



GRACE NOTES

FEBRUARY 2024

SHARING THE FAITH ON SHARING THE FAITH

In her book named “Jerusalem, One City Three Faiths,” Karen Armstrong speaks about the intellectual movement that began in Europe in the mid 1800’s to the early 1900’s, which had as its purpose to explain the bible from a scientific, historical-archeological basis. The arrival of Biblical Archeology had begun a quest for intellectual certainty.

As scientists and historians began gathering in Israel with the good intentions of explaining the legitimacy of the bible and proving its truths, the new scientists ran into some challenges when the stories in the bible didn’t always match what their discoveries were revealing to them. For instance, one of the many things that was discovered and confirmed, and is still affirmed today, was the work by the American archeologist, Frederick Bliss, who proved that native peoples, Bedouin and Arabic peoples, inhabited the area around Jerusalem centuries before King David arrived around 1000b.c. Bliss’s archeological work, which has stood the test of time, proved that the earliest settlements were not on Mount Zion but on the other side of the city on the Ophel. This discovery has significance yet today, as the dispute between current day Palestinians and Jews about who has primacy over the land is a formidable source of tension and violence in the area.

But more than the detailed discoveries that the past and current science continues to uncover in the Holy Land, Armstrong makes the much more important spiritual point that “Modernity was gradually changing religion. People in Europe and the United States had lost the art of thinking in symbols and images.”

When I led groups through the Holy Land for 20, years, one of my biggest concerns in explaining our experience there is that though the facts and the science are interesting, they are not central to the importance of our visit to the Holy Land – they are secondary. What is centrally important as we walk along the Sea of Galilee, or pray at Gethsemane, sing hymns on Mt. Tabor and kneel at the place where Christ was said to be crucified, is that we do not lose the art of thinking spiritually, with all the symbols and images that help strengthen our Christian faith. Our shared faith is that which keeps us cosmically connected through Christ and to each other.

May God’s many blessings be upon you,

Pastor Don

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: Sherry Crane; Jennifer and Jerry who are currently homeless; Philip Barton; Charlie Collins, Clint Collins father; Kathy Franks; and Mary Williamson.

Also pray for those with longer term needs: Margie Baker; Jerry Butler; Michael, Carl Crane's brother; Holly and John Durst; Lois Butler's sister and brother-in-law; Donna Fidler; Janine Groner; Pauline Kirk; Bob McAlpine; Gale Nevill; Laura Raizada; Libby Richardson; Sarah Robinson; Lonnie Stevens; Wayne Wagner; C. D. Weaver; Don Woodward; our military; first responders; the people of the Ukraine, Israel, the Gaza Strip; and our church.

If there are other people or concerns that you would like to add or delete from this list, please contact Ivette by phone at 352-376-5654 or by email at office@gpconline.org

Elders on Call

**Elders on Call
for February are:**

**Jay Collins 352-870-2843
Karen Russ 352-377-7996**

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.

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 February we will be collecting baby food, wipes, and diapers.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement across the nation working together to fight hunger and poverty in their communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game. We will hold Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday on February 11th. Please bring canned or dried soups to the worship service on that day. The soup will be taken to the Bread of the Mighty Food Bank along with the soup we have collected in January.

Our Daily Bread booklets for March, April and May are available in the narthex



Session Meeting Highlights

January 8

MODERATOR

Combine Ash Wednesday service at Westminster with Westminster and Covenant

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND MISSION

Family Promise - 1/10 at Westminster

St Francis Dinner - will provide dinner on 1/19

Superbowl of Caring - 2/11 - Please bring soups to worship that day as well as during the month of January

Please return your Time and Talent Survey that was mailed with 2024 pledge cards

Contact Lois Butler with updates to the Church Pictorial Directory

Pastor Don will lead a one hour meeting on 2/18 for those interested in joining the church

Committee will meet on 2/6 at 11:00 am

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL

Subcommittee is looking for a new church secretary

WORSHIP & MUSIC

12/24—11 am a Worship Service of “Lessons and Carols” was presented by John Peter Ford, organist and Maddie Buckholz, cantor—several members read scripture passages

12/24 & 12/31 - we worshiped at Westminster for their Evening Candlelight Service and morning worship

1/6 - Sanctuary decorations were removed

1/7 - Communion will be served - Rev. Don Mossa

Contact John Peter if you are interested in joining the choir or the bell choir

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 2/14 - we will join Westminster and Covenant at Westminster for a Lenten Service at 6:00 pm

PROPERTY & OPERATIONS

Committee met with representative from Solar Trek

Met with representative from Certified Roofing for estimate on sanctuary roof and roof over Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Met with Tru-Force Roofing

