

Light of Grace

a monthly publication of:

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Vol. 26, No. 9
September 1, 2015

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

Dear Friends

I'm still celebrating—not my birthday. I half-expected my birthday to roll around again. What I didn't expect was 41 children enrolled in Grace's Vacation Bible School the second week of August. What I didn't expect was a Tuesday's Kids program that included children already a part of Grace and built connections with neighborhood children. What I didn't expect was that the YMCA would come to us and say, "We have an Early Learning Readiness program for pre-school children and their parents. Would you be interested in partnering with us so we can prepare children for school, teach parenting skills and help build encouraging relationships between new parents?" Details, insurance, contracts, expectations, a \$1,500 donation from the Y to Grace fell into place quickly. So Monday and Wednesday mornings 9 – 11 AM pre-schoolers and parents come to Grace to learn helpful school and family skills. Plus, we've people from Grace already asking if they can volunteer to help. And, then, I'm back to 41 children enrolled in VBS, at least 20 adults helping out, and 33 of those kids going to the overnight camp at Northern Pines. Yes, I am celebrating.

Grace's Healthy Church Initiative coach often asks the questions—"Why?" and "What for?" So, let me share why I'm celebrating on a deeper level than the simple truth that kids

and puppies make people smile. If you asked me the main purpose of Vacation Bible School I would say Vacation Bible School exists to show kids: 1) they are created in the image of God, 2) God is love, and 3) trust in God can protect their spirits and give them hope no matter what happens in this life. (On a more self-centered note there is a truism: the direction of a church's children's ministry predicts the direction of the church in 5 – 7 years).



I have no doubt you have reasons why you believe ministry with children is important. I'd love to hear them. I'd also love to hear about other ministries that would cause your heart to celebrate. In fact, on September 26th Grace's Healthy Church coach, Jim Haun, will lead us in a visioning workshop. 9 AM – Noon everyone is invited to come, share, listen, learn, pray and discern God's hopes for Grace UMC. Please mark your calendars. Every time we come together to share and ask God to lead us we open ourselves up to more possibilities and reasons to celebrate. God is good and God has wonderful ways for us to share that goodness, hope and love.

Hope to see you Saturday Sept. 26th at 9 AM.

Blessings,
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)
- Mabel Johnson (Bethany)
- Delores Dronen (Jamestown)
- Mary J. Phillips (Sheyenne Crossing)
- Jeanne Schwager (Bethany)
- Clara Krook (Bethany)
- Vi Williams (Bethany on 42nd)

PRAYER LIST at Home

- Vicky Westra Rae Offutt
- Linda Collins Ruth Opp
- Dale Smith Tom Collins
- Bremda Rowand Lois Norby

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



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 #6 (Sept/March TEAM Coordinator is N. Grow.

- 218-512-0395—L. & J. Beck
- 701-403-9063—C. Devine
- 701-205-7268—S. Grow & Family
- 701-306-4382—T. Grow
- 701-403-9063—T. & D. Grow
- 701-541-4136—S. & N. Grow
- 701-412-3833—A. Larson & Family
- 218-236-5031—D. & L. Larson
- 701-212-3587—A. Loeks
- 701-237-9055—N. & R. Lofgren
- 218-233-3917—C. & B. Miller
- 218-329-1835—J. Miller
- 218-233-3917—J. Miller
- 218-233-3405—C. & B. Naasz
- 218-236-9169—L. & O. Roppe
- 701-306-1705—L. Smith
- 218-236-7848—D. & I. Smith & Family
- 218-287-6501—V. Williams



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

September Birthdays

- 1—D. Burkhardt
- 3—J. Fraundorfer
- 4—S. Lindner
- 5—L. Monge
A. Grafenstein
- 6—C. Miller
D. Grow
L. Beck
- 9—D. Smith
- 12—M. Gumto
- 13—B. Hanna
- 14—P. Anderson
- 16—B. Rowand
- 19—T. Collins
J. Schwager
S. Fraundorfer
- 20—P. Newgard
M. Larson
- 26—C. Hilgers
- 30—A. Horn

Happy Anniversary!



