



# Days of Grace

April 2024 Edition

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April

3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Red Cross Blood Drive here at church.

12<sup>th</sup> - Monthly movie @ 3pm

14<sup>th</sup> - Townhall Meeting @ 10 am

20<sup>th</sup> - Provide-A-Lunch (P-A-L)

24<sup>th</sup> - Bible Study Group Movie @ 1pm

### May

1<sup>st</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Red Cross Blood Drive here at church.

4<sup>th</sup> - Car Show @ 10am

11<sup>th</sup> - Rain Date for Car Show @ 10am

18<sup>th</sup> - Provide-A-Lunch (P-A-L)

29<sup>th</sup> - Bible Study Group Movie @ 1pm

## **PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR FIRST TOWNHALL MEETING!**

**April 14, 2024 @ 10:00 am**

### **These are the topics we will be discussing:**

We will be revisiting our covenant with each other and the United Church of Christ.

How can Grace help you on your faith journey?

What do you need to heal, trust, and move forward?

### **Transitional Ministry Team**

Pastor Fred Young  
Brad and Vickie Arnold  
Rick and Becky Boyer  
Susan Dienes  
Pam Kreitz  
Judy Rummel  
Holly Smith

*God, I am sorry I ran from you.  
I am still running, running from that knowledge,  
that eye, that love from which there is no refuge.  
For you meant only love, and I felt only fear, and pain.  
So once in Israel love came to us incarnate,  
stood in the doorway between two worlds,  
and we were all afraid. Annie Dillard.*

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## **Happy Easter!**

Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, is a day of great celebration, joy and new beginnings! Easter is a day when we can live as if all that has happened before has been made fresh and new. Theologian Annie Dillard in her words above, remind us that although Easter brings joy and wonder, the events leading up to it and the actual empty tomb can also bring fear of the unknown. This past year has certainly presented us with many moments of fear and doubt. Yet our faith and belief in Christ's Resurrection provide hope that such uncertainty is nearing an end!

*Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. **John 3:3-6***

As our journey through Lent moves us into Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and eventually Easter Sunday, I invite you to think about how you will allow Christ to live within you instead of running away in fear of what that might truly mean for your life. What will need to change for you to truly live in Christ? The Pharisee who came to Jesus under the cover of the night sky sought the answers to these questions too. Nicodemus argued with Jesus about the possibility of someone being born again. Perhaps when he finally understood this to mean that Christ would live within his heart and such love would radiate from him through his outward faith, he stopped running from such love.

*May you live life renewed this Easter Season  
with hearts of love and light!*

Pastor Fred



## **Provide A Lunch (P-A-L)**

Grace is still preparing the meal every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at Hanover Area Council of Churches for the PAL lunch! Contact Linda or Craig Bixler with any questions.



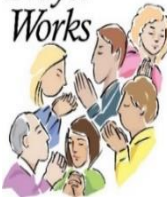
## **GATHERING PLACE REFRESHMENTS**

If you would like to provide light refreshments for fellowship time before and after the service, sign up at the Gathering Place or contact Vickie Arnold.

## **LECTOR SIGN UP**

If you are interested in being a part of the morning worship service by serving as a Lector, please see the bulletin board in the Gathering place to sign up. Thank you.

## *Prayer Works*



## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you have a prayer request, please call, text, or email Patti Miller who will then add your request to the Bible Moment and Prayer Line (717-634-8865). You may leave messages for Patti on the Prayer Line or reach her at 717-451-1913 or [pattiamiller68@gmail.com](mailto:pattiamiller68@gmail.com). Requests will be added to the weekly bulletin if received by Friday night. Mailings will be updated on Sunday night with all available information. Any questions, please call Patti.

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

The Off-site Saints, the persons living with cancer, all local churches, all local pastors, leaders of our country, leaders of countries around the world, the wildfires in Hawaii, the hatred in our world, the gun violence and the persons struggling with depression, suicidal thoughts, grief, and anxiety. You will find specific names and concerns on the bulletin board in The Gathering Place.

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES**

Grace is working on the new Church Directory. If there has been changes with your mailing address, phone number or even email, please fill out the change form provided in the Gathering Place or call the Church office and give the information to our Secretary Karen Samuelson. Please have all changes into the office by April 1, 2024.

