

GRACE NOTES

Volume 9 Issue 5

May 2021

Season of Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues^[a] as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1-4)

Pentecost Sunday begins in May 23, 2021, with the reception of confirmation students as members of Grace United Methodist Church. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

In our church calendar, it is also *Heritage Sunday*, which recalls the heartwarming experience of John Wesley on Aldersgate Street in London in 1734. Wesley wrote that “while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed.”

I have been recalling the “missed” events for the past year and how this year may be different as we slowly get back to the rhythm of the church. Communion Sundays will be observed every first Sunday of the month and we will be receiving communion elements in the pew. Festival of the Christian Home (Mother’s Day) and Recognition of Graduates will also be observed. In June, we will hold our Vacation Bible School in person and our teachers and volunteers will share in this important ministry.

We recognize that there are others who

are not able to join us for worship at this time. We pray that we can continue to be in ministry to one another and to the world to live out our faith in Jesus Christ.

We recall the words from the book of Acts: “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you; and you will be my witnesses.” And in Corinthians, (2 Cor 5) “If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone. All of these things are from above.

Every morning is new. In this season of Pentecost, before he called us to do something, he called us friends, and thus he sets the stage for the blessings to follow. Let us continue to be the church and offer grace, hospitality and the Good News to all.

Pastor Romir R. Esguerra



With a joyful heart, we are inviting the congregation to celebrate the confirmation of Hannah and Rebecca Linko at our 1030am worship service on May 23, 2021.

They are the twin daughters of Brad and Heather Linko. They were mentored by Cathy Kazak and Barb Fisher, respectively. Congratulations!!

WELCOME BACK!

FRIENDS, WE MISSED YOU!

Don't forget to wear your mask. Temperatures will not be taken, nor will there be any type of sign-in/sign-up. We anticipate the number of attendees to be right at the number allowed to have in our facility at one time.

Please plan to arrive no later than 10:15am so that we can get everyone inside and seated prior to the start of the 10:30 worship. If you see a mass of people at the door waiting to enter, please remain in your car until the line subsides so that social distancing measures can be adhered to.

Everyone will be personally seated by an usher so that we can ensure proper social distancing. Please don't be offended if you are not able to sit in your 'regular' spot. This seating is temporary, and you will have the opportunity to participate in the service from a different local perspective than you are used to.

If you wear a coat to church, please keep it with

you. We will not be using the coat racks at this time.

Offering plates will be at the entrance to the sanctuary to avoid passing of the plate. Please have your offering ready as you walk into the sanctuary.

There will be NO audible singing of hymns during the service. Feel free to hum, sing in your head, or just listen and absorb yourself in the beautiful music.

At the conclusion of the service, the ushers will direct you out of the church through Grace Place. As hard as it will be for everyone, please avoid congregating and chatting in the parking lot.

The church service will also be live streamed on the Grace UMC Facebook page beginning at 10:30am. If you feel more comfortable participating in the worship service from your own home, you will see everything LIVE as it is going on during the service.

