

Light of Grace

a monthly publication of:

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Vol. 27, No. 1

January 1, 2016

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Dear Friends,

Recently a person dealing with health concerns spoke a paradoxical truth to me. “Minutes and hours go by so slowly, but years still fly by.” Sometimes the minutes and hours fly by as well and a day can seem like it’s almost over before it begins. But, there are situations where the clock stalls—times of pain or waiting for test results, times of healing after surgery or awaiting a surgery, times of praying for a loved one in the midst of a struggle or longing for a turn-around in a dear one’s life, times of waiting for waves of grief to cease after a loss or worrying over what might come to pass. Nevertheless, the years still fly by. I think the swiftly passing years lift vital questions into our awareness. “How do we live our years well?” “How do we choose to spend our time in the things that matter most?” “How do we let go of bothersome things we can’t change, before they consume us?” “How do we make amends where we need and while we are able?”

The Scriptures make it sound so simple this time of year. “When Jesus was born, some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem” (Matthew 2:1 NCV). But, their journey was anything but simple—months of trekking for a year or two across the desert at great expense and with much risk. The risks only increased after talking with King Herod, bringing their gifts to the baby Jesus, and then responding to a dream warning them to sneak out of the country. Amazingly, simply seeing Jesus and offering their best made the entire journey worthwhile. As a new year begins, it’s worth asking, “How much of life’s journey are we willing to invest in drawing near to Jesus?”



The Bible says that after the wise ones met Jesus “they traveled home by a new road” (Matthew 2:12). **Post-Jesus the familiar way felt dangerous and the unfamiliar way held promise.** Meeting Jesus has been about making personal changes and taking new roads ever since. **All who encounter Jesus are invited to trust God’s plan more than their own--**and often more than the plans of principalities and powers that be. Moreover, when the Jesus we meet is a baby—the new road has to include hope for the future and gentle love in the heart. Babies can’t do anything for themselves; because of that they do something for us. Babies elicit hope for tomorrow and gentle love for today. It’s what they do. **No matter how quickly the years pass or how slowly the minutes pass, hope for the future and gentle love for today are things worth building our lives around.** Treating others kindly and seeking to make the world a better place tomorrow because we were in it today are fantastic uses of our earthly time. No matter how fast the years go **a life of love and hope is a life we’ll never regret.** 2016 is upon us. Where will you and I let God lead us toward loving more deeply and hoping more fully? May God bless your years with meaning and the chance to bless others on the journey.

God’s Peace,

Pastor Roger



PRAYER LIST at Care Facilities

Peggy Anderson (R.E.M. House)
 Elouise Brendemuhl (Kinder Care)
 Mabel Burkhardt (Bethany)
 Lois Ferguson (Eventide)
 Hyacinth Kronbeck (Park View)
 Marjorie Ladwig (Eventide)
 Tom Collins (Eventide)
 Delores Dronen (Jamestown)
 Mary J. Phillips (Sheyenne Crossing)
 Jeanne Schwager (Bethany)
 Clara Krook (Bethany)

PRAYER LIST at Home

Vicky Westra Rae Offutt
 Linda Collins Ruth Opp
 June Gustavson Eleanor Payton

If you have any prayer concerns, call Paula Horner, 218-790-2141.



January Birthdays

BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

- 5- J. Oelke
- B. Beck
- 7- I. Smith
- 12-L. Roppe
- 14-K. Thiseth
- 16-B. Loeks
- C. Gedrose
- 17-C. Changler
- 19-W. Port
- 22-L. Hamm
- 25-J. Eide
- 27-D. Dronen
- D. Changler
- 28-C. Gedrose
- 29-B. Paulson



January Anniversaries

18—Stacy & Todd Ladwig



Ministry TEAM Program.. A Way of Being the Church at GUMC! The TEAM's mission is to provide ushers, greeters, opening welcome and readers to our congregation . TEAM #3 (Jan/July) TEAM Coordinators are Dan & Jean Graning and George and Linda Davis..

701-293-3260—J. & O. Alveshere
 701-893-5350—K. Baker
 701-367-0371—C. & D. Borgen & Family
 218-227-5942—R. & B. Christopherson
 218-233-0442—T. & L. Collins
 218-236-8502—G. & L. Davis
 218-287-1002—R. Helland
 218-233-5110—R. Herman
 218-233-6557—J. Mann
 218-236-0141—R. & P. Murray
 218-287-3817—A. Severson
 218-233-7474—S. & P. Struble



coffee & donuts

DONUTS

The donut makers are back in business. Donuts will be made on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, To place your order for donuts, call the office, 233-1857, by January 11th.

The number of Donuts made:

There were 1,335 Dozen plus 10 for a total of 16,030 donuts made.



WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to S. Fangsrud for receiving the Women of Grace "Woman of the Year" award.



