

Growing with grace



A monthly newsletter for the Grace Wesleyan Family and Friends!



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14th!

According to History.com
(<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day>);

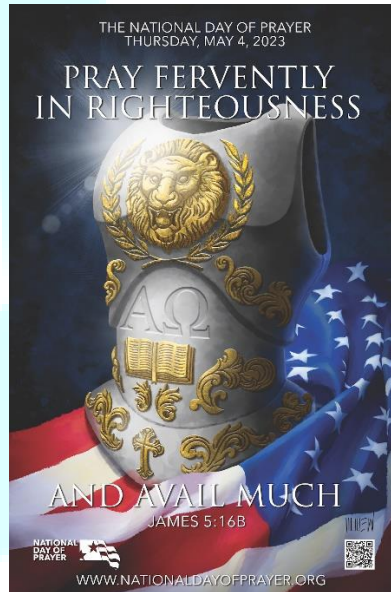
“The origins of Mother’s Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the [Civil War](#), Ann Reeves Jarvis of [West Virginia](#) helped start “Mothers’ Day Work Clubs” to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized “Mothers’ Friendship Day,” at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother’s Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette [Julia Ward Howe](#). In 1870 Howe wrote the “Mother’s Day Proclamation,” a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a “Mother’s Peace Day” to be celebrated every June 2.

Other early Mother’s Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a [temperance](#) activist who inspired a local Mother’s Day in Albion, [Michigan](#), in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers’ Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering “the father of Mothers’ Day.”

More phone calls are made on Mother’s Day than any other day of the year.



- May Birthdays:**
- 18th – Yasmin Herbert
 - 21st – Michael Leech
 - 24th – William Chhieng
 - 31st – Joelle Kennedy
 - 31st – Art Applegate



- May 14th – David Zerbee & Diane D’Angelo
- May 23rd – Larry & Julie Bergstrom

Happenings

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

- GEMS**
Mother’s Day Ministry Project:
\$25 Target Gift Cards
- Helping Hands Food Drive Dates**
May 6th (Margate)
May 13th (Davie)
May 20th (Plantation)
- Habitat for Humanity**
May 13th Faith Build
- Movie Night**
Friday, May 26th
7:00pm. Showing “Jesus Revolution”
- Women’s Ministry**
May 20th
Women’s Tea
1:00 pm - 4:00pm
Deadline to sign-up is May 7th.
- Youth**
May 5th – Outside activity or something with the Davie kids

PASTOR'S MOMENT

A message from our Senior Pastor, Rev. Myron Rhodes, Jr.
pastor@gracewesleyan.org

Greetings, Grace Family!

Each time I sit down to write this monthly letter, I am amazed at how fast the time flies. For many of us, this serves only to remind us of how fast we are approaching the end of our days on this earth. Good news! Eternity is a VERY long time, and since we are eternity people, our hope lies very far beyond the limits of time here on earth. Jesus has risen, and he has gone to his (ours, too!) Father's house to prepare a place for us! These words of Christ carry the very best news for all those who claim Jesus and follow his commands to be obedient! This past Easter we had the largest Sunday attendance in our young church's life. We experienced a very nice music program, and Easter Sunday felt like it has not in some years for many of us. Praise God for the blessings of a growing church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst! We have new faces showing up nearly every week, and God is adding to our numbers!

As we grow and diversify our offerings, I am happy to announce that we are launching a new study/video series in the coming weeks. Many of you have watched some of The Chosen episodes, and we have acquired Seasons 1-3. We will launch a study in which we will watch the 24 episodes (so far!) in order, one per week. Each episode runs between 35-45 minutes. We will watch, then discuss what we have seen/heard. Each session is planned to be one hour, and we will do our best to honor the one-hour time. The study will be held each Tuesday at 7:00pm in one of the upstairs classrooms located at the top of the stairs adjacent to our entrance on the side of the church. We expect to start the series in late May, and are coordinating it with the completion of our regular Pastor's Bible study that is finishing up the Book of Matthew, so stay tuned for the announcement of the exact start.

Also, on the 20th of this month, the Grace Wesleyan Women are having their Ladies Tea. Annette, Kathy, Sandi, and Janice are organizing and putting on this event that I assure you will be a fantastic time for the ladies! I do hope that all of the ladies of Grace Wesleyan will come and invite their friends and neighbors, even if they attend other churches, to what is sure to be a marvelous afternoon! There will be a guest speaker, music by our own Aijeleth Lee, food, prizes, and, of course, tea!

We also have an opportunity to partner and sponsor Love Life South Florida through their Ride for Life! that kicks off on May 4th, the National Day of Prayer. Love Life only does one major fund-raiser a year, and this year it is the Ride for Life. We are sponsoring Rev. Frank Trotta and his team, who have pledged to ride the 3400 miles as a group. I have set a goal for us to sponsor them at 50 cents per mile, and the event is spread out over a 60-days. Each week through July 2nd, we will have a chance to make an above and beyond donation toward our goal. We will post each week our progress so everyone can see how we are doing! This is an important ministry, as we believe that God knits together every person in their mother's womb to carry out a special purpose in God's Kingdom here on earth. It is a Christian duty to pray for, support, and carry the word that we care about the lives that God is knitting together. Each person can do their part, large or small, and God will honor our efforts. I ask that you prayerfully consider what God is laying on your heart concerning this ministry, whether it is to pray, walk, or give. Any or all of these things are needed. Join me as we support this ministry in our neighborhood that supports those women and men who sometimes think the only choice they have, is to terminate what God has created. It is not about being anti-abortion. That is a political issue. It is about being FOR the life that God has made, and to support those pre and post the decision. Even those who have already had an abortion need to know that God loves them and there is a way to live into God's grace even after a difficult decision.

