

# Grace Presbyterian Church To see Long Island awakened to the glory of Jesus Christ

Mark Middlekauff

# **Update from Pastor Mark**

This is a really special year as we have reached a significant milestone – ten years of public worship! On April 22, 2007, with much prayer and preparation, a small group of Christians launched a new church on the East End of Long Island – Grace Presbyterian Church.

Someone recently asked me if the time has flown by these last ten years. My honest reply, "No. It's been long and hard. It feels like twenty years, but it also feels so satisfying." And it is true. The greatest joys in life often are the result of persistent, focused effort. And over these last ten years many people have joined in the work of our church with persistent, focused effort. The reason why we are even able to celebrate the work that God has done here is because of the people God has brought here. At our wonderful Ten Year Anniversary Celebration on April 29th we gathered to celebrate God and to recognize all the people who have made Grace Presbyterian Church to be the cohesive and loving family that we are. We are truly living out our motto – Alive in Christ.

The first ten years have laid a firm foundation from which we to build. As we face the next decade together we are transitioning from laying the foundations that make for healthy gospel community and supporting ourselves financially to being an established church with resources to necessary to achieve great things for God. In the coming months, we will be turning our attention to some great new initiatives, like planting our first church on Long Island to starting a Christian counseling center on the East End. I am glad to lead a church that desires to attempt great things for God. And I am hopeful for our future together.

Yours truly, Rev. Mark Middlekauff



Mark and Lesley Cutting the Cake at our 10th Anniversary



Guy's Night with Kids: Fishing

Grayson Jordan at our Spring Clean -Up Day



#### Lesley Middlekauff

### Belize

Grace Presbyterian Church is very excited to be going on our first mission trip! August 5th-12th, we will take a group of 20 students and 5 adults to Belize. The mission trip is organized by Mission to the World (MTW), the global missions sending agency of our denomination (The Presbyterian Church in America). The group will be going to Corazol Town located on the Corozal Bay at the northeastern coast of Belize. They will be working with a Presbyterian church in the district of Corozal called Cristo Rey. The church is eager for our group to help them with necessary building repairs as well as with a program to reach children in surrounding neighborhoods. In addition to this work, they will get to encourage the missionaries there, Mike and Chrissy Cosner, who are devoted to serving in this area year-round.

We would love to have your help by praying for our safety, health, and strength to accomplish everything mentioned above. Also, you can join us for our Music Festival Fundraiser on Saturday, June 10th. And if you would like to make a contribution to the cost of this project, you can do so online at www. gracehamptons.org/belize. Make sure you choose "Belize Mission Trip" as your designated fund. You can also write a check payable to Grace Presbyterian Church (pleaser write "Belize" on the memo) and mail to Grace Presbyterian Church, 1225 Montauk Hwy, Water Mill NY, 11976.



for more info, tickets or to make a contribution toward the graceyouth belize trip, go to **www.gracehamptons.org/belize** 

# **NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2017**

Adriana Pariz

# Celebrating 10 Years of Grace

On April 22nd of 2007, Grace Presbyterian Church had its first worship service at the Water Mill Community House. 10 years later, on April 29th and 30th, in our very own church building, we celebrated all that God has done in this community through Grace Church! Through the hard work of talented and hard-working individuals, we enjoyed a wonderful celebration with delicious food, beautiful decorations, great music and much rejoicing! Imagine walking into our lobby with 125 pictures hanging down from balloons, a 4 by 8-foot photo mosaic on the back wall, polaroid cameras snapping photos, and lots of friends and family welcoming you – what a blast!

The evening began with everyone mingling and enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by Michael Mosolino as well as live music by our very own, Tom Hashagen and Lisa Shaw. One of the many highlights of the night was a great video of the many people who have been impacted by Grace Church. Pastor John Yenchko from North Shore Community Church in Oyster Bay joined us and spoke about the beginning of Grace Church. John, along with North Shore Community Church, has been such a pivotal part of our story as they have helped start Grace. Pastor Mark also spoke, reminding us of our calling as God's people.

The night ended as all great celebrations should – with champagne, confetti and cake! People toasted Grace Church, praising God for the ways he has used this church to bless them and their families. The following morning, we wrapped up our celebration with a wonderful service which included a testimony from one of our members, Sharon Kerr, as well as a great sermon from pastor Mark! As we remembered 10 years of Grace Church, we remembered all the lives that have been transformed and all the friendships that have been made. Seeing so many people celebrating Grace Church was a great reminder of the community that God has knit together. We look forward to the years ahead and we can't wait to see what God has in store for Grace Presbyterian Church!









#### Lisa Serrell

## Meet the Serrell's

The Serrells (Bryan, Lisa, Marley and Dean) were introduced to Grace Church in the winter of 2014 when Lisa was invited by a friend to the Women's Bible Study. Lisa grew up Catholic and also attended various Episcopal churches since 2001. Her faith became her own during

college at the University of Florida when she attended a Fellowship of Christian Athletes lecture. It was during that time in her life when she felt the Holy Spirit awaken inside her and she began her walk with Christ. Since being a part of Grace Church, Lisa has seen that the people are so warm and genuine; they are truly alive in Christ. Lisa enjoys helping with Second Saturdays Out and she is on the Serve Team. She loves the connectedness, peace and knowledge she gains from attending Tuesday evening Woman's Bible Study.

Bryan grew up in Sag Harbor with no knowledge of Christ but is open to wherever God leads him. He enjoyed attending Christianity Explored this past winter. Marley (6) likes to sing at Sunday school and truly loves all his church friends and teachers. Dean (3) loves playing with Ms. Claire and Ms. Barbara in the nursery on Sundays.



We are so thankful for Grace Church and all the many blessings our Lord Jesus has placed in our lives. We look forward to continuing to learn more about Jesus, loving those around us, and being guided by the Lord through prayer and all those he's place around us for guidance. We ask for prayers for our new little one who will soon arrive into this world and for the continued growth of faith within our family and in the community around us.

The Mission of Grace Presbyterian Church is to REACH the Lost, BUILD Community, GROW Disciples, SERVE our Neighbors, and in all things WORSHIP God.

Grace Presbyterian Church 1225 Montauk Hwy Water Mill, NY 11976