Vacation Bible School

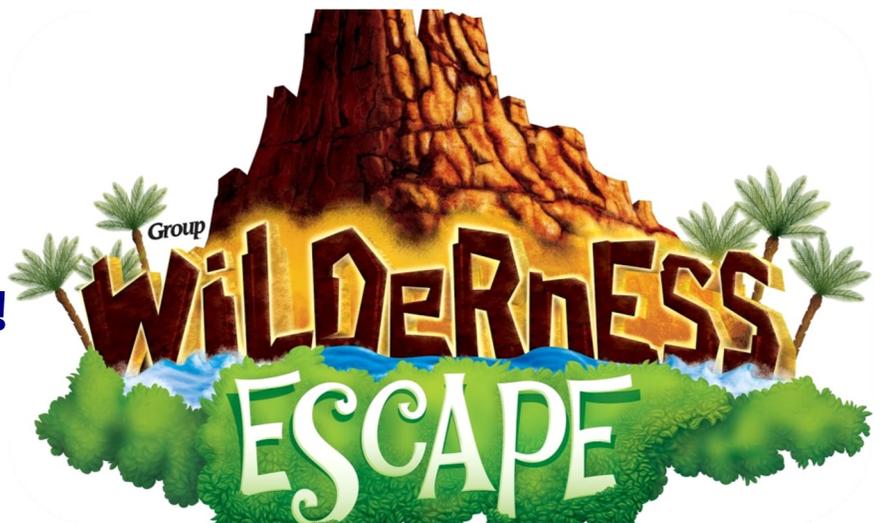
June 21-25, 2021

9am-11:30am

Ages 3yrs-5th Grade

Volunteers are Needed!

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





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 9am Sunday School 10:30 Worship	3	4 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 SPRC 	5 4:30pm Bells 	6	7	8
9 9am Sunday School 10:30 Worship	10	11 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 	12 4:30pm Bells	13	14	15
16 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	17 3pm Daybreak 	18 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Daycare Board	19 4:30pm Bells 11:30am Pantry 	20 7pm 	21	22
23 9am Sun School 10:30am Worship 30 9:30 Worship	24 31 	25 6:30 Boy Scouts 7pm 	26 4:30pm Bells	27	28	29

God's Work Our Hands

MEMBERS IN CARE CENTERS

Where are our most vulnerable church members? The various centers and facilities have different rules for visiting, but phone calls and cards are always welcome! (No need for room numbers-the center will make sure they get to the right person) Please call ahead if you plan to visit. Restrictions apply at all the centers.

Dorothy Adkins—Alden Estates of Shorewood, Rm. 214
710 Black Rd., Shorewood, IL 60404. 815-230-8672.

Only window visits allowed at this time.

Florence Ball—American House Cedar Lake, 14804 S.
Van Dyke Rd., Apt. 1113. Plainfield, IL. 60544.

Visits are allowed. (She will be moving in early May)

Nancy Bokoski and Jackie Klainsek—Willow Fall, 1681
Willow Circle Dr., Chest Hill, IL. 60403. 815-744-7924.

Visits are allowed.

Carolyn Dystrup, Eleanor Findlay, Barbara Jones and
Anna Schultz—The Timbers, 1100 N River Rd., Shore-
wood, IL. 60404. 815-609-0669.

Visits are allowed.

Bobbie Edwards—Senior Star, 605 S Edward Dr., Rome-
oville, IL 60446. 331-808-1362.

No visits at this time.

Joyce Wahl—The Gardens, 1550 DuPont Ave., Morris, IL
60450. 815-585-7200.

Visits are allowed.

Sarah Whitman—Carriage crossings, 1402 Leslie Dr.
Bloomington, IL 61704. 309-603-2500.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Cunningham Children's Home, Urbana, IL

Cunningham Children's Home strives to give hope to those who need it most—youth who suffer from serious emotional and behavioral challenges that have been caused by abuse, neglect, mental illness, and more. Cunningham provides expert care to help kids learn positive coping and behavioral skills, to achieve realistic academic goals, and to develop the life skills necessary to be successful in the community. It provides caring support and therapeutic intervention to close to 300 children, youth, young adults, and their families each year.



FLOWER CALENDAR

Since we are now worshipping together in the sanctuary, we need to begin filling out the Flower Calendar for the year. Each Sunday the altar flowers may be purchased for \$30 by contacting Barb Fisher (via phone or crftctr3@comcast.net) to select a date, color of flowers, etc. Notify the church office (815.725.7632) with information for a worship announcement (reason for flowers, giver's name, etc.) for the specific date. Payment may be sent to the church office or placed in the offering plate.

DAYBREAK SHELTER

May will be the last time we serve Daybreak until the fall. Thank you for your financial support during this year. Hopefully next year we will be able to accept food donations. At this time we will continue to prepare the meal at Church and deliver to Daybreak.