As we seek ways to be the hands, feet, and heart of Christ to our community, may we have the courage and fortitude to walk in the Spirit of God, even in the face of the selfishness of the world that does not honor servanthood and discipleship to Christ. May God empower us to impact our local community!

Peace be with you,

Pastors Myron and Annette Rhodes

Grace Wesleyan Church, 1901 East Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Telephone: 954-235-4664

Website: www.gracewesleyan.org Facebook: GraceWesleyanSF

We meet at, but are not affiliated with, the Shepherd of the Coast Lutheran Church

MINISTRY MINUTE

Grace Wesleyan in Action – Being the Hands, Feet, and HEART of CHRIST to those in need.



GW

Grace Wesleyan Women
women@gracewesleyan.org

*The Grace Wesleyan Women's Ministry is looking forward to our first Lady's Tea. It will be held on Saturday, **May 20th** from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. We will have a guest speaker, special music, great food, drawings, prizes for table decorations and hats, and a silent auction.*

The cost is \$25.00 per person

Sign-up closes on May 7th

Stop by our sign-up table in the lobby for information.

Come join us for a lovely afternoon!

Emmaus

The Emmaus Men's walk #97 in April was a great event. Our own, Mike Greep attended and stated he found to be a very positive experience in his walk with Christ.

There is an "After Walk" gathering at **1st Church of Coral Springs on April 6th at 6:00pm.**

Movie Night!!



**LIGHTS!
CAMERA!
ACTION!**

Join us in the Family Life Center on **Friday, May 26th** for our 1st Movie Night. We will be showing the movie, "Jesus Revolution", which will start at 7:00pm. We will have popcorn and water available. Feel free to bring your choice of soda, if you wish.

C-ya at the movie!

My Helping Hands Food Drives South Florida

Food drive April 15th at the Winn Dixie in Plantation. Wonderful, blessed day. Collected 40 large boxes of nonperishable food items which then went to Hope South Florida to feed those in need. Thank you as always to Ora store manager and a big thanks to the customers at this store and our awesome volunteers.



Habitat for Humanity

April 1st saw the dedication of 15 Habitat Broward homes and the celebration of the families' accomplishments.

Next Faith Build Date: May 13th. Contact Art or Kathleen Applegate for information or to sign-up...

art@steelapple.net



GEMS!

GEMS is still collecting diapers, pull-ups, and wipes for HOPE South Florida, and **\$25.00 Target gift cards to purchase shoes for HOPE South Florida.** You may drop off your donations in the large box marked **GEMS** at church Saturday nights or Sunday mornings.

Come and experience the joy of helping others by being the heart, hands, and feet of Christ to those in need!

Service Opportunities

outreach@gracewesleyan.org

What does Scripture tell us

Memory Verse

“From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” (Ephesians 4:16, NIV).



Emmaus

Have you attended a Walk to Emmaus? Are you interested in knowing more about attending an Emmaus Weekend? Please contact...

someone you see wearing an Emmaus cross (shown below) or our community directors; David & Diane Zerbee for more information.

diane_dangelo@yahoo.com

Dzerbee@exec-counsel.com



Be sure to wear your Emmaus Cross on the 1st weekend of each month

GEMS!

Doug & Barbara Timmerman
954-566-9524

DBTimms@chorus.net

Habitat for Humanity

Omayra Fuentes

omayra.fatima@gmail.com

Art Applegate

art@steelapple.net

Helping Hands Food Drive

Patrick & Donna McCarthy
954.487.8514

Website: myhelpinghandsfl.org
helpinghands.fooddrives@gmail.com

Helping Hands

– handyman ministry -

Tony Ash

Omega65@bellsouth.net

954-326-2177

Hope South Florida

Dr. Fred Scarbrough – Grace Wesleyan Church

T (954) 242-2016 email: Fredscar@gmail.com

Pery Canan – Hope South Florida

T (954) 812-3882

email: Pcanan@hopesouthflorida.org

What's going on in your corner?

Studies Available

Men's Accountability group

Monday nights
7:00pm

Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday nights,
7:00pm-8:00pm
(In person or via Zoom)

Prayer Meeting

last Tuesday each month in place of
Bible Study

Wesley Study

1st and 3rd Thursday
7:00pm – 8:00pm

Women's Bible Study

Monday nights
7:00 PM

“Spanish Room” upstairs

Contact: Pastor Annette Rhodes
women@gracewesleyan.org

Children and Youth Minister

Contact: Mimi Rutherford
youth@gracewesleyan.org



Meetings Executive Council May 11th

(normally the 2nd Thursday of every
month)