

# GRACE NOTES

Volume 9 Issue 6

June 2021

## Summer of Faith

It comes without notice and here we are entering Summer, which I would refer to as Summer of faith here at Grace. Hopefully, this season will allow us to catch our breath and restore our soul. It is in the simple things that provide a glimpse of the Holy.

I planted some sunflowers on a small pot and when the plant sprouted to about a couple of inches, I replanted them alongside the fence. I appreciate the patience of gardeners and it's a lesson in waiting.

Not far, I discovered a nesting place for ducks and I counted 4 eggs ready to be hatched. I stayed far away to give space for the duck to do the necessary work. Every day, I checked the site and the duck sitting there and protective. Another lesson about God's protection for all. Of course, I know that all of us are gifted with fundamentals of construction—we prepare a place for the ones we love and offer the same to others.

This Summer of Faith is different from last year when we were unable to return to church and other activities. The last two Sundays in May allowed us to relax the restrictions because of the Pandemic while at the same time mindful of being safe to those around us. We had a beautiful worship with the opportunity to sing as a gathered congregation.

The Summer of Faith will include the following for the month of June:



June 6- Communion in person. Commissioning ASP members. (Appalachia Service Project)

June 12-19- ASP Team to Kentucky. Please pray for safe travels.

June 13- Ann Dill will lead us in worship.

June 20- ASP Sunday- We will hear stories of faith from ASP members.

June 21-25- Vacation Bible School. Please pass the word and invite children to our VBS. Almost half (47% of parents say they child has been to VBS). Let's keep the VBS tradition going.

June 27- VBS Sunday to recognize and thank leaders. We also will hear from VBS participants.

The Summer of faith has begun. Let us share the Good News for such a time like this. We look forward to the renewing of hearts, minds, body, spirit and creation.

Let me offer this prayer from the book, "Slowing Time" by Barbara Mahany on Midsummer's Day:

"Praised be the prodigal light that ever rises and sets. Hidden through the night, it returns, peeking over the straight edge distance, every dawn. That we might absorb the faithfulness and come to know: The light will always come."

God Bless our Summer of Faith,

Pastor Romir R. Esguerra

Our 2021 ASP Mission trip. We leave on June 12 and return on June 19. We have 2 team signed up and ready to go.

Teams include the following youth:

Cyrus Angel, Chloe Anderson, Paige Anderson, Dulci Cabreda,  
Isa Cabreda, Reyna Guzman, Nathan Rojas, and Lauren Whitney.

They will be led by the following adults:

Eric Anderson, Carl Bessette, Steve Meister, Shannen Rojas, and Theresa Whitney.



# Vacation Bible School

**June 21-25, 2021**

**9am-11:30am**

**Ages 3yrs-5th Grade**

**Volunteers are Needed!**

**Contact Diane Morrow**

**and/or Diane Parro.**

**REGISTER TODAY!!**

**Limited Registration!**



# JUNE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 SPRC 	2 6:30 pm VBS Meeting	3	4	5
6 9:30 Worship	7	8 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 	9 10:30pm Worship Meeting	10	11	12 <b>ASP Leaves</b>
13 9:30 Worship	14 9:30 am Lightways Hospice	15 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Daycare Board	16	17	18	19 <b>ASP Comes Back</b>
20 9:30am Worship <b>ASP Sunday</b>	21	22 6:30 Boy Scouts 7pm 	23 11:30am Pantry 	24 7pm 	25	25
<b>Vacation Bible School 9am—11:30am</b>						
27 9:30 Worship	28	29 6:30 Boy Scouts	30			

# God's Work Our Hands

## ASP Stock Sale

We have been given the GREEN light for our 2021 ASP Mission trip. We leave on June 12 and return on June 19. We have 2 team signed up and ready to go. Teams include the following youth: Cyrus Angel, Chloe Anderson, Paige Anderson, Dulci Cabreda, Isa Cabreda, Reyna Guzman, Nathan Rojas, and Lauren Whitney. They will be led by the following adults: Eric Anderson, Carl Bessette, Steve Meister, Shannen Rojas, and Theresa Whitney.

We will be selling "stocks" for the teams. If you would like to support the ASP teams, you can write a check to Grace UMC with ASP in the memo. It can be left in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed to:

Steve Meister, 1116 Cora St. Joliet, IL 60435

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Grace United Methodist Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

### How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Grace United Methodist Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

### Wesley Woods Conference Center

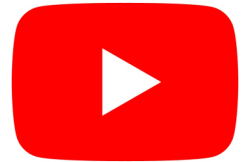
Wesley Woods provides facilities and staff for NIC Summer Residential Camps, Summer Day Camp, Adult and Youth Retreats, and numerous community service and missional projects. These funds are used to maintain and improve facilities, furnishings and equipment as well as to support specific ministry opportunities that sometimes arise.



## WATCH IT LIVE

The worship link is no longer being sent out because we are back to in-person service.

