

“Blues and BBQ” Fundraiser

Saturday, June 2nd

Join us for a special event benefiting the ministries of Grace Mission on Saturday, June 2nd beginning at 6:00 PM at the American Legion Hall on Lake Ella.

Blues and BBQ features Brett Wellman & the Stone Cold Blues Band - one of Tallahassee’s most recognized blues artists, providing the “blues” part of the evening!

The “BBQ” part is being supplied with a full-course, home-cooked, mouth watering BBQ dinner smoked on-site.

Doors open at 6:00 PM. Music begins at 7:00 PM. **Admission** is \$10. The suggested donation for the **BBQ dinner** is \$7. **Tickets** are available at area Parishes, or by visiting www.gracemission.net or calling 224-3817.

Be sure to invite your friends to this special, fun-filled evening benefiting “the least of the least” in our community!

Can’t be there on June 2nd? Buy tickets for your friends! And contributions to Blues and BBQ are gratefully accepted!

Children’s Programs (from page one)

Thanks to your previous support, the children have wonderful memories of summers past and trust that more awaits them this summer through Grace Mission. Please consider helping in any of these ways:

- ♦ Pray for a safe summer and that the children will continue to grow in God’s love.
- ♦ Provide a full or partial scholarship for a child to attend Vacation Bible School (\$25), Camp St. Michael (\$350), or other summer activities. Donations can be made by Paypal or credit card at www.gracemission.net or checks made to Grace Mission and sent to PO Box 10472, Tallahassee, FL, 32302. Donations are welcome for any amount.
- ♦ Volunteer to help in the reading program in July.
- ♦ Clean out closets and bring us clothes (infant through teens) for our clothing give away to be held in early August.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at elizcrowe@comcast.net or at (850) 320-2233. We appreciate your support and wish you a blessed summer!

Volunteers Always Needed!

If you would like to help us with our next big project - renovating the shower area - please give us a call. Your donations and help are always greatly appreciated!

Forgiveness

Deacon Jeanie Beyer

This Lenten Season, Grace Mission focused the entire six weeks on learning about “forgiveness”. Tuesday nights at our Healing Service, we heard teachings on the topic of forgiveness. We learned how without forgiveness we allow ourselves to stay in our anger, bitterness, resentment and addiction and how with forgiveness we can be cut free from the wounds of the past and enjoy the freedom and peace that comes from walking with Jesus.

After the teaching time, the congregation was then invited to come forward to receive healing prayers and anointing with oil. It was awesome to see how powerfully God was at work. Many in our community were lead to come to the altar and lay a life time of secrecy, shame and woundedness at the feet of Jesus. Many manifestations of the Holy Spirit were observed as chains were broken and people were set free.

In terms of follow up and aftercare, the clergy set two days a week aside to meet individually with people to provide confession and absolution or 6 weeks of individual counseling. Many were healed from generational curses, soul ties, abusive memories and addictions. Many weeks were spent working on forgiving one person at a time and forgiving oneself. We encouraged them that if they could feel the pain, God could heal the pain. And He did.

Now well into the Easter Season, folks are still coming for counseling from the clergy, larger numbers are receiving healing on Tuesday nights at the Healing Service and several have self-submitted to treatment programs.

We rejoice in the healing power of Jesus and invite you to join us at a Healing Service every Tuesday at 5:00 PM!

Thanks to our Special Volunteers!

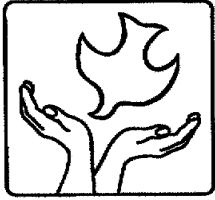
A special Thank You to the Grace Mission “Bathroom-Reno Team” that worked hard to completely renovate our public restrooms! Thank You’s go to Joe Kane, Geoff Schwartz, Peter Newman and Mark Arnesto for all their hard work! And a special Thank You to Lew and Patsy Killean from Holy Comforter who donated the finances to make it all possible!