September Anniversaries

- 2—T. & P. Newgard
- 5—C & B. Naasz
- 16—T & D. Grow
- 27—D & C. Borgen

MOVED

D. Dronen has recently moved. Please call the office for her new addresses.



FINANCIAL UPDATE



August
 INCOME: \$ 7,606.19
 EXPENSES: \$10,724.13
 APPORTIONMENTS: \$ 284.65



CARNIVAL TIME

There will be a Home Coming Community Carnival from 1—4:00 PM on Sunday, September 13th. Please invite your friends and neighbors to this fun event.

UNBIDING THE HEART—A 40 day studies and message series to begin October 1st—more details soon.

SYMPATHIES

Our condolences to the Family of Donna Nix who passed away August 26th. Funeral is September 3rd.

WANTED

The nursery is in need of 2 new Pac-n-Plays.



HAND BELL CHOIR

Do you enjoy music? Do you enjoy bells? Do you enjoy Christian fellowship? Then we have just the thing for you! Wednesday nights at 6:15 (subject to change), starting September 2, the bells will be rehearsing. We would love to have you!!! If you are not sure if this is something you are capable of doing, just come and give us a try. If you have any questions, contact S. Fangsrud

Who or What Do You Seek First?

Del Larson, CLM

Do you remember the story of young Joseph, son of Jacob, and sold into slavery by his older brothers, who were tired of Joseph's dreams and being the spoiled brat. Joseph's struggles over the next few years were all part of God's plan. It doesn't seem right that God and years of struggles go together very well. Fortunately, God's plan also included a position of leadership in the Egyptian Government for Joseph. In fact, because of his Godly dreams, Joseph developed a plan to save the country from famine and many countries around Egypt. Many wonder why God allows Satan to create such havoc, lest we forget that it is man who created evil when he took a bite of the forbidden fruit. God is so powerful that He uses evil to help make us stronger, and to realize that God's plan for us will definitely not only surprise us, but also be much more beneficial than what we had planned.

Joseph rode the high horse for awhile, until one day his brothers showed up asking to buy grain. Not recognizing their little brother from the royal dress, the brothers plead for mercy to help their families. Rather than identify himself to his brothers, Joseph threw his brothers in jail. Joseph was seeking revenge for what his brothers had done to him. Remember that God had given Joseph the grand prize of being part of royalty in Egypt. His hungry brothers were in need. Therefore, the sweet sound and evil plan of revenge. However, Joseph wasn't finished with his torment, no he had other plans. He released all but one brother and told the others to go

home and bring back their youngest brother. He even sweetened the deal with some grain for them to take home, but this was just the beginning. When the brothers returned with their youngest brother Benjamin, he was overcome with relief but also sadness. Joseph decided to let them go with all the grain they needed, but he also had a servant put his personal gold cup in the saddleback of Benjamin. When the brothers were a few miles away, Joseph sent out guards to stop them and search their belongings. When they found the cup they hauled the brothers back to the palace in front of Joseph. Finally, God broke Joseph's hardened heart and he shared his happiness as the frightened brothers stood before him.

Revenge is not sweet, no matter how we feel. *"Do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity."* (Eph 4:26-27) When we give into anger, a door opens for the devil.



The devil will do everything he can to make himself at home in your heart. Gossip, slander, vengeance make the devil one happy beast. "Vengeance is mine" says the Lord. As Jesus taught us, we must seek forgiveness, not retribution. No, we don't have to get even, but rather turn the other cheek. God will take care of vengeance on Judgment Day, or when he sees fit in this life time.

