

Grace Presbyterian Church

August 16, 2026

9:30 am



"Sisters and Competitors"

WELCOME AND VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

Our vision is to be a community of love and purpose,
**each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**

We Gather

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to worship (based on Psalm 105:1-4)

O Give thanks to the Beloved.

We will open our hearts to Love.

Awaken! Listen in silence for the
Voice of the Counselor.

**We will sing praises with a glad heart
and give witness to the truth
with our lives!**

Glory in the radiance of the Beloved;
Let the hearts of those who call upon You rejoice!

**We will seek the One who is Life,
We will find our strength,
walking harmoniously in Love's Presence!**

- Nan Merrill, Psalms for Praying, 2007

Song # 654 "In The Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Call to Confession

We struggle daily with that human tendency to always do wrong, say hurtful things, turn our back to others. But God will never hold our sins against us or our foolish nature. Let us confess to our God, who frees us forever from judgment, as we pray,

Prayer of Confession

(Silence is kept for us to reflect and confess)

Words of Assurance

Our God is a God of compassion and mercy,
slow to get angry,
and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
So be at peace: our sins are forgiven.

**We praise You, God,
and glorify Your name.
For great is Your love toward us.**

We Reflect

Bible Study the Flawed Families of God

Scripture: Genesis 29:1-30:24

Questions for discussion around the tables

What questions/feelings arise as you read these stories in scripture? For Jacob, Leah, Rachel, the children?
How does competition help or hinder their family?
How might these women, this family handle the challenge differently?
How do families/your family experience competition today? Does our culture encourage competition?
What would cooperation or collaboration look like in a family? How could it benefit them and the community?

Gathering our thoughts and questions.

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation *Place gifts in the basket on table.*

Prayer of Dedication

Give us enough trust to live secure in Your love
and to share it freely with others
in open-handed confidence
that Your grace will never run out. Amen.

~ Copyright © Jan Berry, Bread of Tomorrow: Prayer for the Church Year

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and ministry of our church in offering plates during worship and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)

Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

We Are Sent

Song#700 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*Charge and Benediction

As you leave this place, remember that you may be the
only grace someone will meet this week.

We go to share God's graciousness with all.

Remember you may be the only love someone will encounter this week.

We go to be the love of Jesus for all.

Remember you may be the only peace someone will find this week.

We go to share the Spirit of hope and reconciliation with all.

(c) 2014 Thom M. Shuman

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

All songs not from Glory to God are used by permission of CCLI #1124594

The Week Ahead at Grace Presbyterian Church: Aug. 16 - Aug. 23

For additional information, call the church office or ask an usher!

Sun. Aug. 16	9:30 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Fellowship
Mon. Aug. 17	9:00 am Jazzercise 6:00 pm Reiki Share 7:00 pm Yoga
Tues. Aug. 18	9:30 am Iyengar Yoga 6:00 pm Jazzercise
Wed Aug. 19	9:00 am Jazzercise 9:30 am Iyengar Yoga 7:00 pm Essentrics
Thur. Aug. 20	9:30 am Iyengar Yoga 6:00 pm Jazzercise
Fri. Aug. 21	9:30 am Restorative Yoga
Sat. Aug. 22	8:30 Jazzercise 8:45 am Yoga
Sun. Aug. 23	9:30 am Sunday Service 10:30 am Fellowship

Vision Statement

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New home and address for Pastor Debbie

As planned, I moved to my family home at the Jersey shore on July 14.

My new address is 2 Laurel Ave, Pine Beach, NJ 0874.

My phone number continues to be 630-886-6785.

It is about an hour and 15 minutes from Kendall Park, just south of Toms River.

My plan is to be in Kendall Park on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and of course Sunday.

This time will include meetings for presbytery, workshops, meetings with colleagues as well as office hours. It is always best to call and make an appointment or to invite me for coffee, if you would like my time and attention.

Help Us Share the Good News!