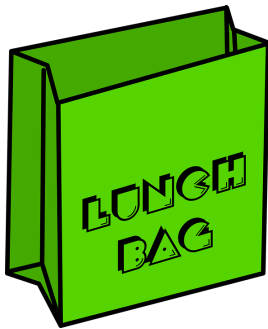
Finished cleaning our storage room behind the Fellowship Hall



Inquirer's Class

On Sunday, February 18th after the worship service, Pastor Don will lead a one hour meeting for those who are interested in joining our church as members, and anyone who would like to explore the history and theology of our Presbyterian Faith. Please let the pastor know if you will attend so that there will be enough materials for everyone.

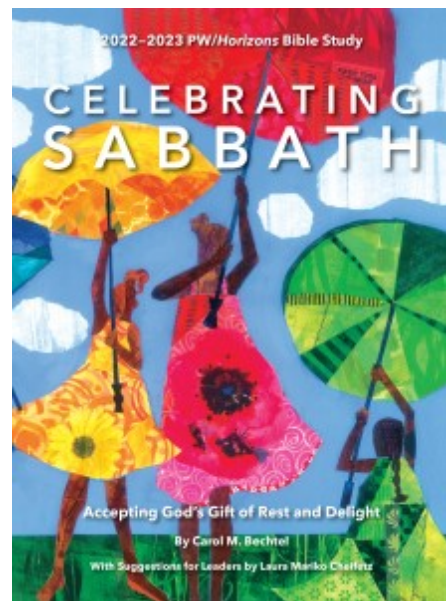
Men's Noon Lunch & Fellowship



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, February 13 at 12:00 noon in the library. Diane Millican will lead our study of Lesson 5 "Sabbath and Servitude" and Lesson 6 "Sabbath and Hospitality" in *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight* by Carol M. Bechtel. Please bring your study book, Bible and your own brown bag lunch and beverage. All women are welcome. Please come and enjoy the fellowship.



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



3146 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609
352-376-5654
www.gpconline.org
March 2019

The Congregational Life and Mission Committee is in the process of updating our pictorial directory. If you would like to submit a new picture or have a new picture taken or if any of your information has changed, please contact Lois Butler at treasurer@gpconline.org or 352-262-5893.

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).

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2024 BUDGET

Income	2023	2024
Interest	\$ 36.00	\$ 1,800.00
Pledges	\$ 84,020.00	\$ 63,020.00
Loose Offering	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Reserve Funds	\$ 51,663.40	\$ 27,186.80
Building Use	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 7,900.00
TOTAL	\$ 172,619.40	\$ 124,906.80

Budgeted Expenditures	2023	2024
ADMINISTRATION:		
1010 Equipment (Computer Software)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
1020 Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,300.00
1030 Postage, (no bulk mailout cost)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
1040 Phone and LD/High Speed Internet	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
1140 Scholarship for GA/Synos,Pyb/GPC		
Administration Total	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 4,000.00

PROPERTY AND OPERATIONS		
1050 Pest Control	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00
1070 Custodial Service	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00
1080 Custodial Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
1090 Maintenance	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
1100 Office Utilities	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
1110 Church Utilities	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
1120 Lawn Service	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,400.00
1130 Dumpster	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
1160 Gainesville Fire Assessment	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
1170 Fire System Monitoring	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Property and Operations Total	\$ 40,470.00	\$ 40,470.00

Budgeted Expenditures**2023****2024**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH:

2010	Consumable Supplies	\$	-	\$	-
2020	Curriculum	\$	-	\$	-
2030	Programs and Special Events	\$	-	\$	-
2060	Youth Programs	\$	-	\$	-
Christian Education and Youth Total		\$	-	\$	-

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND OUTREACH

3010	Evangelism/Web Site	\$	-	\$	100.00
3020	Kitchen Supplies Non-Edible	\$	-	\$	100.00
3030	Kitchen Supplies Edible	\$	-	\$	100.00
3040	Member Care	\$	-	\$	100.00
Congregational Lif and Outreach Total		\$	-	\$	400.00

PERSONNEL:

4010	Clerical Wages	\$	11,463.00	\$	11,807.00
4020	Cantor	\$	3,900.00	\$	4,160.00
4040	Social Security Employer's Cost	\$	1,918.00	\$	2,117.00
4050	Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$	700.00	\$	700.00
4060	Nursery/church and choir	\$	3,200.00	\$	3,200.00
4090	Organist	\$	6,500.00	\$	7,800.00