When we are filled with anger, jealousy, and revenge, we are no better than the person who offended us. I admit, it isn't easy to turn the other cheek, but when we do we find the Holy Spirit fills our body with warmth and satisfaction. Sometimes, our offender continues to knock us down, but God picks us back up and taps us on the back with a whisper of 'job well done, son.' It doesn't make you weak to turn the other cheek, but stronger. You gain confidence, and start to recognize the bullies of misbehavior. Give your love to all, and stand tall against those who attack you. *"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."* (Matt. 6:33)

Date	Psalms	OT	Epistle	Gospel
Tue, Sept 1	am: 26, 28, pm: 36, 39	1 Kng 8:65-9:9	Jam 2:14-26	Mark 14:66-72
Wed, Sept 2	am: 38, pm: 119:25-48	1 Kng 9:24-10:13	Jam 3:1-12	Mark 15:1-11
Thur, Sept 3	am: 37:1-18, pm: 37:19-42	1 Kng 11:1-13	Jam 3:13-4:12	Mark 15:12-21
Fri, Sept 4	am: 31, pm: 35	1 Kng 11:26-43	Jam 4:13-5:6	Mark 15:22-32
Sat, Sept 5	am: 30, 32, pm: 42, 43	1 Kng 12:1-20	Jam 5:7-12, 19-20	Mark 15:33-39
Sun, Sept 6	am: 63, 98, pm: 103	1 Kng 12:21-33	Acts 4:18-31	John 10:31-42
Mon, Sept 7	am: 41, 52, pm: 44	1 Kng 13:1-10	Phil 1:1-11	Mark 15:40-47
Tue, Sept 8	am: 45, pm: 47, 48	1 Kng 16:23-34	Phil 1:12-30	Mark 16:1-20
Wed, Sept 9	am: 119:49-72, pm: 49, 53	1 Kng 17:1-24	Phil 2:1-11	Matt 2:1-12
Thur, Sept 10	am: 50, 59, 60, pm: 66, 67	1 Kng 18:1-19	Phil 2:12-30	Matt 2:13-23
Fri, Sept 11	am: 40, 54, pm: 51	1 Kng 18:20-40	Phil 3:1-16	Matt 3:1-12
Sat, Sept 12	am: 55, pm: 138, 139	1 Kng 18:41-19:8	Phil 3:17-4:7	Matt 3:13-17
Sun, Sept 13	am: 24, 29, pm: 8, 84	1 Kng 19:8-21	Acts 5:34-42	John 11:45-57
Mon, Sept 14	am: 56, 57, 58, pm: 64, 65	1 Kng 21:1-16	1 Cor 1:1-19	Matt 4:1-11
Tue, Sept 15	am: 61, 62, pm: 68	1 Kng 21:17-29	1 Cor 1:20-31	Matt 4:12-17
Wed, Sept 16	am: 72, pm: 119:73-96	1 Kng 22:1-28	1 Cor 2:1-13	Matt 4:18-25
Thur, Sept 17	am: 70, 71, pm: 74	1 Kng 22:29-45	1 Cor 2:14-3:15	Matt 5:1-10
Fri, Sept 18	am: 69, pm: 73	2 Kng 1:2-17	1 Cor 3:16-23	Matt 5:11-16
Sat, Sept 19	am: 75, 76, pm: 23, 27	2 Kng 2:1-18	1 Cor 4:1-7	Matt 5:17-20
Sun, Sept 20	am: 93, 96, pm: 34	2 Kng 4:8-37	Acts 9:10-31	Luke 3:7-18
Mon, Sept 21	am: 80, pm: 77, 19	2 Kng 5:1-19	1 Cor 4:8-21	Matt 5:21-26
Tue, Sept 22	am: 78:1-39, pm: 78:40-72	2 Kng 5:19-27	1 Cor 5:1-8	Matt 5:27-37
Wed, Sept 23	am: 119:97-120, pm: 81, 82	2 Kng 6:1-23	1 Cor 5:9-6:8	Matt 5:38-48
Thur, Sept 24	am: 83, pm: 85, 86	2 Kng 9:1-16	1 Cor 6:12-20	Matt 6:1-6, 16-18
Fri, Sept 25	am: 88, pm: 91, 92	2 Kng 9:17-37	1 Cor 7:1-9	Matt 6:7-15
Sat, Sept 26	am: 87, 90, pm: 136	2 Kng 11:1-20a	1 Cor 7:10-24	Matt 6:19-24
Sun, Sept 27	am: 66, 67, pm: 19, 46	2 Kng 17:1-18	Acts 9:36-43	Luke 5:1-11
Mon, Sept 28	am: 89:1-18, pm: 89:19-52	2 Kng 17:24-41	1 Cor 7:25-31	Matt 6:25-34
Tue, Sept 29	am: 97, 99, 100, pm: 94, 95	2 Ch 29:1-3, 30:1-27	1 Cor 7:32-40	Matt 7:1-12
Wed, Sept 30	am: 101, 109, pm: 119:121-144	2 Kng 18:9-25	1 Cor 8:1-13	Matt 7:13-21

