



April Newsletter

Grace Community Church

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From Our Pastor

I feel it is time I acknowledge the incredible blessings of God in my life. At 72, I am pastoring a wonderful, growing church in Englewood, FL and am having as great a time as I have ever had in ministry with people who are extremely caring and supportive of Patty and me. We have a beautiful Florida home that we love. We are 2 hours and 7 minutes from Disney World and the vacation club we purchased 20 years ago makes it possible for us to go there quite often.

I am living my childhood dream of being able to perform country music to crowds of sometimes 600-800 people. We perform monthly at a supper club that is somewhat reminiscent of the "King Creole". I am married to the woman of my dreams and our children Karen and Jason are both in wonderful marriages with great families. And the Atlanta Braves Spring Training facility is now less than 20 minutes from our house. As Elvis said on one of his appearances on 'Ed Sullivan', "may God bless you as He has belled me."

I love being your Pastor



AN EASTER SUNRISE CELEBRATION

7:00 A.M.
Easter Sunday Service

Indian Mound Park
Englewood

Entire Community
Invited

Free Continental Breakfast to Follow
Activities for Children

Grace Community Church
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(941) 460- 0436 www.gccenglewood.com

How Can You Help Make Our Sunrise Celebration A Great Success?

Rather you have been a part of our church family for a day or what seems a lifetime, everyone can impact the success of this event.

1. Although we hope everyone is already in prayer for this special outreach, we ask those who have gone up north to pray that this event touches the heart of those who have been questioning their place with God and help them to feel encouraged and welcome to join us and through us, join Him.
2. Many hands, hearts, feet and smiles are needed for set up, tear down, food prep and making people feel welcome. Identify your gift and please, use it.
3. Meet someone new at the event and then personally follow up with them to thank them for coming or invite them to church.

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

April first is April Fool's Day!! (Your shoe is untied)

How many of us saved our best joke for someone else, usually a good friend, for this day as a kid?? Perhaps we should put on a good cup of coffee, set around the table in the Church cafeteria someday and tell each other about our best prank. Or the best one you have heard about? I would think with the group we have there would be some really good ones! Anyone up to the challenge???

As you look around the sanctuary you will most probably notice fewer congregants than last month! I'm not going to say the obvious! But we surely wish each of you a very good summer and we look forward to your smiling, suntanned faces next fall!!

As you listened to the Spring Celebration you had the accounting of our Church. The activities, growth, excitement of how GOD is working in our Congregation! But we have one indefinable happening; the warmth one feels as they walk through the doors for the first time is something always brought up by those folks that visit! The Ernest love each person feels is usually the first subject a new person touches on! Not only is it indefinable but undeniably existent! Personally I have been involved with Grace Community for over 12 years and have attempted to describe or define what or how that feeling is and simply do not have the words! We accept it as a blessing and are very Thankful for its presence and watch the smile on each new person's face!!

Until next time we will be setting at Gate awaiting HIS Return!!



See this guy right here? That is Todd Baird in his role in the Last Supper. Join us at EUMC on Thursday, April 18th at 7:30 pm to support Todd as he participates in the message of the Last Supper. May God Bless this very special event and Todd for his dedication to this role.



Tuesdays – Bible Study with Pastor John 10:00 am. A study on the Book of Acts

Tuesdays – Weekly prayer meeting with George 6:00 pm

Tuesdays - Ladies Bible Study “He Chose the Nails” 7:00 pm

Wednesdays– Good News Club

Wednesdays – Bible Study 7:00 I Thessalonians with Basil

April 13th - John Tuff and Friends will be at Lemon Bay Playhouse. If you ordered tickets from John and Patty, they are now available.

April 14th - Communion Sunday

April 18th - Living Last Supper at EUMC 7:30 p.m.

April 21st - Sunrise Service at Indian Mound Park

To help people develop a thriving relationship with Jesus Christ by serving God and serving others...This is the Mission of GCC.