

# Grace and Peace

A Newsletter from Grace Methodist Church  
5030 S. Memorial Drive, Homosassa, FL 34446  
Phone: 352-651-2502



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## A message from Pastor Bill Farmer...The Journey

We are on a path headed toward the greatest day in the Christian Year. It is shrouded in mystery, dark moments, and misunderstanding. Many miss this most important event of the year. When Good Friday comes everyone seems focused on three days later. They want to get through the ugliness of that Friday event. But if it wasn't for Good Friday there would be no Easter Sunday. The struggles Jesus endured. The forty days in the desert being tested, being terrorized by pharisees and rulers, being arrested by the troops, enduring mock trials all brought to a climax with His crucifixion. He was sacrificed and that sacrifice covered our sins. That event opened the doors for believers to enter the Kingdom of God. He said, "It is finished." Yes, His work was done. Three days later He came alive, and we celebrate. Yes, He is Alive! His resurrection put His stamp of approval on all that was done. A truly exciting and celebratory day for all Christians.

On this Easter Sunday there will be extra excitement for our new church. We will be adding many members at Grace Methodist Church. All of you who join then are Charter Members. Now the finishing work is for His Holy Spirit to carry on His work through each of us sharing the message.

**Prayer:** Now may God continue filling this new Church with His Spirit. May the hearts and minds of the people be full of love, grace and peace overflowing into the community, bringing many to understand that God loves and cares for them and wants to know them personally. Amen

*May the Grace of God fill your life to overflowing with Peace,  
Pastor Bill Farmer*

## Covered Dish Dinner (Potluck)... Jim Veronesi

Grace Methodist Church will hold its first covered dish (potluck) dinner on Sunday April 30 at 11:30 following our Sunday service. A sign-up sheet will be placed in fellowship hall. Please provide your name, phone number, how many in your party and what side dish you will bring. Grace Methodist Church will provide ham as the protein. The **cut-off date for signing up will be April 23, 2023**. Coffee and iced tea will be provided.

## Prayer Chain Has Begun

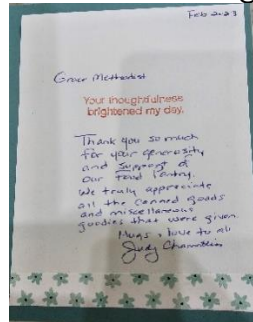
Jan Metcalf has started a prayer chain for Grace Methodist Church; therefore, if you would like to be part of the prayer chain, please send Jan Metcalf at [janmetcalf7@gmail.com](mailto:janmetcalf7@gmail.com) your name and e-mail address, and she will make you a part of the prayer chain.

## Thank You Note...Judy Chambliss, FUMC Food Pantry



"Thank you so much for your generosity and support of our Food Pantry. We truly appreciate all the canned goods and miscellaneous goodies that were given.

Hugs, love to all.....Judy Chambliss"



## Children's Church

Children's Sunday School has begun. Ms. Laurie Painter started a new Sunday school class at Grace Methodist, and children are coming. If you have children, grandchildren, or neighbor children, please invite them to join Ms. Laurie as she is the best children's Sunday school teacher anywhere, and she has some awesome puppets.

## KINGDOM LIVING.....Jan Wise

Started the baking, rushed to hook up the vacuum, back to check on the baking. Meanwhile husband Tom in and out of the house, "Have you had my screwdriver? Can't find it and need it to fix the lawnmower. Want to get the lawn mowed before they get here". ("They" being company for the weekend).

This would be the weekend God chose to teach me the everyday value of his command, "Be still and know that I am God".

**Kingdom Living Continued.....**Why couldn't he wait until I had a quiet devotional time, my "time with the "Lord"? Then I could really listen. But his whole point had to be made in the middle of an anxious, hurry-up day, so I would experience the reality of his rescue.

As I looked around at the vacuum waiting for direction, smelled the cookies doing their thing, I heard in my spirit the words I had pondered the day before. But this time the words came differently, like a command to be obeyed. "Be still and know that I am God".

