

JANUARY 2017

GRACE NEWS

**Grace Lutheran Church
555 SW Cashmere Blvd,
Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34986**

Worship Service 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

Visit our Church Website: www.gracelutheranpsl.com



Our Vision: [We strive to be a congregation of disciples who are 'Growing Passion for Jesus' 'Building Community for All', and 'Impacting the Lives of our Neighbors.'](#)



Happy New Year!

It was great to spend the Christmas season worshipping our God coming into the world with you. Now, we mark a transition in the calendar year. 2017 is upon us!

Do you have any New Year's traditions? Maybe you like to make a new year's resolution of something new that you will try. Maybe it's going to the gym regularly. Maybe it's spending more time with family. Maybe it's spending more time reading scripture and in

prayer.

For me I always tried to make New Year's resolutions, but I never seemed to be able to keep them. By the third week of January, I wasn't going to the gym regularly. I wasn't spending as much time in God's Word. I'd slipped back into my old habits. And when I realized this, it was always frustrating. It reminded me of Paul, who says in Romans 7:15, "For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate." Because of our sin, it's hard keep up with our resolutions. For me, I always seem to fall short.

That's why I love Jesus Christ. He keeps firm in his resolution. He says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." In our weakness, he comes to us to love us, forgive us and make us new. He comes to us with his power to accomplish the perfection that we cannot attain. Christ's resolution was to make you completely new and whole. Christ attains what we cannot and gives it to us and then enables us to do great things as we are filled with His Spirit. This is important to remember every day, but especially as we start new things.

On Sunday mornings, we'll be starting a new sermon series called "**Fresh**" as we look at the new things Jesus brings to us and accomplishes with us. I hope you'll be able to join us as we start this new year off together.

God's Peace,

Pastor Cris

Greetings, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Grace Lutheran, PSL.

We have just a few announcements and reminders.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
10AM New Year's Day Service.**

SERVICE TIME CHANGE.

Due to the increased attendance during the winter months. We are going to add a service through the winter.

We love our snow birds, down for the winter months (and the Mets), and we love the new families which will be coming. This also presents a very interesting opportunity to be able to invite your friends or neighbors to Grace. Both services during this winter will be very similar, and have communion. I have talked to a couple of families which are excited about the earlier time.

**Service times on Sunday
Beginning January 8th
8AM Service
9:15AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study(ABS)
10:30AM Service.**

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS OR NEIGHBORS TO GRACE

NEW CRY ROOM!

The Live Feed from the sanctuary to the cry room is completed. If you need to leave the sanctuary for any reason, coughing, crying, anxiety, or boredom please feel free to sit in the cry room, it is a quiet place where you can still watch and participate with the community of believers.

NEW WEBSITE!

While not yet finished, the new site is live. Check it out.

www.gracelutheranpsl.com

To all who are traveling, stay safe and warm while on the road; and share the warmth and love of our Savior with all you meet.

GRACE FAMILIES REMINDER

We're creating a pictorial directory with our database. It won't be as professional as those we've had in the past but hopefully it will be helpful as we and the Escher's all get acquainted.

Here's our problem...not many pictures and those we have are old pictures. **PLEASE HELP!** Email your favorite picture to the church at [**gracelutheranpsl@gmail.com**](mailto:gracelutheranpsl@gmail.com) or to [**meowatts@bellsouth.net**](mailto:meowatts@bellsouth.net). If you have a photo bring it to the church, we'll scan it and return it to you. If you don't have a picture, take a "selfie" with your phone and send it by email or to me at 412-913-0351.

If you don't have a picture contact me and we'll arrange to have your picture taken at the church. Thank you and God bless. Midge Watts

A BIT OF HUMOR

God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?

I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?



Mark your **2017** calendar for

Saturday March 11, 2017 at 9AM at Jensen Beach High School..

Care Net "WALK4life" Liaison persons are needed. It's a great job and in the past that person or persons will attend a pre-walk breakfast, this is where supplies and information are given out (it's a fun job).