Personnel Total	\$	27,681.00	\$	29,784.00
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PASTOR'S COMPENSATION PACKAGE:

5010	Salary	\$	24,000.00	\$	-
5020	Housing	\$	26,946.00	\$	23,000.00
5030	Social Security Offset	\$	3,898.00	\$	-
5040	Pension/Major Medical	\$	19,869.00	\$	-
5050	Continuing Education	\$	1,500.00	\$	-
5060	Auto Reimbursement	\$	3,000.00	\$	-

Pastor's Compensation Package Total	\$	79,213.00	\$	23,000.00
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Budgeted Expenditures		2023	2024
STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE:			
6010	Building/Grounds Insurance	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 18,000.00
6020	Session Training	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
6030	Annual Corporation Fee	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
6040	Per Capita Apportionment	\$ 630.40	\$ 597.80
6050	Pledge Envelopes	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
6090	Bank Fees, Cks, NSF Chgs, etc.	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
6100	Leadership Education	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	Stewardship and Finance Total	\$ 13,055.40	\$ 19,822.80
WORSHIP:			
7010	Music Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00
7020	Visiting Organists/Musicians	\$ 850.00	\$ 700.00
7030	Visiting Speakers	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,200.00
7040	Worship Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00
7050	Cantor-Continuing Ed	\$ -	\$ 100.00
7060	Organist-Continuing Ed	\$ -	\$ 300.00
	Worship Total	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 2,600.00
MISSION:			
8010	Missionary Support	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
8030	Heifer International	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
8040	Acorn Clinic	\$ 750.00	\$ 500.00
8050	Bread of the Mighty Food Bank	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
8090	Undesignated Ben./Presby. and G/A	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,030.00
8100	Other Witness and Service	\$ 300.00	\$ -
8110	St Francis House	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
8120	Montgomery Conference Center	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
8140	Family Promise	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00
	Mission Total	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 4,830.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 172,619.40	\$ 124,906.80

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4 11:00 – Worship Service Communion</p> <p>1:00 – Korean Service 7:00 – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>5 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group</p>	<p>6 11:00 am Congregational Life & Mission</p> <p>7:00 pm – Barbergators</p>	<p>7 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch</p> <p>7:00 pm – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>8 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus</p>		<p>3 9:30 am Winter Stated Meeting of the Presbytery at Montgomery Camp and Conference Center</p>
<p>11 11:00 – Worship Service Souper Bowl of Caring Collection</p> <p>1:00 – Korean Service 7:00 – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>12 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group</p> <p>6:00 pm – Session Meeting in Church Office</p>	<p>13 12:00 noon – Anna Circle</p> <p>7:00 pm – Barbergators</p>	<p>14 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch</p> <p>6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service at Westminster</p> <p>7:00 – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>15 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus</p>		<p>17</p>
<p>18 11:00 – Worship Service History & Theology of our Presbyterian Church</p> <p>1:00 – Korean Service 7:00 – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>19 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group</p>	<p>20 7:00 pm – Barbergators</p>	<p>21 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch</p> <p>7:00 pm – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>22 Grace Notes Articles Due</p> <p>6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus</p>		<p>24</p>
<p>25 11:00 – Worship Service Guest Pastor – Larry Green</p> <p>1:00 – Korean Service 7:00 – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>26 4:00 pm – Square Dance Group</p>	<p>27 7:00 pm – Barbergators</p>	<p>28 12:00 noon – Men's Lunch</p> <p>7:00 pm – ESWT(AA)</p>	<p>29 6:30 pm – Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus</p>		



FEBRUARY
2024

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3146 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609

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

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

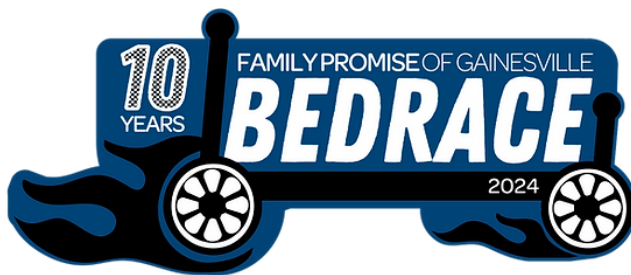
Please don't forget our Special Offerings

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 January through March will go to Family Promise.



FAMILY PROMISE is having their 10th annual Bed Race at Santa Fe College on February 24, 2024. Please talk to Jennifer Hemphill if you are interested in racing or sponsoring a team. Please sign up no later than February 5th, 2024 as we will be ordering shirts and need to get them in on time.

This event is aimed at raising funds to end childhood homelessness.