

GRACE NOTES

Volume 9 Issue 4

April 2021

“Easter is coming.” This is the Good News that awaits us. I will be missing an early morning service again on Easter day, followed by a light breakfast and the joyful celebration of Easter. As we stay home and celebrate with our respective families may we recite the familiar refrain, “Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed.”

There are many traditions handed down through the ages about welcoming Easter, especially Sunrise Service. In Germany it dates back to 1732 when a group of young Christians gathered at the first light of dawn at the town’s graveyard to sing hymns of praise to the risen Christ. I love the Easter hymn, “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” and the Alleluia portion. In the US the first Sunrise service was held in 1773 in Winston-Salem North Carolina.

Whatever the tradition we hold dearly--Easter Egg hunt, Family Dinner, singing Easter hymns, attending worship services together, caring for the most vulnerable---the focus remains the same.

Let us imagine our brothers and sisters in different lands coming together for Easter uniquely because of the Pandemic that we live in. Our roots are in Christ Jesus alone. I read a description of a new church start and that it is like a “flower bouquet and it’s best day is the first day.” It’s beautiful with vibrant colors and it is a beautiful offering. But it

has no roots and after a while it will serve no other purpose. So, the church to live and thrive must be planted in the soil of faith.

As the story goes, it was early in the morning that Mary approached the tomb where Jesus was buried and discovered that the tomb was

empty. The rest of the disciples were still locked up and huddled together because the future was uncertain. Easter transformed fear into hope, and hope to the new reality of the risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is our prayer that Easter will be a little different than the previous year. Many have received vaccines and it provides an opportunity, when it is safe to do so for small family gatherings. It will be different the next time we meet.

Join us for worship online and watch out for our “re-opening” in April. Let us be in prayer for one another and the world will be healed. Let the words of the angel leave a mark in our hearts. “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here: for he has been raised.”

Easter is coming! Jesus is victorious! He lives again!

Pastor Romir Esguerra



PRAYER CONNECTIONS

Prayer is a very important connection in the life of our church and in our community. Grace Church does have a pathway for communicating information you may wish to share. You may provide any type or amount of information. All information will be treated with confidence and respect, and only shared with permission.

Prayer requests will be responded to immediately. Reaching out may come in the form of a phone call or in writing; resources may be offered if appropriate; and, digital technology may be used if appropriate. Information may be directed to Barb Fisher, Prayer Line coordinator, at crftctr3@comcast.net, or to the church office at gracejoliet@comcast.net (or phone 815.725.7632).

If you choose the Prayer Line as your pathway, Barb will publish your information via email to those who have signed up to be a part of that ministry. If you choose to notify the office with your information, you may request that the information only be shared with the pastor, or you may choose to have an email blast shared publicly with Grace members for prayer. In any case, the pastor will be notified of prayer requests.

The power of prayer is strongly honored at Grace Church as a connection among us and with our Creator. During COVID quarantine and in our post-quarantine church and community, may we strive to be a praying church.

Want To Join Us: If you wish to become part of the Prayer Ministry Team, please contact Barb Fisher at crftctr3@comcast.net.



Greetings from Troop 15 ~ 2021 has gotten off to an exciting start for our unit. We have several **NEW** reasons to celebrate the **NEW** Year.

First Reason ~ New Members! We would like to introduce our two newest members to Troop 15 BSA Scouts, Braydon Hocking and Dominic Karlin. Welcome Braydon & Dominic! We are looking forward to many Scouting Adventures with you!

Second Reason ~ New Eagle Scout! Congratulations to Breadon Mink, who has successfully completed his Board of Review and has achieved the Rank of Eagle Scout! Well Done Breadon! We are proud of your hard work!

Third Reason ~ New Rookie of the Year! Congratulations to Assistant Scoutmaster Edwardo Espinoza, who has been awarded the Rookie of the Year Award from Rainbow Council. Rookie of the Year candidates are adult volunteers who, in their first year of volunteer service, have significantly impacted the youth and adults in their Scouting Unit. Candidates are nominated by their peers. Thank-You Mr. Espinoza! We appreciate everything you do for Troop 15!

Fourth Reason ~ New Outdoor Adventures! Spring has Sprung! We are looking forward to another season of warm weather and outdoor activities (especially CAMPING) following all Covid-19 guidelines.