GRACE UNITED METHODIST

September 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JURY DUTY Pastor Roger is on call for Jury duty Sept 1—Oct. 31. Please be patient if there is a delay in returning your call. Please call the office, 218-233-1957 with any Concern.		1 7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Healthy Church Pastor's Training — Savage, MN	2 6:00 am Donut Making 9:00 am ELR 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir Church Pastor's Training MN	3 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 2:00 pm Martha Circle 7:00 pm HCI Spiritual Growth Team	4	5
6 15th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Worship	7  Office Closed	8 6:00 pm Trustees 7:30 pm Finance Committee	9 9:00 am ELR 6:15 PM Hand Bell Choir 6:30 PM AWANA 7:15 PM Choir	10 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline	11	12
13 16th Sunday after Pentecost Rally Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:00 am Potluck Dinner 1:00 pm Neighborhood Carnival	14 9:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	15 7:00 pm Ad Council Bathroom & Window work begins	16 6:00 am Donut Making 9:00 am ELR 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm AWANA 7:00 pm Prayer Walk 7:15 pm Choir	17 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am Sharp View 7:00 pm Lydia Circle at J.Granings	18	19
20 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School 11:00 am All Women of Grace - Lounge	21 9:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	22	23 9:00 am ELR 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm AWANA 7:15 pm Choir	24 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline Pastor Roger - Ordained Ministry Committee	25	26 9:00 am—Noon Healthy Church Vision workshop w/ Coach J. Haun-All Welcome
27 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Sunday School	28 9:00 am ELR 1:00 pm Quilting	29	30 6:00 am Donut Making 9:00 am ELR 3:30 pm Set up Churches United 6:15 pm Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm AWANA 7:00pm Prayer Walk 7:15 pm Choir	ELR - Early Learning Readiness— 9:00 —11:00 am - Monday & Wednesday		



DONUTS

Donuts will be made on Wednesday, September 2nd, September 16th, and September 30th. The last day to order is, the Monday before the donuts are made. Please place your orders with the office, 218-233-1857.



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad You Did!

CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing? If you do like to sing with friends then, please plan on joining the Grace UMC Choir. The first practice will be on Wednesday, September 9th at 7:15 pm. with K. Schwartz as the new Choir Director.



RALLY SUNDAY

Rally Sunday is September 13th. This is the day that we kick off Sunday School for the new year. A potluck dinner will follow Worship Services. Please bring a family size dish to share as this takes the place of the fellowship coffee. Neighborhood Carnival from 1—4 pm.

IN GOD'S IMAGE
REDEFINING OUR LIVES



Sept. 6 – Reframing Our Expectations (Mk 7:24-37)
Sept. 13 – Revisiting Jesus' Vision (Mk 8:27-38)
Sept. 20 – Rethinking Success (Mk 9:30-37)
Sept. 27 – Reprioritizing Commitments (Mk 9:38-50)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace United Methodist Church
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