Our church's Facebook and Instagram pages are wonderful ways to let others know about the love of Christ and the life of our church family. Every one of us can play a part in reaching our community.

When you see a church post, please take a moment to:

- 👍 Like it
- 💬 Leave a comment
- 📱 Share it with your friends and family

These simple actions help our posts reach more people and increase awareness of our church. You never know who may be looking for hope, encouragement, or a church home—and your click could be the invitation that brings them here.

Thank you for helping us spread God's love beyond our church walls.
Together, we can make a difference, one post at a time!

Pastor on the Porch

Weekly on Thursday if the weather permits. Please dress appropriately for the temperature. We will gather on the church porch at 6:00 pm for the old tradition of sitting with friends and neighbors at the end of day. Conversation is optional. There will be coffee, tea, and cold water for all. Feel free to bring a treat to share and a lawn chair.

Our Abundance Table for August is Miscellaneous Items

Abundantly blessed by God, we are invited to share in recognition of our abundance and God's generosity. In sharing, we pass along the gifts we no longer need. In this expression of thanksgiving, we extend the blessing of the gift. Each month we are invited to fill a table in the fellowship hall with items from our homes and lives that we are happy to share. This month our "Abundance Table" is a place for miscellaneous items in good condition.

Any suggestion for future table items and other comments should be directed to Gloria Bernard, deacon in charge, at gloriabernard74@yahoo.com.

South Brunswick Food Bank Items Needed

Ground coffee - Peanut Butter- Jelly - Chef Boyardee, or any canned pasta
Crushed tomatoes - Pancake mix - Syrup Spaghetti, and any boxed pasta Paper goods:
toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, napkins, Boxed milk such as Parmalat - Canned meat
and tuna. Please bring the item(s) to the church and put it in the cart by the front door. If
you have any questions contact Lee - mrsp52@comcast.net

FLEA/CRAFT MARKET

Grace Presbyterian Church

57 Sand Hills Road

Kendall Park 732-297-9182

SAT. SEPT. 19 - 9:00-2:00

RAIN DATE - SEPT. 26

VENDORS WANTED

\$30.00 SPACE RENTAL

SCAN THE QR CODE OR EMAIL

OFFICE@GRACEPCSB.ORG TO

RESERVE YOUR SPACE

YOUR ULTIMATE FLEA MARKET

DESTINATION FOR AMAZING

DEALS - FOOD TRUCKS

**Craft Caffe
Mobile Barista
Cold Brew
Coffee -so
much more
thecraftcaffe.
com**



**Beastro BBQ
Fusion
- Mac & Chee.
Variations -
Sauces
beastrocuisine.
com**

Grace Presbyterian Church

PRESENTS

Grace for Dinner

OFFERING FOOD ♥ CONNECTION ♥ HOPE



A FREE MEAL for anyone facing food insecurity.
If you are a neighbor in need, please come to our table.
All are welcome. Guests can also **choose 2 bags of groceries.**
Doors open at 4:00pm



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
from 4:00–5:30pm



57 Sand Hills Road
Kendall Park, NJ 732-297-9182



CONTACT US

Email: office@gracepcsb.org
Website: gracepcsb.org



Stay and enjoy meals
and company on site
or take them home.



ORDER MEALS BY MONDAY, SEPT. 7TH

Call or email with name, phone number,
number of meals needed and
number of children under 18.



One meal
per person.

CHOICE OF:

1

Hibachi Chicken

2

Hibachi Vegetable with Tofu

Meals prepared by **Kumo 27**
3376 Rt. 27, Kendall Park, NJ



Let us know if you have transportation limits;
we may be able to arrange delivery. If you are
unable to pre-order, any remaining meals will
be given out starting at 5:15pm.



All are welcome!