THANK YOU

Many thanks to T. Anderson, R. Murray and D. Graning for doing the dishes for the Advent Brunch. - Martha Circle



THANK YOU

On behalf of the Larson family, we want to thank the members of Grace United Methodist church for your support of M. and his family as we work to get him help with a service dog. We have been blessed by your kindness and support. Thank you so much.

Offering Envelopes



OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2016 are available in the office. If you didn't pick your envelopes up during December, they can be picked up by visiting the office. If you have any questions, please call the office. 218-233-1857



THE STAR

Beautiful star shining so bright,
Guide me through the night.
Help me focus on the Christ child,
I want to follow his light.

The star shows us his way,
Even after he left the hay.
Help me to follow along,
I want to hear everything he has to say.

The light gives me hope,
So that I can cope.
Help me fill my heart with his glory,
I cling to him like a rope.

Beautiful star way up high,
May your light never die.
Help me stay close to his path,
So that I never ask why.

For your light is our saving grace,
Christ's promises are larger than space.
Help me prepare for the end,
Until we meet face-to-face.

May this New Year keep you focused on Christ.

For with him you have nothing to fear
May God Bless you and guide you in 2016.

Yours in Christ
Del Larson

MISSING

Do you know what happened to one of the chairs in the Narthex? Please call the office if you know the status of the chair.

Leadership Development Team

One of the Healthy Church Initiative Recommendations we adopted included streamlining our decision-making process with a greater attention to Grace's Mission to Make Followers of Christ to Transform the World. The recommendation was two-fold:

1. To create The Healthy Church Leadership Team
2. To combine the functions of SPRC, Trustees, and Finance into one.

Team # 1 is charged with holding the vision and guiding ministry so Grace lives up to its brand "The Church of the Neighborhood" and into its mission of "Making Followers of Christ to Transform the World." One way of looking at it would be to imagine Grace as a ship. The Healthy Church Leadership Team names the purpose for the expedition, maps the course, and makes sure we're on course.

Team #2 is the Operations/Resources team. Their role is to resource the vision and tend to daily operations of Grace UMC (staff supervision, building care, financing the work of the church) Simply put, The Operation/Resources Team gets things done: keeps fuel in the tank, staff on deck, and steers the ship where the Healthy Church Leadership Team directs.

Elected at 2015 Church Charge Conference:

The Healthy Church Leadership Team:

P. Murray, P. Anderson, L. Davis, S. Grow, D. Larson, R. Murray, D. Stead, A. Ybarra, L. Horner, J. Anderson, K. Anderson, D. and J. Graning

The Operations/Resources Team:

L. Burkhardt, P. Anderson, L. Horner, A. Ybarra, B. Hanna, J. Thiseth, G. Davis, B. Christopherson (room for 2 more...hoping for children's ministry and women's ministry reps)

We will continue with three year terms and at our first meeting of each team in 2016 we will divide the leaders into the classes 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Date	Psalms	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Fri, Jan 1	3am: 103,pm: 148	Isa 62:1-5, 10-12	Rev 19:11-16	Matt 2:13-23
Sat, Jan 2	am: 34, pm: 33	1 Kg 19:1-8	Eph 4:1-16	John 6:1-14
Sun, Jan 3	4am: 66, 67, pm: 145	am: Prov 2:1-15	Col 3:12-17	John 6:41-47
Mon, Jan 4	am: 85, 87, pm: 89:1-29	Josh 3:14-4:7	Eph 5:1-20	John 9:1-12, 35-38
Tues, Jan 5	am: 2, 110, pm: 29, 98	am: Jonah 2:2-9, pm: Isa 6:18-23	am: Eph 6:10-20, pm: Rom 15:7-13	John 11:17-27, 38-44
Wed, Jan 6	am: 46, 97,pm: 96, 100	Isa 49:1-7	Rev 21:22-27	Matt 2:14-21
Thur, Jan 7	am: 103,pm: 114, 115	Deut 8:1-3	Col 1:1-14	John 6:30-33, 48-51
Fri, Jan 8	am: 117, 118,pm: 112, 113	Exod 17:1-7	Col 1:15-23	John 7:37-52
Sat, Jan 9	am: 121, 122, 123,pm: 131, 132	Isa 45:14-19	Col 1:24-2:7	John 8:12-19
Sun , Jan 10	am: 146, 147, pm: 111, 112, 113	Gen 1:1-2:3	Eph 1:3-14	John 1:29-34
Mon, Jan 11	am: 1, 2, 3, pm: 4, 7	Gen 2:4-25	Heb 1:1-15	John 1:1-18
Tues, Jan 12	am: 5, 6, pm: 10, 11	Gen 3:1-24	Heb 2:1-10	John 1:19-28
Wed, Jan 13	am: 119:1-24, pm: 12, 13, 14	Gen 4:1-16	Heb 2:11-18	John 1:29-42
Thur, Jan 14	am: 18:1-20, pm: 18:21-50	Gen 4:17-26	Heb 3:1-11	John 1:43-51
Fri, Jan 15	am: 16, 17, pm: 22	Gen 6:1-8	Heb 3:12-19	John 2:1-12
Sat, Jan 16	am: 20, 21:1-14, pm: 110, 116, 117	Gen 6:9-22	Heb 4:1-13	John 2:13-22
Sun, Jan 17	am: 148, 149, 150, pm: 114, 115	Gen 7:1-10, 17-23	Eph 4:1-16	Mark 3:7-19
Mon, Jan 18	am: 25, pm: 9, 15	Gen 8:6-22	Heb 4:14-5:6	John 2:23-3:15
Tues, Jan 19	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	Gen 9:1-17	Heb 5:7-14	John 3:16-21
Wed, Jan 20	am: 38, pm: 119:25-48	Gen 9:18-29	Heb 6:1-12	John 3:22-36
Thur, Jan 21	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	Gen 11:1-9	Heb 6:13-20	John 4:1-15
Fri, Jan 22	am: 31, pm: 35	Gen 11:27-12:8	Heb 7:1-17	John 4:16-26
Sat, Jan 23	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	Gen 12:9-13:1	Heb 7:18-28	John 4:27-42
Sun, Jan 24	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	Gen 13:2-18	Gal 2:1-10	Mark 7:31-37
Mon, Jan 25	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	Gen 14:1-24	Heb 8:1-13	John 4:43-54
Tue, Jan 26	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	Gen 15:1-11, 17-21	Heb 9:1-14	John 5:1-18
Wed, Jan 27	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	Gen 16:1-14	Heb 9:15-28	John 5:19-29
Thur, Jan 28	am: 50, 59, pm: 60, 118	Gen 16:15-17:14	Heb 10:1-10	John 5:30-47
Fri, Jan 29	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	Gen 17:15-27	Heb 10:11-25	John 6:1-15
Sat, Jan 30	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	Gen 18:1-16	Heb 10:26-39	John 6:16-27
Sun, Jan 31	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	Gen 18:16-33	Gal 5:13-25	Mark 8:22-30