We would also like to take a moment and say **THANK YOU to EVERYONE at Grace UMC**, especially Diane Perro, Lyndle Burton, and Pastor Romir Esguerra. We appreciate all your help and support during the past year of Covid-19. Grace UMC has been instrumental in our ability to remain strong and vibrant during these unprecedented times. **Whether In-person or Virtual, Troop 15 remains a program of excellence for youth in our community.** We are grateful for your support.

If you have a child, either family or friend, in our community please let them know about BSA Troop 15. We accept new members throughout the year, have volunteers who are fluent in Spanish, and welcome visitors at our Tuesday night meetings. Please note, we do ask that visitors notify us in advance, to help us in maintaining Covid-19 protocols. For more information about Troop 15 please contact:

Ben Venegas: bvenegas@comcast.net or

Pregunata en Espanol, Edwardo Espinoza 815-981-0286

Yours In Scouting,
Troop 15 Scouts, Volunteers, Family & Friends

God's Work Our Hands



Spring is just around the corner which means that a spring clean-up of the church and grounds will take place on Saturday, April 17 at 9 am.

Join in the fun to spruce up our church for summer. We'll be raking, picking up tree limbs and debris along Larkin Avenue, pruning and washing off the winter grime on the windows. Grab your rakes, pruners, buckets and rags or use church tools.

All help is greatly appreciated. Mark your calendar now!

DAYBREAK SHELTER

I would like to thank the Guzman-Rojas family, Theresa and Lauren Whitney, and Don Lutz for preparing meals to be delivered to Daybreak. We have been preparing the meals at church, then delivering them to Daybreak following the Covid-19 protocols, distancing, and wearing masks. We continue to ask for money donations to cover expenses. We will continue to serve March, April, and May.

Thank you,
Diane Lutz.



Thank You

Thanks to those who
share their adminis-
trative talents ~
Sue, Jay, Jim to
name a few.

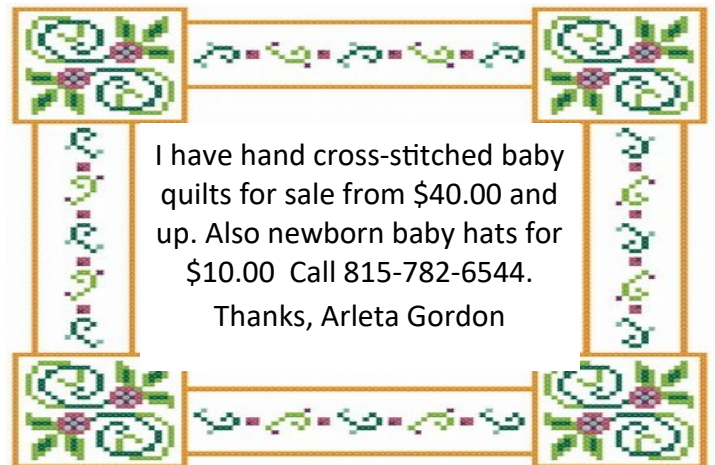
LENTEN SERVICES SCHEDULE

April 1, 7pm – Maundy Thursday online Communion
April 2, 7:00pm – Good Friday service online
April 4, 10:30am – Easter service online followed by
11:45-12:30 – drive-by communion

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Appalachia Service Project

Appalachia Service Project or ASP is a non-governmental organization which was founded in 1969. ASP addresses substandard housing using volunteer labor to perform repairs to make homes “warmer, safer, and drier.” ASP operates in Central Appalachia. ASP’s vision is that “substandard housing in Central Appalachia will be eradicated and that everyone who comes into contact with this ministry will be transformed.”



CALLING ALL SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Looking for volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School the week of June 21st. Many of you attended when you were younger and enjoyed the fellowship, crafts and snacks. Please consider helping this year. Contact Diane Morrow and let her know if you're available.