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

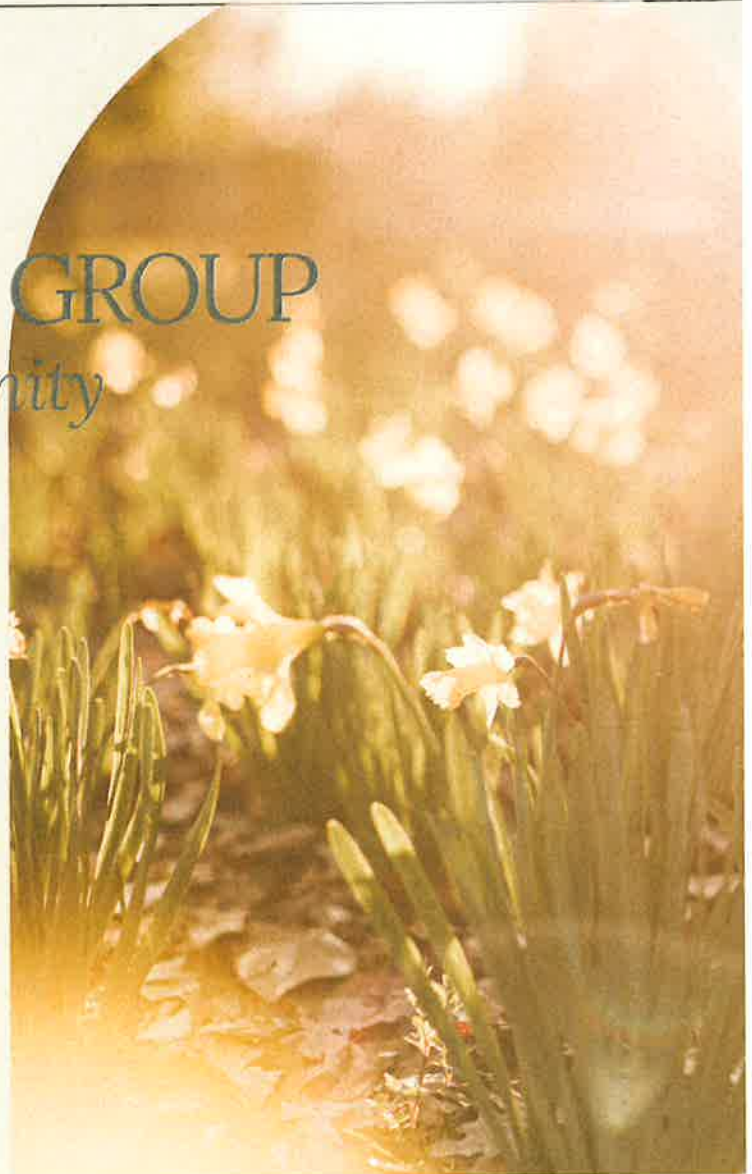
at Sand Hills Community Wellness Center

Starting September, join a small, supportive peer group where you can connect with others who understand the experience of loss in a safe and welcoming environment.

Our grief support group offers:

- A welcoming and confidential environment
- Guided conversations around common experiences of grief
- Opportunities to share (only if you feel comfortable)
- Support from others who understand what you're going through

Everyone's grief journey is unique. There is no expectation to speak or share more than you wish.



INFORMATION

We will meet biweekly for 10 weeks starting
Tuesday, September 22 | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Peer Support Group - not therapy
Suggested Donation: \$10 per session
Limited to 10 participants

If you are interested in participating, please reach out. A brief intake will help determine if the group is a good fit.

Call: 732-419-3551

Email: sandhillswellness@gmail.com

Facilitator: Maryann Rappa, MA, CPC

You don't have to go through grief alone. We would be honored to support you during this time.



ANCESTOR
TECH
Presents!

<https://www.ancestortech.com/>

Curious About Your Family's Roots? Genealogy: Start Here. Go Further.

