

GCI

Grace Church of the Islands

Presbyterian Church in America

6901 CONCORD ROAD • SAVANNAH, GA 31410
912.898.0170 • WWW.GCIPCA.ORG

GCI
Events

SEPTEMBER EVENTS...

UPCOMING EVENTS - GET CONNECTED!

MORNING WORSHIP

10:00 AM

Sept. 4 • Men's Devotional at 8:15 am at the church.

Sept. 4 • FELLOWSHIP MEAL immediately following the morning worship service at the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:15 AM

Sept. 6 • SHINE at 3 pm at Sandy's place.

Sept. 6 • Deacons meeting at 6 pm at the church.

PRAYER MEETING

4:15 PM

Sept. 8 • Ladies Bible Study (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) at 10 am at the church.

Sept. 10 • Ladies Ministry Luncheon at 10 am at the church.

EVENING WORSHIP

5:00 PM

Sept. 20 • Session meeting at 6 pm at the church.

Note: There will be no WNF in September.

Grace at Home
September 2022

A monthly newsletter from
Grace Church of the Islands



GRACE CHURCH

of the Islands PCA

6901 CONCORD RD • SAVANNAH, GA 31410

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for one another, the ministry of Grace Church of the Islands, and for the universal Church. Below are a few prayer requests to focus our attention on this month:

Thanksgiving:

- Thankful to the Lord for watching over His sheep and for being the good Shepherd.

Health:

- Nancy Gallaher - Pray for her as she recovers from an infection in her right leg.
- David Lamson and David Hodge - Pray for them as they recover from heart issues.
- Tim Foster - Pray for Tim as he recovers from a hip replacement.
- Debbie Taylor - Pray for Debbie and her family over the passing of her brother.
- Pete Phillips - Pray for Pete who is recovering from a fall that injured his wrist and knee.
- Cunningham Family - Pray for them as they are settling in their new home in Hawaii.

Misc.:

- Visitors - Pray the Lord would continue to bring visitors to our worship services and give visitors a desire to join our church family.

SENIOR PASTOR

Vacant

MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Tom Taylor

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Gina Harrell

RULING ELDERS

Mark Board
 Dave Roulo
 Tom Taylor - Clerk
 Jose Veciana
 Louis Watson - Sabbatical

DEACONS

Joel Barry - Secretary
 David Lamson - Chair
 Ron Nichols
 Allan Chagan - Emeritus
 Richard Towns - Emeritus

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

**Fight the good fight with all thy might;
 Christ is thy Strength, and Christ thy Right;
 Lay hold on life, and it shall be
 Thy joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God's good grace,
 Lift up thine eyes, and seek His face;
 Life with its way before us lies,
 Christ is the Path, and Christ the Prize.**

**Cast care aside, upon thy Guide,
 Lean, and His mercy will provide;
 Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove
 Christ is its Life, and Christ its Love.**

**Faint not nor fear, His arms are near,
 He changeth not, and thou art dear.
 Only believe, and thou shalt see
 That Christ is all in all to thee.**

There is much emphasis these days on the discipline of physical fitness. The Bible, however, warns us that while physical exercise is a good thing, it is not eternal, and should not be more important than the discipline of spiritual fitness. Perhaps it would be helpful to consider what our physical bodies would be like if they took on the fitness level of our spiritual life. It might be alarming to see a flabby body, weak joints, and not enough endurance to walk around the block! We must run with endurance the spiritual race of life.

"Fight The Good Fight" was written to accompany the reading of Ephesians 4:17-32. In this passage, Paul speaks of the nature of the Christian life and outlines principles upon which to build our habits. John Monsell was a gifted British preacher and wrote many verses and hymns to encourage his congregation. He was a great advocate of singing and urged "more fervent and joyous" singing in his church. He said, "We sing, but not as we should, to Him who is the chief among ten thousand, the Altogether Lovely." "Fight the Good Fight" first appeared in his 1863 publication, Hymns of Love and Praise for the Church's Year.

The tune we find for this hymn in our Trinity Hymnal was written by Mozart, and was the Kyrie in his Twelfth Mass. Kyrie means "Lord" and is the common name for one of the prayers in Christian liturgy.

John Monsell points us to the Word, for "Fight the Good Fight" is full of sound doctrine and references to many scripture passages. We can see many words of action throughout the hymn, words such

as fight, lay hold, run, lift up, cast aside, and faint not. Notice, also, how each verse points us to Christ as the focus for all we do. Monsell emphasizes that Christ is our strength, our right (inheritance), our prize, our path, our soul's life and love, and finally summing Christ up as our all in all!

In our hymn this month, we find many suggestions for getting our spiritual lives fit. Let us take a verse each week and make a great effort to put the admonitions into practice. Notice how many references to scripture we see in our hymn. Verse 1 points us to I Timothy 6:12 and Philippians 4:1; verse 2 to Hebrews 12:1, John 14:6, and Philippians 3:14. In verse 3 we see a reference to I Peter 5:7 and in verse 4 we see Galatians 6:9, Mark 5:36, John 6:29 and Colossians 3:11.

While physical fitness is important to help keep our bodies healthy, the truth is that we will grow old and die. This is not the case with our spirits which have been made alive in Christ. Let us not lose sight of this most eternal truth and put high priority on spiritual fitness and conditioning! Let us practice endurance training of daily scripture study and memorization. Let us not forget resistance training for our souls--resistance against Satan's temptations and attacks. Some of the weights and pressures of this life are quite heavy, and we must be able to resist, withstand, and persevere!

Pastor Monsell would have us to remember II Corinthians 4:16, which says, "Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day."

Gina Harrell

SEPTEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Tom and Debbie Taylor
5	Richard and Jackie Towns
16	David and Toni McCray

BIRTHDAYS

8	Lynda Meyers
10	Nancy Mersereau
10	Pete Phillips
11	Aloha Cunningham
16	Sally Hammonds
24	P.J. Chagan
24	Jackie Towns
28	Jeff Mullis
29	Darci Davis
30	Ron Nichols

NOTICE

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, September 18th immediately following the morning worship service for the purpose of voting on Rev. Tim Foster as our new Senior Pastor.

STEWARDSHIP

**YTD as of Aug. 31st
 Tithes and Offerings
 needed for budget:
 \$204,047**

**YTD as of Aug. 31st
 Actual Tithes and Offerings received:
 \$190,739**

**Average attendance for July:
 AM Service: 72
 PM Service: 25**