Diane Lutz

Thanks to those
who send cards,
make phone calls,
share meals, etc. in
caring ministry.



Thank You



- 5/4—John Renzi
- 5/7—Carrie Butler
- 5/8—Cindy Caswell
- 5/9—Jim Norris
- 5/10—David Black, Jim Morrow, Emma DeBartolo
- 5/11—Diane Lutz, Isabella Ray
- 5/16—Judith Bartels, Jean Lucas, Jason Meister
- 5/19—Jeannine D’Orazio, Connie Schroeder
- 5/20—Mike Fisher, Russ Slinkard
- 5/21—Dylan Deardurff
- 5/22—Calli Rupsis
- 5/25—Deborah Larson, Owen Salerno
- 5/28—Quinn Page
- 5/31—Thomas Zettergren



After 33 years at Grace Child Care Center, Ms. Susan will be retiring to Florida! Her last official day with us is April 6th. Ms. Susan has been a wonderful teacher to all of the children that entered her classroom. She loved teaching the children about history as well as current events, being the lead during our Christmas Program and coming up with many of the songs and finger plays, and made sure the children were using their best manners at all times!

We will miss her and wish her well as she is off to her happy place on the beach!



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|---------------------------|--------------|
| Thomas & Carol Zettergren | May 8, 1965 |
| Don & Cathy Kazak | May 23, 1987 |
| Jim & Diane Morrow | May 23, 1987 |
| Ed & Caryn Young | May 23, 1970 |
| Eric & Nancy Leggett | May 29, 1976 |
| Brian & Joan Landers | May 31, 1975 |

We celebrate the birth of Faith Amelia Fahnstrom, born March 22, 2021. She is the daughter of Brett and Kristen Fahnstrom. The proud grandparents are Melody and Darrel Fahnstrom.



Easter Egg Hunt was a Success! Thank you to all who helped make this event fun and meaningful! I really appreciated all the candying snack donations, storytelling, and all the help and support!

There were about 25 kids hunting for eggs and they all enjoyed the story and the visit from the Easter Bunny! Each child received a bag with a craft and a snack to take home!

Diane Morrow



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

Grace United Methodist Church

WILDERNESS ESCAPE

3 years – 5th 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

March

2021 Income & Expense Summary

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

	March		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
INCOME	\$24,700	\$20,647	\$81,600	\$101,048
EXPENSES				
Apportionment	\$1,954	\$1,954	\$5,862	\$5,862
Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$9,730	\$9,425	\$25,798	\$24,844
Personnel	\$10,403	\$7,649	\$24,277	\$19,299
Administration	\$1,059	\$1,341	\$3,175	\$3,193
Programming	\$1,050	\$751	\$3,150	\$1,941
Church Buildings	<u>\$5,516</u>	<u>\$6,350</u>	<u>\$21,350</u>	<u>\$21,082</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$29,712	\$27,470	\$83,612	\$76,221
SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):	-\$5,012	-\$6,823	-\$2,012	\$24,827

NOTES:

- 1) Income above expectation due primarily to receipt of a \$19,762 PPP Loan
- 2) Expenses below expectation by \$7k YTD

The Finance Committee is pleased to announce that a check will be issued by May 31, 2021. it has approved the awarding of a \$1,000 scholarship to a youth who is a member of our church. To qualify you must be a senior in high school who will graduate this spring. You also must be planning to further your education at a college, university, technical or trade school.



**SCHOLARSHIP
AVAILABLE**

To obtain an application contact Joe McCormack at 815-254-4714 or joemaida@swbell.net. All completed applications must be received by Joe by May 1, 2021. The recipient will be chosen and

This scholarship will be paid for by funds in the Memorials and Special Gifts Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you may make out a check to "Grace UMC – Memorial Fund", and note on the Memo Line "Scholarship Fund."

If you have any questions about this program, they may be referred to Joe McCormack at 815-254-4714.



Grace United Methodist Church

1718 Avalon Avenue

Joliet, Illinois 60435-5799