I sat! Then I listened. Words of thanksgiving and praise used in my quiet times began to flow. My heart and mind were stilled, and I rested. In the short five minutes taken to be still and focus on God, my body tension eased, the cookies still smelled good (not burned), and I had been blessed by God. The rest of the day become a series of "get to" opportunities rather than the usual "have to" jobs.

So, when you think you are too busy to stop and think about God, over-scheduled, running low on energy, stop and give God your full attention for a few precious moments. Because He's God and we're not, He can do wonders with our 24/7 schedules. His invitation is open: "BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD". Will we respond?

## Fellowship Hour



If you are enjoying fellowship hour and would like it to continue, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the kitchen for volunteers to bring cakes, cookies, cupcakes, or any type of breakfast snack items you would like to contribute. Please locate the sign-up sheet and volunteer. You will feel great doing something for God's glory.



## Thank You

A big "thank you" goes out to Wayne Pohlman for the gorgeous stained glass creations that he has made and donated to Grace Methodist Church. We are so grateful for these creations that glorify God in a beautiful way.



## Suggestions for Pre-Easter TV Viewing...Sue Pagano

Redeem TV has many titles to view during the Easter season for children and adults and is free. Below are some alternatives to mainstream movies and TV. Check out these top titles for Preparing our Hearts for Easter.

- **Church People**...Weary from the showiness and materialism that has overtaken his ministry efforts, Guy goes on a journey to get back in touch with the heart of ministry.

- **Eye Witness..Bible Series** for Easter...A collection of 8 episodes which are selected to be watched on each day of Holy Week starting with Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday.

- **The Story of Easter**...The Story of Jesus' resurrection comes alive for children in this animated video.

- **The Two Thieves**...Two Jewish prisoners await their fate in a Jerusalem jail cell. As the afternoon progresses, their history is revealed, a history that leads them to a shocking encounter with a mysterious man who changes their lives forever.

## Faith Community Nursing...Karen Kline

Pastor Farmer recently signed an agreement with the BayCare Health System for Karen Kline RN, BSN to represent Grace Methodist Church as part of their Faith Community. In 2013 Karen completed a thirty-six hour course in "Foundations of Faith Community Nursing" and has been practicing in that role since.

A Faith Community Nurse (FCN) is a Nursing Specialty with its own scope and standards of practice. To become a FCN you must be a licensed Registered Nurse who practices wholistic health for self, individuals and community using nursing knowledge combined with spiritual care.

The role of a FCN combines nursing practice within a parish or faith community and serves as an advocate, educator, referral agent and volunteer facilitator and coordinator.

Karen can be reached at 352-634-1781 or [karen@gracemethodistchurch.org](mailto:karen@gracemethodistchurch.org) with any questions you might have.

## Bible Studies, Prayer Groups, & Other Meetings

9:00 am TUES...Weight Management Meeting (women & men)

7:00 am WED...Men's Prayer Group – meeting at Grace Church and then to breakfast

10:00 am THR.....S.O.A.P. led by Jan Wise meeting at Grace Church

11:30 am THR.....Lunch Bunch Bible Study meeting at Grace Church

5:00 pm THR.....Choir Practice

10:00 am FRI.....Wise Bible Study meeting at Grace Church

(10-11 Prayer concerns, joys, & fellowship followed by bible study at 11:00)

10:15 am FRI.....Meadowcrest Bible study @ Meadowcrest Clubhouse

## Articles for Future Newsletters

Articles for future newsletters may be sent to Alice Trusley by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month at [atrusley@pantherbranch.com](mailto:atrusley@pantherbranch.com) Thank you for your contributions to this newsletter.

## Dates to Save

April 2 Palm Sunday

April 2 Communion Sunday

April 6 First Day of Passover

April 7 Good Friday

April 9 Easter Sunday

April 15 @ 8:30 a.m. Board Meeting. Any member of Grace is invited to attend the Board Meeting.

April 15 @ 9 a.m. Clean Up Day inside and out. Pizza at noon.

April 30 Pot Luck @ 11:30 Fellowship Hall