INFO: 772-871-2211

Questions contact nanette@carenettc.com

To Register: www.WalkForLife.com

***PARENTS AND STUDENTS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR EACH SUNDAY IN JANUARY***

Each Sunday at 9:15 AM, Sunday School will be held in the New Crying room. All students grade 4 through 7 will be together in one class taught by Barbara Ruzicka.

All are welcome.

Confirmation Class will be determined by Pastor Escher and announced when the dates are established.

THE ADULT BIBLE CLASS meets each Sunday morning in the Sanctuary at 9:15 am between Worship services. Come join us. Pastor Cris Escher facilitates the class.



Save the date – get in line for the 2017 Lions Ft. Pierce Half Marathon & 5K races in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce, Florida on Sunday, January 15th.



Whether you plan to get your running shoes on or help as a sponsor or donor, this event, which is being held during the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, promises to be the premier event of the month, if not the year!

Organizational sponsors are the St. Lucie West Lions Club and the Fort Pierce Lions Club. HANDS of St. Lucie County and Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee are among the 11 charities to benefit. The race includes a 5K “Dream Run” and the more challenging half marathon, which showcases eight of Fort Pierce’s local parks, various historical sites and points of interest. Wow!

For registration and/or sponsorship, our event website is www.runfortpierce.com and our list of supporters and registered runners keeps growing, so get in line with us and Run Fort Pierce! For more information, contact: Cheryl L. Nolte, clnolte@msn.com or TEXT (772) 468-0123



JANUARY 2017

1/3 Meeting—GLC 9-11AM

1/17 LAW Enforcement Office (LEO)/Fire Department– (For little ones) Game Day for Moms

1/27 MNI—Judy’s house (Bring you pennies)

1/31 Play Date– Tradition park



Join us



Grace LWML wishes everyone at Grace a Mission-filled **HAPPY** New Year!

We have lots to do for others, and it is exciting to see new possibilities and opportunities to share our Lord and the Word with others. Isn't that really our Mission?

The January meeting is the 2nd Monday, due to many Holiday gatherings and travel continuing through January 2nd. Banks and Post Office, and government offices are closed that day, too. So our meeting is **Monday, January 9th, at 1 PM**. Light lunch and meeting plus Devotion time will take place. All Grace ladies are invited - hope to see you there!

Special note: The February meeting is open to our men and ladies! Speaker will be from the Lions Club International, a wonderful community oriented organization of volunteers existing in over 200 countries, with sight, hearing and diabetes awareness programs and disaster relief all over the world. 2017 is the Centennial year of this wonderful organization. All are invited to hear about it at our February 6th meeting, 1 pm. See Cheryl Nolte with any questions.

Adult Lip Reading Classes Available

Sponsored by



Lions Clubs International

Fort Pierce Lions Club



&

Treasure Coast Chapter

Locations Available:

Fort Pierce:

Indian River State College, Fort Pierce Campus or Garber Buick/GMC
3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce 6550 S. US #1, Fort Pierce
Building & Room assignment varies per class (Meeting Room)

Jensen Beach:

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services office
1016 NE Jensen Beach Boulevard
Jensen Beach
Meeting Room

Vero Beach:

Indian River State College, Mueller Campus
6155 College Lane
Vero Beach
Building & Room assignment varies per class

For schedules, contact:

Cheryl Nolte, Fort Pierce Lions Club Hearing Chair
www.speechreader1@gmail.com or (772) 468-0123



Real Life Children's Ranch is a faith based ministry that offers residential, family style group foster homes. We are located on the shore of Lake Okeechobee and have served children for over 50 years. These foster homes provide group homes for boys and girls who have been abused, abandoned and/or neglected. It is a loving environment where children learn the richness of a well-rounded Christian life.

Once again this year, through the generous monetary donations of many people (both members and non members of Grace) we were able to provide Christmas gifts to 40 children, ages 21 months to 16 years.