## **APRIL FILM**



This 1989 film is about baseball played in a former cornfield. It will be shown Friday April 12 at 3 PM in Fellowship Hall. The film is rated **PG**, and runs 1 Hr. 46 Mins. Doors will be locked at 3:15. Snacks provided.



## Outreach Committee Planned Activities

### APRIL:

#### **UCC One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ.

This supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the UCC. There will be envelopes available during the month of April for those who would like to participate.

### MAY:



### Outreach Committee Event

Car Show

May 4, 2024

Rain Date: May 11, 2024

10 AM -2 PM

Grace UCC

100 Fourth Street

Hanover, PA 17331

May 4 Food Stand: The Home Dog, LLC

May 11 Rain Date – Church Food Stand

Registration - \$5 in advance by April 27, \$10 day of show, 40 spaces

To register call 717-632-5606

Donations: Socks for all ages for HACC

Changing Lives Shelter

Cash donations welcome for YWCA Women’s Shelter

and New Hope Ministries

## Current Consistory Members for 2024

President - Dave Fawks . . . 717-880-2256

Vice President - Dan Trimmer . . . 717-870-4539

Secretary - Craig Bixler . . . 717-632-5606

Asst. Secretary - Vickie Arnold . . . 717-744-5341

Becky Boyer . . . 717-632-1053

Fay Emlet . . . 717-637-4027

Susan Dienes . . . 717-870-1288

Joleen Fennell . . . 717-633-7813

Glendon Ruhlman . . . 717-632-7297

## Grace UCC Staff

Rev. Dr. Frederick Young . . . 717-253-2214

IT/AV Technician - Amy Fawks . . . 717-698-6366

Organist – Christian Keller . . . 717-356-1029

Secretary – Karen Samuelson . . . 717-688-9891

Sexton - Dave Fawks . . . 717-880-2256

Treasurer - Carroll Miller . . . 910-540-4099

Visitation Leader - Patti Miller . . . 717-451-1913

Office phone number . . . 717-632-1146

Prayer Line and Bible Moment . . . 717-634-8865

## Worship and Music Committee Members

Amy Fawks

Patti Miller

Susan Dienes

Deb Rickrode

Christian Keller

Pam Kreitz

Becky Boyer

Martha Channel

Brad Arnold

Melissa Storm

Rev. Dr. Frederick Young

### **& Alter Guild**

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please speak with one of the committee members and we will discuss and consider your comment. Thank you!

## Facebook Live Streaming Changes

Due to copyright restrictions, our worship service live streaming will be slightly different and effective immediately. The Live Stream will begin at approximately 10:10 and go until the end of the message. Certain portions that will not be live streamed will be available via links on the Grace Facebook page immediately preceding and following the live streamed worship service. At 10am, the first contemporary song will be posted to the Grace Facebook page. (The in-person worship will hear the announcements, prelude, and the contemporary song.) Live streaming will begin with the call to worship. The rest of the service will be live streamed until the end of the message. The video associated with the message and the final contemporary song will be posted on the Grace Facebook page at approximately 10:50. (The in-person worship will then watch that video, sing with the contemporary song, and sing the Choral Benediction). Please be sure to turn on Live Stream notifications for Grace's Facebook page. The Sunday bulletin can be found on the Grace website under the "Weekly Mailers" tab. Within the weekly mailer, you will find the bulletin and the announcements that were read at the beginning of the worship service. While we miss worshipping with you in person, hopefully these changes will help you to still feel connected to the worship service. Comments and interactions during worship via Facebook help us to stay connected!

**10:00am: 1st Contemporary song posted to Grace's Facebook page**

**10:10am (approximately): Live Streamed worship begins**

**10:55am (approximately): Live Stream worship ends with the conclusion of the message**

**10:50am: The video associated with the message and the final contemporary song posted to Grace's Facebook page.**

## APRIL LECTIONARY

**April 7** - Acts 4:32-35; Psalms 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

**April 14** – Acts 3:12-19; Psalms 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36B-48

**April 21** – Acts 4:5-12; Psalms 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

**April 28** – Acts 8:26-40; Psalms 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21

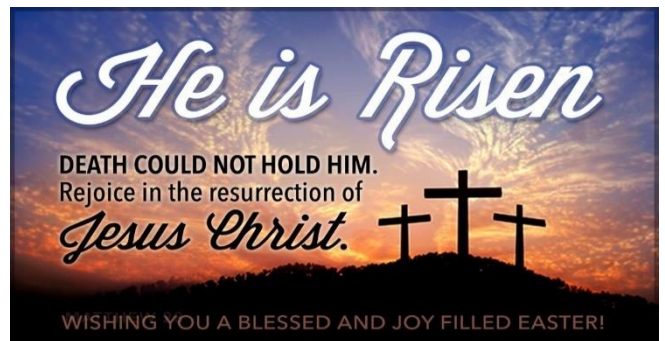
## MAY LECTIONARY

**May 5** – Acts 10:44-48; Psalms 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

**May 12** – Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalms 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

