **Sunday, November 29th** after worship. We need everyone's help in putting up our Christmas Trees & Decorations around the Church. Please consider coming and helping us, even if you can only come for a short time. Your time will be greatly appreciated.



If you wish to purchase a poinsettia, order forms will be available on **Sunday, November 15th, 22nd and November 29th**. The price will be in the emails/bulletin in the coming weeks. Information about who you want honored / remembered can be submitted then. In the event that you cannot attend church on those days, you can contact the Church office and place your order with Sarah. **Order early if you would like a poinsettia this Christmas.** Poinsettias can be brought home after our Christmas Eve Service or picked up after Christmas at the church.



*"Blessing and glory and
wisdom and thanksgiving and
honor and power and might
be to our God
forever and ever! Amen."
Revelation 7:12, NRSV*

The Church Office will be closed on **Thanksgiving and the following day (11/26-11/27)**. Hope everyone has a great holiday.

MOTHER'S DAY OUT



HALLOWEEN PARTIES – our MDO students were able to enjoy Halloween by dressing up in costume and enjoying their class parties on **Thursday, October 29th**. And of course....our MDO Teachers also dressed up for the last working day before Halloween with their kids.

THANKSGIVING FEAST – **Thursday, November 19th** will be the Annual MDO Thanksgiving Feast. Each MDO Teacher brings a dish to share and everyone is able to enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving Meal. (*served and brought back to class*).

HOLIDAYS – Grace Church MDO will be closed the week of **November 24th-26th** for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

November



10:30 am - Worship	9:30am – Baby Boot Camp 6:30pm – Al-anon	9am-2pm MDO	9am-2pm MDO 9am – UL Writing Class 9:30am – Baby Boot Camp 6pm – Co-Dependence	9am-2pm MDO 5-6:45pm – AA 5:45pm – Baby Boot Camp 7-8pm – Al-anon	9:30am – Baby Boot Camp 1:30pm – Al-anon	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Communion</i> <i>Daylight Savings Ends</i>	2	3 <i>MDO Closed</i> <i>Election Day</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Session Meeting 6pm</i>	18	19 <i>MDO Thanksgiving Feast</i>	20	21
22	23	24 <i>MDO Closed</i>	25 <i>MDO Closed</i>	26 <i>Office & MDO Closed</i> 	27 <i>Office Closed</i>	28
29 <i>Decorate the Church (after worship)</i>	30					

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