Thanks to the efforts of Bob and Vivian Barto for doing all of the shopping for these gifts. On the morning of December 10, a group of people gathered at Grace to wrap all of the gifts. Later that day Bob and Vivian drove the 40 miles to deliver the gifts. They had the opportunity to visit a few of the homes and interact with some of the children. The experience was something they will never forget and made them realize how truly blessed they are. Bob and Vivian are already looking ahead to next year and possible fundraising ideas to include gifts for the parents.



THANK YOU BARTO'S



As the New Year arrives and as you encounter sale specials of the items needed for **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Shoe box Ministry** please consider purchasing the items needed to fill the shoe boxes. Items Needed, such as, all small games, toothpaste, small notepaper, scissors, hats, small t-shirts, single wrapped hard candy, calculators, nail clippers, hair clips, small toys.

See the complete list on the bulletin board
If you have questions contact Judy at
772-237-2626



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Carlene A Stangle
367 NE Baker Road, Stuart, FL 34994
Office: 772-408-0771
Fax: 772-408-0776
Email: carlene.stangle@thrivent.com

ACTION TEAM Upcoming Activities

C. Amy Whitlach, FIC
Financial Associate
772-408-0771

Mark Valinote
Financial Associate
772-6265958

Lauren Hutto
Financial Associate
772-408-0771



"GRACE" Adopt-A-Mile Volunteers !

Adopt-A-Mile project
JANUARY 10, 2017

We Meet at the corner of Cashmere and Torino
at 8:30 AM, Questions 772-237-2626

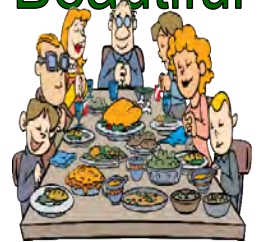
**Many hands make the work fast and fun, plus
you get a little EXERCISE.**

Thank you for your faithfulness.
Judy Fredrich 772-237-2626

Let's Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful



Sunday Coffee Fellowship



Following worship we invite you to join

us for some delicious goodies & great fellowship!

If you are bringing something to share, call Jan and let her know what
you're bringing.

772-343-7183 or e-mail jansquare2@att.net

THE BACKPACK PROGRAM

Backpack is up and running for this school year,

We began delivery the first Friday in October. Check the
bulletin board for items needed, or speak with Carol Coffman or
Leigh Liagre.



Grace Lutheran church Board of Directors

President: Ed Watts (412-913-7974) edwatts@bellsouth.net
Vice President: Patti Williams (772)342-6620 godsgdesign@hotmail.com
Secretary: Piper Neagles (772)468-2190 janpan18@yahoo.com
Chair of Finance: Kevin Garbers (772) 464-2117 garbersk@hotmail.com
Chair of Elders: David Vik (772-878-8815 drv1000@bellsouth.net
Chair of Trustees: Phil Fredrich (772) 237-2626 pjfred@outlook.com

Voters Meeting TBA following our Worship.

from the pen of our President: to the members of GRACE....



We wish to thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for giving us a church Family willing to step up and think big to help Grace church fulfill our Mission, "...to participate with God in the discipleship making progress of reaching out, baptizing and strengthening people into a growing and passionate relationship with Jesus Christ." Fulfilling this Mission takes a great deal of effort. I want to thank everyone for their generosity in donating their time to support Grace. Also thanks to those who made donations to support families in our community that are in need..

I hope everyone and their families had a very Merry Christmas and hope everyone and their families a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Grace's Board of Director members for 2017 was elected at the December 11 Voters Meeting:

President: Ed Watts
Vice President: Philip Weaver
Secretary: Piper Neagles
Director of Finance: Kevin Garbers
Head Elder: David Vik
Head Trustee: Phil Fredrich
Director of Christian Education: Barbara Ruzicka

The next regular BOD meeting is January 17, 2017 at 5:15 pm. We will schedule a special meeting sooner if needed or resolve the issue via email.

