



Grace Presbyterian Church

"To see Long Island awakened to the glory of Jesus Christ."

Update from Pastor Mark Middlekauff

This year is off to a wonderful start! We are pressing forward with our vision: *To see Long Island awakened to the glory of Jesus Christ.* At Grace Presbyterian Church we are being awakened to the glory of Jesus Christ as we are growing spiritually and relationally as a church. Since the church is the body of Christ, our growth as his church must please our Lord. He is patient with us as we become more mature in our faith. One way we have been maturing is through our weekly worship; God is present in our worship gatherings in special ways as we give glory to him and as we soak in his truth through the preaching of his word, our holy scriptures. Our sermon series on the Book of James, *Spiritual Living*, was very helpful in seeing us mature as the body of Christ. This summer sermon series will be on *The Parables of Jesus* (eight of them, at least).

Long Island is also being awakened as we are getting closer to seeing our first church plant take root in Stony Brook, NY. There are now over twenty adults in the Stony Brook area as part of our plant team, and we are actively recruiting a church planter to lead this new church.

In addition to planting a church in Stony Brook, we are looking to start a college ministry on the Stony Brook University campus. The ministry is called Reformed University Fellowship, or R.U.F. It is the campus ministry of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). There are 26,000 students at Stony Brook University, so imagine a vital, thriving R.U.F. ministry there!

Alongside those initiatives, we continue to lay plans for a counseling center on the East End and a new discipleship program to be launched soon.

With all those pastoral duties, I also was blessed to travel to Haiti again this past April to support Brian Park and his church planting ministry in Haiti and to teach Christ as Prophet, Priest and King to 48 seminary students in Port-au-Prince. May Christ, our head, continue to love and lead Grace Presbyterian Church, his body, that we may live out our church's motto: *Alive in Christ.*



Our Congregation at Christmas



Youth Group: Amazing Race



Easter Worship Service



Women's Retreat



Pastor Mark in Haiti



Children's Ministry Floor Demo



Second Saturdays Out!

Lesley Middlekauff Youth Group

It has been a fun year for Grace Church's Youth Group! Each month we have a special event to reach out to students in our community between 6th and 12th grade. In addition to a fall trip to Six Flags Great Adventure and our Great Escape Winter Retreat in upstate New York, the kids have had a blast with events like the Corn Maze Games in the dark, Archery Tag, Destination-X (a mystery night out), and our very own Amazing Race all over town. In addition to these outreach events, we started hosting Youth Lunches in January. These lunches are held after church twice a month to give students the opportunity learn about the Bible, ask questions, and consider how a relationship with Christ can impact their pre-teen and teenage lives. We also hope that as the students spend more time together, whether they are laughing during silly games or sharing deep questions and concerns, that they are building strong relationships where they can find support in the midst of challenging teenage years. We are looking forward to the summer ahead as we will have more time for fun events while the kids are out of school. We have yet to reveal our summer calendar, but lots of plans are in the works with opportunities for growth, service, and FUN! Follow us on Instagram @gracehamptonsyouth if you want to know what is coming up next.



Cathy Distefano

Meet Cathy

My family is from the East End, and I was born and raised here. I attended the Southampton Public Schools and, after college in upstate New York, I returned and taught for over thirty years at Southampton Elementary School. I am Mom to my son AJ and his wife Mary, as well as Grammy to my two beautiful granddaughters, Myla and Charlotte.



I was brought up in the Catholic faith but never felt a personal connection to the church. About eight years ago, I began to seek another place to worship and found a temporary home at a church in Sag Harbor. Unfortunately the congregation dissolved when the long time pastor was moved elsewhere, and I was again in search of a church. Grace Church was the first on my list to check out. From the very first service I attended, I was impressed with the beautiful music, the Lord's Supper, and the pastor's preaching on the Word. I never did check out another church as I began to attend Grace's weekly worship service from that point on.

At Grace Presbyterian I have found the fellowship and guidance I need to grow as a Christian. I have been attending the weekly Women's Bible Study, where I have greatly increased my knowledge of God's Word and have found wonderful support from the women in the group. I have also availed myself of the many opportunities to give back to our church community and the community at large. I currently serve on the Worship and Build Teams and enjoy helping at Second Saturdays Out! and Grace Camp.

I am so grateful that the Lord has led me to Grace Presbyterian Church. I have finally found the personal connection I had been seeking, and I look forward to continuing my spiritual journey within this wonderful church family.

Samantha Krzyzewski

Grace Camp

Our theme for GraceCamp this year is: CIRCUS. We have lots of fun planned and space is limited so sign-up and spread the word today! Please pray for final camp preparations and that all will have a joy-filled week of fun. Email Samantha@gracehamptons.org if you have questions or would like to serve at GraceCamp.