April Birthdays



- 4/01 ~ Erika Forsythe
- 4/03 ~ Joan Landers, Brian Parro
- 4/04 ~ Chris Whitney
- 4/08 ~ Amber Kolodziej
- 4/10 ~ Donald Lutz
- 4/11 ~ Barbara Hollis, Gary Hecht
- 4/12 ~ Christopher Storcz, Sheryl Caudle
- 4/13 ~ Matthew Meinhart
- 4/15 ~ Matthew Sabella
- 4/16 ~ Spencer Farrar
- 4/19 ~ John Renzi
- 4/20 ~ Andrea Schoenrock
- 4/22 ~ Madison Fraser
- 4/24 ~ Gail Shaw
- 4/25 ~ Melissa Meinhart
- 4/27 ~ Paul Schroeder
- 4/28 ~ Rebecca Linko, Hannah Linko
- 4/29 ~ Eileen Hicks
- 4/30 - Emily Robertson, Ethan Dumas

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Thomas & Sandy Cowgill | April 5th, 1975 |
| Bradley & Heather Linko | April 7th, 2001 |
| Tom & Kimberly Kinman | April 26th, 2008 |
| Justin & Samantha Farrar | April 27th, 2007 |
| David & Valerie Jelinek | April 27th, 1985 |
| Fred & Linda Jursinic | April 27th, 1975 |
| Mark & Karen Storcz | April 27th, 1984 |

Thank you

Dear Grace Church Family,

Thank you for all the cards, emails and expressions of sympathy I received after the death of my mother. They were greatly appreciated and provided my family and I comfort during our difficult time.

Sue Gonzalez

In-person Worship Starts on Sunday, April 11th
Please come
& worship
with us!
10:30 am

A promotional graphic for church worship. The background is a close-up of a white daisy flower with a bright yellow center. The text is overlaid on the image. The main heading "In-person Worship Starts on Sunday, April 11th" is in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, "Please come" is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The word "&" is in a large, black, cursive font, followed by "worship" in a smaller, black, cursive font. Below that, "with us!" is in a black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, "10:30 am" is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

February

2021 Income & Expense Summary

Comparison to expected cash flow for budget approved 12/17/20

	February		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
INCOME	\$23,700	\$23,987	\$56,900	\$80,401
EXPENSES				
Apportionment	\$1,954	\$1,954	\$3,908	\$3,908
Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$8,034	\$7,708	\$16,068	\$15,419
Personnel	\$6,937	\$4,826	\$13,874	\$11,650
Administration	\$1,058	\$202	\$2,116	\$1,852
Programming	\$1,050	\$494	\$2,100	\$1,190
Church Buildings	<u>\$5,517</u>	<u>\$6,318</u>	<u>\$15,834</u>	<u>\$14,732</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,550	\$21,502	\$53,900	\$48,751
SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):	-\$850	\$2,485	\$3,000	\$31,650

NOTES:

- 1) Income above expectation due primarily to receipt of a \$19,762 PPP Loan
- 2) Expenses below expectation by \$5k YTD

SAVE THE DATE

Easter
Egg Hunt



- * Stories and egg hunt!
- * A special guest will be hopping by!



Saturday, April 3 1030am - 1130am Grace UMC Pavilion

A Step-by-Step Guide to a Zoom Meeting

6/29/2020 | By *Seniors Guide Staff*

Zoom is a computer program used to hold online virtual meetings. You can use Zoom on a smartphone, a tablet, a laptop, or a desktop computer (as long as you have a camera, speakers, and a microphone). It uses your computer's or phone's camera to show live video of all attendees (if you don't want to be on camera, that's fine, too. You can just display your name). Zoom uses your computer's or phone's microphone to let you talk to other meeting participants. If you do not have access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, you can use a phone to dial into a

DOWNLOAD ZOOM

Zoom is a program that runs on your computer, phone, or tablet. You must download this program from the Zoom website. The free version of Zoom should meet all of your needs.

If you've received an email invitation to a Zoom meeting, click the link that says, "Join Zoom Meeting." If this is the first time you've used Zoom, this link will take you to a website where you can download the Zoom program or app, depending on what device you're using.

On an iPhone or iPad: Go to the Apple App Store and search for "ZOOM Cloud Meetings." Click "Get" to download and install the Zoom app.



ZOOM Cloud Meetings 4.5 The Zoom app in the App Store
Meet Happy
Zoom
#1 in Business
4.5, 870.2K Ratings
Free

On an Android phone or tablet: Go to the Google Play App Store and search for "Zoom Cloud Meetings." Click "Install."

On a computer: On the Download Center website (<https://zoom.us/download>), click "Download" in the "Zoom Client for Meetings" section.