Saturday, October 3, 10am-11am
Sand Hills Wellness Center

Presented by Carla Zimowsk
info@ancestortech.com

Lecture: \$10
Research Lab: \$15
Both: \$20 — save \$5

Curious about your family history but not sure where to begin?
Already researching but overwhelmed by search results—or
frustrated by “no results found”?

Come learn practical strategies for beginning or advancing your
genealogy research whether you already use well-known online
services like Ancestry.com® or are not sure which service to
use. We will explore both free and paid options! Come with
questions. Leave with ideas for your next step.

[Register Here](#)

WANT TO DIG DEEPER?

OPTIONAL Genealogy Research Lab • 11 AM–Noon

Bring your device and research question!
Get guidance in a group setting (limit 10 people).

\$10 with lecture | \$15 stand-alone * *Lecture attendance not required.*

Look Who's Serving

	August 16	August 23	August 30	Sept. 6
Liturgist	Amy Miller	Judianne Brown	Sandy Chmielewski	Carol Thomson
Usher	Sandy Chmielewski	Mike Royer	Evelyn Savage	Laura Taff
Zoom	Peter Godinez	Janice Royer	Gabi Quaely	Maryann Rappa
Worship Leader	Rev. Debbie Paton	Rev. Debbie Paton	Rev. Debbie Paton	Rev. Debbie Paton
Coffee Hour	Cheryl Kotch	Sandy Chmielewski		Vilja Casey
Counters	Laura Taff Lee Piotrowski	Dottie Pickell Mike Royer	Fran Trischetta Carol Thomson	Laura Taff Lee Piotrowski
Musician				Vince DiMura
Open/Close	Carol Thomson Mike Royer	Carol Thomson Mike Royer	Carol Thomson Mike Royer	Carol Thomson Mike Royer

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Pastor Debbie - Debbie is in the office Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. Works off site on Friday. She can best be reached by email pastordebpaton@gmail.com or cell phone 630-886-6785. Please honor Monday as her sabbath by only calling if it is an emergency.

Vince Di Mura - Music Director

Church Office - Maryann Rappa will be on vacation until Monday, Aug. 24. If you need assistance please contact Pastor Debbie.

NOT SURE WHO TO CONTACT?

- ❖ Questions about donations - Contact **Al Goddard**
- ❖ Questions about the Deacons - contact **Sandy Chmielewski**
sandra.chmii@gmail.com
- ❖ Have a prayer request? - contact **Tami Aug** tamaraaug@gmail.com
- ❖ Put an announcement in the bulletin? tell the **church office** by **Wednesday**.
office@gracepcsb.org
- ❖ Put an article in the newsletter? [Maryann Rappa office@gracepcsb.org](mailto:Maryann.Rappa@gracepcsb.org)
- ❖ Want to get involved? **Contact an elder.**

Questions about **Finance or Personnel** - Rob Aug; **Hospitality** - Janice Royer, **Outreach** - Donna Keller; **Property** - Mike Royer; **Worship** -Dottie Pickell; **Stewardship** - Rob Aug; **Wellness** Irene Carman; **Clerk of Session** - Peter Godinez

Elders - Rob Aug, Irene Carman, Jim Elieff, Peter Godinez, Donna Keller, Dottie Pickell, Janice Royer, Mike Royer, Nancy Varga

Deacons - Tami Aug, Gloria Bernard, Vilija Casey, Sandy Chmielewski, Barbara Elieff, Cheryl Kotch, Amy Miller, Gabi Quaely

USERS' GUIDE

- **Welcome!** If you are visiting, please sign our guest book on the table in the hall before entering the worship space.
- If you have a **prayer request**, fill out a blue *prayer request card* (the other side of the welcome card) and put it on the offering plate.
- **Restrooms** are on the fellowship hall side of the sanctuary.

More information?

Grace Presbyterian Church- 57 Sand Hills Road, Kendall Pk, NJ 08824 Phone number- 732-297-9182 email us at - office@gracepcsb.org - Visit our website: www.gracepcsb.org - Or check us out on Facebook!