**May 19** – Acts 2:1-21; or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalms 104:24-34 or acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; John 16:4b-15

**May 26** - Isaiah 6:1-8; and Psalms 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17



## March Consistory Digest

There were 13 members present including Pastor Young, Amy Fawks, Carroll Miller, and Patti Miller.

### **Treasurer's report:**

General pledge February 2024: \$7,058  
General pledge February 2023: \$6,496  
YTD income: \$22,676  
YTD expenses: \$34,389  
YTD deficit: \$11,713

### **Checking account balances:**

-- Operating Fund: \$50,037  
-- Deacon Fund: \$15,418  
-- Education Fund: \$14,142  
-- Memorial Fund: \$9,716

The Consistory voted to hire Karen Samuelson as Grace office secretary effective April 8, 2024. She will work 20 hours per week.

The By-laws Committee met March 10. The Committee looked at Articles I through III. The next meeting will be April 22, 2024.

Dave Fawks reported estimates were received from Trump Floor Coverings to repair the floor in Fellowship Hall. Quotes from other flooring companies may be requested. He also reported the sinks in the kitchen have been fixed.

The Consistory approved the purchase of a 22" cut Toro mower, gas string trimmer, string, leaf blower, 2-gallon gas can, and gloves. The purchase will be made from Lowe's for approximately \$900.00.

### **Amy Fawks reported for Worship & Music Committee:**

- Plans for Easter with worship opportunities at both Grace and Trinity, Gettysburg.
- Communion will now have only gluten-free bread for all to be more inclusive of others.
- There will be a choir on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Amy Fawks suggested Grace should have a photo release form for all photos of events posted on the internet. The Consistory agreed with the need for a photo release form.

### **Vickie Arnold reported for the Transitional Ministry Team:**

- There will be a luncheon after the Palm Sunday worship service. It will be held in the Gathering Place, with potential overflow going to the nursery. There are signup sheets on the Gathering Place bulletin board.
- The first Town Hall is scheduled for Sunday April 14th to be held in the Gathering Place and in the sanctuary. More information will be forthcoming as our second meeting is set for Wednesday March 13th.

**Pastor Fred gave an update on the Transitional Ministry Team:**

The first gathering of the Transition Team was quite successful. They identified a few areas for the first Town Hall Session:

- **Revisiting our Covenant** – conversations on rebuilding our connections, relationships and trust. (April 14, 2024 at 10 AM)
- **Worship**
- **What will excite you for Grace?**
- **Church facility**
- 

The team talked about the best format for the Town Hall sessions and decided to focus these gatherings on worship. We will begin with worship...head into our discussion...end with worship. The first Town Hall will be in the sanctuary.

Team members will split the current church directory and send invitations to each household to invite everyone's participation.

**Transition Team Members:** Brad & Vickie Arnold, Rick & Becky Boyer, Susan Dienes, Pam Kreitz, Judy Rummel, Holly Smith

**Patti Miller reported:**

During February she made 22 visits to senior care facilities and homes and two hospital visits. There are currently 23 total members who for various reasons are unable to attend worship physically. She made over 20 phone calls to stay in touch with shut-ins and to arrange visits. She records the prayer list and the Bible moment every evening around 10 PM on our special phone line, and often receives messages from those who listen, both on the line and through calls on her phone. **That phone line will become the venue to announce any necessary closing of the church due to inclement weather.**

**The Outreach Committee reported:**

- The February card signing was well received. There were 41 cards signed.
- A car show in the Grace parking lot has been planned for Saturday May 4, 10 AM to 2 PM, with May 11 as the rain date. The Home Dog, LLC food stand will be available May 4. Grace volunteers will sell hot dogs on the rain date. We are asking for the following donations: socks for the HACC Changing Lives Shelter, and cash donations to be split evenly between New Hope Ministries and the YWCA Women's Shelter. Advertising is underway.