We are streaming live on Facebook and YouTube so you can now watch the service as it is happening. If you watch it on Facebook you have to have an account to sign in with. But if you go to the church webpage, [www.graceumcjoliet.org](http://www.graceumcjoliet.org), and scroll down slightly to the YouTube icon, you can click the icon and watch to service live, as it is happening without signing in. You can also watch the recorded service after the original airing on YouTube as well.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAYS and Anniversaries

6/1 ~ Gail Bjekich, Faith Peterson  
 6/3 ~ Jonah Linko  
 6/6 ~ Dorothy Trimmer  
 6/7 ~ Jeffrey Ray  
 6/8 ~ Carolyn Embody  
 6/10 ~ Meredith Schroeder, Kristina Parro,  
 6/11 ~ Ruth Salter  
 6/12 ~ Ashley Hicks, Nathan Rojas  
 6/13 – Erica Rojas  
 6/16—Sandie Denklau  
 6/17 ~ Dana Shetina, Georgia Lockwood,  
 Rebecca Schroeder  
 6/18 ~ Henry Boswell  
 6/21 ~ Paige Anderson  
 6/24 ~ Joanne Ray  
 6/25 ~ Patty Strobbe  
 6/26—Sharon Fisher  
 6/27 ~ Clarice Boswell, Dustin Deardurff,  
 John Robertson  
 6/28 ~ Michelle Fraser, Patricia Kwasniewski,  
 Carol Walden  
 6/30 ~ Darrel Fahnstrom

Eric & Lisa Furto	June 10, 2001
Don & Maggie Nicoletti	June 20, 1998
Kevin & Sue Small	June 25, 1994
Russell & Cathe Ghilain	June 27, 1998
Richard & Patricia Daniel	June 28, 1980
Steve & Andrea Schoenrock	June 28, 1986
Barry & Donna Robertson	June 29, 1991

---

We celebrate the birth of Hudson Antoinette Bessette, born April 12, 2021. She is the daughter of Stephen and Ashley Bessette, and her big brother is Everett. The proud grandparents are Carl and Nelly Bessette.



**Please support our missions by donating your loose coins on Sundays at worship or by a cash or check donation designated for the “Mission of the Month”.  
 THANKS**

**O**n May 12, 2021, Grace United Methodist Women Board members met to decide plans for UMW for the rest of the year. KIT letters will continue. The purses ministry will be September 11 and the blankets project will be October 12. Tentative plans were made for November (Pastor Romir program) and December (a Christmas program).  
**UMW is coming back!**



Grace United Methodist Church

**WILDERNESS ESCAPE**

**3 years – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

**Age Information**

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Grade entering in Fall 2021 \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Church** \_\_\_\_\_

**Allergies/Medical Information/Other**

---

**Emergency Contact**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT**

I give permission to Grace UMC to take and use: Photographs and or digital images of my child for use in news releases, web sites or electronic publications. I agree that my child's name and identity: may be revealed in descriptive text or commentary in connection with the image(s). I authorize the use of these images without compensation to me. All negatives, prints, digital reproductions and shall be the property of Grace UMC, Joliet IL

---

**Dismissal Information**

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS \_\_\_\_\_

---

Registration forms can be mailed to the church or put in the outdoor black mailbox.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815-725-7632

# April 2021 Income & Expense Summary

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

	April		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>INCOME</b>	\$36,900	\$24,407	\$118,500	\$125,455
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Apportionment	\$1,954	\$1,954	\$7,816	\$7,816
Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$8,034	\$7,775	\$33,832	\$32,619
Personnel	\$8,577	\$5,661	\$32,854	\$24,960
Administration	\$1,058	\$1,402	\$4,233	\$4,595
Programming	\$1,050	-\$327	\$4,200	\$1,614
Church Buildings	<u>\$10,317</u>	<u>\$9,820</u>	<u>\$31,667</u>	<u>\$30,902</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$30,990	\$26,285	\$114,602	\$102,506
<b>SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):</b>	\$5,910	-\$1,878	\$3,898	\$22,949

**NOTES:**

- 1) Income lower than expected in April (-\$5k pledge income; -\$7k from endowment)
- 2) Expenses below expectation by \$12k YTD (2 staff positions not filled)

**H**annah Black has been selected as the recipient of the first ever Grace UMC \$1,000 scholarship which is for a senior high school student who will graduate this spring and attend a college, university, technical or trade school. She will attend Ohio University, her mother's alma mater. She plans to major in theatre and hopes one day to be a musical theatre actress.

Hannah has been very active at Grace, participating in ASP, Chancel Choir, Bell Choir and VBS. She has volun-



teered at various events over the years, and she is currently director of the Hand Bell Choir. She will be music director for Vacation Bible School this June.

As you might expect, Hannah has had a busy high school experience in symphony orchestra, Joliet West choirs, math team, New Tigers Club, Key Club, and National Honors Society. She has been involved with Feed My Starving Children and was selected as student of the month by the Joliet Rotary Club in January 2021.

## Grace United Methodist Church

1718 Avalon Avenue

Joliet, Illinois 60435-5799



**Grace Child Care  
has planted  
a garden.  
Visit the play yard  
to see what  
they planted.**