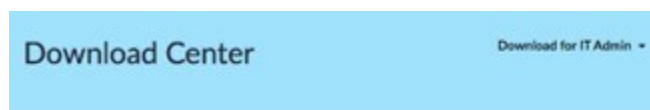
Click the blue Download button to download Zoom from the website <https://zoom.us/download>.

After Zoom is downloaded, you must install it onto your computer.

If you have an Apple computer, like a MacBook: Double-click the file called Zoom.pkg, which is typically saved to your Downloads folder. The installer program opens and guides you through the process.

If you have a PC: Double-click the file called ZoomInstaller.exe file to install the program.

Double-click ZoomInstaller.exe to install Zoom on your PC.

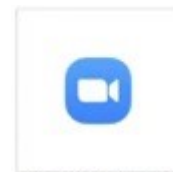


Zoom Client for Meetings

The web browser client will download automatically when you start or join your first Zoom meeting, and is also available for manual download here.

Download

Version 5.1.0 (27838.0614)



ZoomInstaller.exe

JOIN A MEETING

After you install Zoom, there are a few different ways to join a Zoom meeting. You can click the link in your invitation email, go to the Zoom website and enter the meeting ID, or dial into the meeting on a phone.

Click the link in an invitation email: If you have an email invitation, click “Join Zoom Meeting” in that email. This takes you to the Zoom website.

Go to the Zoom website: Go to <https://zoom.us/join>, and enter the 9-digit meeting ID from your invitation email. If the meeting requires a password, that will be in your email, too.

When you are on the Zoom website, if you are asked if you want to open Zoom, click “Open zoom.us.” Zoom opens, showing you a preview of your camera image. Then click either “Join with Video” or “Join without Video.” If you use video, other people in the meeting will see you. If not, they will just see your name. Next, Zoom asks about audio. Click “Join with Computer Audio” so you can hear and be heard in the meeting.

Dial into the meeting on a phone: If you don’t have access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, you can use a phone to dial into the meeting. The phone number to use will be in your invitation email, or you can find the number to use in the Zoom International Dial-in Numbers list ([online here](#)).

PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING

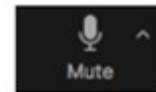
Once you’ve joined the meeting, you can see and hear other participants. Each participant is represented by a square that displays their face (if they’ve chosen to join with video) or just their name.

If you’re in a large meeting, make sure your microphone is muted. Your computer microphone is pretty sensitive, and if you’re unmuted, it can pick up a lot of background noise. The mute button, which looks like a microphone, is in the bottom left corner of the Zoom screen. If the microphone has a red line through it, you’re muted, and no one in the meeting can hear you.

If the microphone has a red line through it, you are muted.



Click the button again to unmute yourself if you want to talk in the meeting.



If the microphone has no red line through it, you can be heard in the meeting.

Only one person in the meeting can talk at a time. Zoom indicates who is speaking by highlighting their image with a yellow square.

There is also a chat feature in Zoom, where you can type messages to other participants. Participants can send messages to everyone in the meeting, or just certain participants. However, after the meeting, the host can view the transcript of all chats, so it’s not entirely private. If there is a message for you in the chat, a notification appears on the Chat button, which looks like a speech bubble. Click that button to open the chat window.

LEAVE A ZOOM MEETING

Click “Leave Meeting” on the bottom right corner to leave the meeting.

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm Worship  Maundy Thursday	2 Office Closed 7:00pm – Good Friday service online	3 10:30 am Easter Party 
4 9am Sunday School 10:30am – Easter service online 11:45-12:30 – drive-by communion	5  Office Closed Today	6 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 SPRC 	7 4:30pm Bells 	8	9	10
11 9am Sunday School 10:30 Worship	12	13 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Trustees	14 4:30pm Bells 6:30pm ReTurn Zoom Meeting	15	16	17 9am Spring Clean 
18 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	19 3pm Daybreak 	20 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Daycare Board	21 4:30pm Bells 11:30am Pantry 	22 7pm Church Council 	23	24
25 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	26	27 6:30 Boy Scouts 7pm  Finance Committee	28 4:30pm Bells 	29	30	

Grace United Methodist Church

1718 Avalon Avenue

Joliet, Illinois 60435-5799

VBS

June 21-25, 2021

Volunteers are needed!

**Contact Diane Morrow
and/or Diane Parro.**