If you would like to help in any way, please talk to any of the Board of Directors or come to our **next BOD meeting, January 17 @ 5:15 PM** at Grace and present your ideas. You can also send me an email or give me a written note. Verbal requests usually won't work because I probably will forget or won't present your idea as you intend. Working together with Christ at our side, we can fulfill our Mission and move forward under the hopes of our Vision. *All you need to do now is ask yourself 'how can I actively participate in our Grace family?'*
Ed Watts

When **LIFE** gets too hard to stand, **KNEEL**

Bible Study Opportunities

Come Holy Spirit-fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love."

Friends of Jesus Group Meets every other
Thursday - 7:00 PM
Contact: Jon Albright - (772) 240-8700

Wednesdays, @ The Fredrich's
10:00AM 772-237-2626

Via De Christo Alumni Group
Meets Mondays - 6:30 PM
Contact: Ed Bock - (772) 879-7057



THURSDAY MORNING
7 am BIBLE STUDY
Breakfast & Bible Study

Perkins Restaurant
US 1 & Walton Road
ALL ARE WELCOME

JANUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

JAN	Worship Assistants	Readers	Head Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Cup Basket
1	David Vik	Phil Fredrich	Jan Landek	Phil Weaver	Joseph Atkins	Katy Vik
8	Ed Bock	Judy Fredrich	Pete Schultz	Louis Danzo & Jerry Davis	Casey Orr	Carolynn Orr
15	Phil Fredrich	Fred Kutschinski	Gene Liagre	Chuck & Janice Kamrath	Joseph Atkins	Carolynn Orr
22	Kevin Garbers	Cheryl Nolte	Rod Kerstner	Phil & Judy Fredrich	D.J. Vik	Katy Vik
29	Gerald Lindstrom	Diane Heinz		Phil Weaver	Casey Orr	Katy Vik

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

1	Ivy Choppa	14	Patti Williams
8	Judy Fredrich	20	Jill Wallen
8	Shari Blizzard	26	Joan Lemke
13	Doris Vollmann	28	Gloria Solack



2	Phil & Judy Fredrich
28	Catherine & Richard Stephens
30	Anthony & Ivy Choppa

Worship Assistants, Greeters, Readers and Ushers etc. If you are unable to serve on the day that you are listed on the schedule above, please call & leave a message in the church office **772-871-6599**. Your birthdays and anniversaries are important, so if yours does not appear on the list or is not correct contact the Church office,

NEWSLETTER AUTHORS

Cheryl Nolte - cnolte@msn.com or Phil Fredrich - pjfred@outlook.com

GRACE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

Opportunities to serve GOD are available at Grace Lutheran & **"THEY NEED YOU!"**

Board Of Directors - Ed Watts - 807-4079	Back Pack Ministry - Leigh Liagre @ 873-2780	Adopt-a-Mile - Judy Fredrich @ 561-315-9555
Trustees— Phil Fredrich @ 237-2626	MOPS Contact - B. Hawthorne @ 561-906-7867	Fellowship - Jan L. Lendak @ 343-7183
Treasure Coast Mission Coalition - Gayle Whitlach @ 661-873-5819	LWML— Cheryl Nolte @ 772-468-0123	Small Group Studies Contacts (page 4)
	Sarah's Kitchen - Piper Neagles @ 468-2190	Readers/Greeters/Ushers and Worship Assistants: Patty Williams - 871-6599 and Phil Fredrich - 237-2626
Altar Guild - Joyce Dare @ 335-3863	CareNet	
ELDERS—David Vik -772-370-6817		

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 555 SW Cashmere Blvd.
 Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
 MONDAY thru THURSDAY 9:00AM to NOON
 After-hours - Ed Bock 772-879-7057
 Newsletter Deadline
 3rd Wednesday of each Month
 Editors: pjfred@outlook.com & clnolte@msm.com