The UCC's One Great Hour of Sharing will once again be collected at Grace. The collection will be taken during the month of April. This offering is for people in need. A 4-minute video will be shown during the announcements on April 7. Offering envelopes will be available beginning Sunday April 7.

It was decided to have folders available in the church office for public review pertaining to Consistory minutes, congregation meeting minutes, and committee meeting minutes.

*As part of Grace's time of transition, a Pastoral Relations Committee will be established as a liaison between the congregation and the pastor. This committee is to help ensure proper communication and open dialogue and will be a permanent part of our committee structure. Below is an explanation of the purpose of such a team.*

## **The Pastoral Relations Committee**

The purpose of a Pastoral Relations Committee, or PRC (sometimes called PPRC, for Pastor-Parish Relations Committee) is to support the healthy relationship between pastor and congregants in order to promote healthy, faithful, shared ministry. It does this in two primary ways: by serving as an advisory group to the minister, sharing ideas, dreams, expectations, and concerns of the congregation with the pastor; and by serving as a support group for the pastor's leadership, interpreting roles, functions, boundaries, opportunities, and needs of the pastor to the congregation. PRCs are places to help the minister and the congregation maintain appropriate expectations for the scope of the minister's work, and for the pastor to be able to test visions and receive support for their continued growth in ministry.

When these committees work well, they promote honest communication, provide robust support and advocacy for the pastor, create confidential spaces for clear communication, and provide opportunities for the minister and the committee to reflect on their ministry. They are composed of spiritually mature, thoughtful people who have the respect of both the congregation and the pastor, and who model discernment, prayerfulness, integrity, and trustworthiness. These individuals are vitally interested in the life and mission of the congregation, are able to maintain confidences, and can appreciate differing points of view and to reconcile differences.

When these committees do not work well, they promote triangulation and anonymous complaints, circumvent church decision-making processes, and create an adversarial group opposed to the pastor's leadership. These committees are composed of individuals with a particular ax to grind (either in the life of the church or against the minister), who are prone to gossip and anonymous complaints, who either avoid conflict or create it for destructive purposes, and who have difficulty maintaining appropriate confidences.

Committees on Ministry have a role in encouraging congregations to develop healthy and robust Pastoral Relations Committees, encouraging ministers to work in partnership with these groups, and in working with congregations who need training or equipping for such committees.



# Psalm 98

F V K K W B C L W N E W A W A M L Q M Y  
F A I K J T F W V Y C P R A I S E S H L  
U V I C H S K O J F D W M V M M Z T G R  
B G K T T F O M U D Y J Y H D V M V F R  
J G S W H O I S R A E L O C Q V C O B Q  
H J N P W F R T R U M P E T S M S X T N  
T R B C G U U Y O Q K Q I T S E Z G U X  
J H E K D G D L K L W S I U V L D H E R  
G L W B D G P J N O U M K V D O L F Y A  
H Y L O V E B X L E T M S P Q D D S X S  
V R A T W Y O I I O S E Q P Z Y S Y R M  
D E F L Y X V Y Z F T S T D V R L T M A  
W V I N D I C A T I O N H Z A E H N A R  
W W F F Y N O I S E J M N R E V I U N V  
D K U Z P X P T H N V X Y K K E Y Z G E  
W Z J U P T R S R R B X W U C A L K U L  
O I R P K N G I G C M N M I R L M X W O  
B N I M C X I N A D M A W P F E O R W U  
L X F U B N J G R U L T S E D D U G Z S  
B X N A T I O N S C T Z C J O Y F U L X

FAITHFULNESS

VINDICATION

MARVELOUS

SING

REVEALED

TRUMPETS

VICTORY

LYRE

NATIONS

ISRAEL

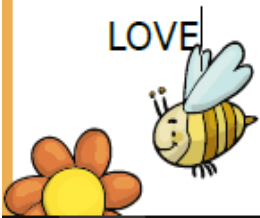
JOYFUL

MELODY

NOISE

PRAISES

LOVE





Grace United Church of Christ  
100 Fourth Street  
Hanover PA 17331

*CHRIST CALLS US TO REACH OUT WITH LOVE AND SHARE GOD'S GRACE*

**WELCOME EVERYONE!**

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