And a **Big Shout Out Thank You** to Joe Kane for installing new handrails for our office stairs affectionately called “the Mt. Sinai stairs” - most of you know how steep they are and unsafe without handrails! Joe didn’t stop there - he also installed a Tabernacle and Christ Candle in the Sanctuary. We appreciate your giving, Joe!!!

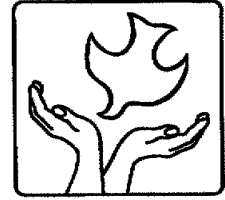


Grace Mission Episcopal Church
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Grace HAPPENINGS



the newsletter of
Grace Mission Episcopal Church
Pentecost 2012

Words of Grace

The Rev. Amanda Nickles, Vicar

I am thoroughly enjoying a book by Pete Wilson called:

“PLAN B – What do you do when God doesn't show up the way you thought He would?”

First, you have to love the title! That being said, I think many of us are living into our PLAN B lives. We have had to face U turns, disappointments, suffering, marriages failing, a sudden death, terrifying diagnosis, losing jobs and feelings of crisis....panic, fear, paralysis, doubt. In summary - shattered dreams!

Pete Wilson opens the first chapter by saying: “Do you remember the day you discovered your life wasn't going to turn out quite the way you thought? It happens to everyone sooner or later. All of us have dreams, wishes, goals and expectations that, for a variety of reasons, have not come to fruition. Plans fizzle. Expectations come to nothing. Trusted people let us down – or we let ourselves down. Dreams shatter or slip away. Plan A comes to an abrupt stop...”

What does this have to do with Grace Mission? I believe that the people that we help at Grace Mission are into full throttle Plan B lives. Somewhere along the way they have had shattered dreams and have lost hope. Somewhere along the way life has fallen apart for them.

Nobody as a child thinks they will end up in prison by the time they are 20 years old. Nobody as a child imagines that they will be homeless, on the streets, the majority of their adult life. Nobody dreams these kinds of dreams.

Many wonder if God even cares because they are broken by the world. They have given up on God and themselves - falling into harmful behavior that hurts themselves and others.

At Grace Mission we try to help people that are at critical crossroads: Who need their hope restored. Who need answers and realize something has to change. It's in these moments that we try to help others learn to trust the only One (Jesus) who has ever had control in the first place. It's in these moments we try to help others lean toward and trust God. Despite what current circumstances are telling them, it's in these moments that we try to help others understand God is there.

A Christ-Centered, Children's Summer

Elizabeth Crowe, Grace Children's Ministries

Our children, most of whom live in Plan B families (see Pastor Amanda's article), have few, if any, activities to look forward to during the summer other than those offered through Grace Mission. It's with great anticipation, excitement, and eagerness that they ask me where they are going for Vacation Bible School, when FSU Basketball Camp starts, and what the dates are for Camp Weed. Their faces light up when they ask these questions, full of trust that they ARE going to do these things.

Their summer will start with Jesus at the heart of it. First, the girls are off to FSU's Future 'Noles Girls Basketball Camp. A highlight for them is the mini Vacation Bible School (VBS) done at the end of each day for all the girls attending on scholarship. They love playing all day with the FSU staff then ending the day praying with them. Next, they are blessed to be going to St. John's Vacation Bible School, OPERATION OVERBOARD, where they will discover God's underwater universe and dare to go deep with God. And finally, those who qualify by attendance and behavior will be going to Camp St. Michael at Camp Weed July 5 – 8 where the love fest with God continues. This summer, in the midst of their Plan B lives, they will definitely see that God is there.

We are in the process of working out a reading program for mid July, coupled with activities/sports as a reward for participation. Then, before we know it, it will be time for school to begin. This summer we will be reaching out through community leaders and pastors in Frenchtown to expand participation in our fall After-School and Awana Club programs. As an incentive to the parents of children who register, we will have a clothing give away of children's gently used clothes at the registration/orientation meeting.

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Please help us continue our message “God is there” in the midst of shattered dreams, in the midst of Plan B lives. We appreciate your support of Grace Mission.

Blessings,
Pastor Amanda +



Grace Happens - Come and See!
Corner of Brevard and Bronough + 850/224-3817