GRACE UNITED METHODIST

January 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Years Day Office Closed	2
3 Epiphany Sunday 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	4 8:00 am ERL 1:00 pm No Quilting	5 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training Class	6 8:00 am ERL 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:30 pm AWANA 7:15 pm Choir	7 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:30 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	8	9
10 Baptism of the Lord 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	11 8:00 am ERL 1:00 pm No Quilting	12 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training Class 7:00 pm Operating & Resources Team	13 6:00 am Donut Making 8:00 am ERL 5:65 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:30 pm AWANA 7:15 pm Choir	14 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 2:00 HCI Pastor's North Group Consultation	15	16
17 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	18 8:00 am ERL 1:00 pm No Quilting	19 6:00 pm HCI Team 7:00 pm Ad Council 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training Class	20 8:00 am ERL 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:30 pm AWANA 7:15 pm Choir	21 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 11:30 am FM UM Clergy 7:00 pm Lydia Circle 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	22	23
24 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	25 8:00 am ERL 1:00 pm No Quilting	26 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training Class	27 8:00 am ERL 5:45 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:30 pm AWANA 7:15 pm Choir	28 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Parkview 10:00 am Golden Living 2:00 pm River Pointe	29	30
31 4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School						

NEW LIFE CENTER

Thank you to all who brought gifts for the men at the New Life Center (NLC) so they could have a wonderful Christmas.

Five Church's in our area put on the play "The Good Life". The NLC will receive \$50,000 for remodeling the building east of the NLC that was recently purchased for their new store.

Additional gifts of \$50,000 and \$25,000 were also received. The old store will be converted into a dormitory for the men.

January gifts to the NLC is coffee. Please bring your coffee donations to Grace UMC by January 14th. - J. Oelke and S. Mohr

TRY SOMETHING NEW

Grace is looking for a funeral coordinator and communion stewards. B. Fraundorfer is having surgery with a lengthy recovery and is having to give up these roles. If you are interested in helping with either of these roles, please talk to Pastor Roger



DONUT MAKING UPDATE

December 6, 2015, the Donut Makers presented two checks each for \$3,750.00 to the Apportionments Fund and General Fund.. Many thanks to B. Krogen, A. Severson, J. Mann, T. Martin, B. Hopkins, E. Vollbrecht, J. Oelke, S. and G. Mohr, S. and R. Aman for mixing, frying and packaging donuts, J. Anderson for organizing, buying supplies and setting up, L. Norby for counting and making deposits and S. Vick for taking the order.

The remainder of what was made will be used for supplies when donuts are made on January 13th. Call 218-233-1857 to place your order.

Can you guess the number of donuts made?
The answer is on page 2.

WITHOUT FAIL

I was once young and now I am old, but not once have I been witness to God's failure to supply my need when first I had given for the furtherance of his work. He has never failed in his promise, so I cannot fail in my service to him.—William Carey

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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