



Grace Notes is published monthly by Grace United Methodist Church in Joliet, IL.

# GRACE NOTES

Volume 9 Issue 10

October 2021

## "Walk for Mission"

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**

**Grace United Methodist Church**

**12:30 p.m. - Registration**

**1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Crop Walk**

**[1 mile, 3 mile, and Indoor Mile Options]**

**WE  
WALK  
BECAUSE**

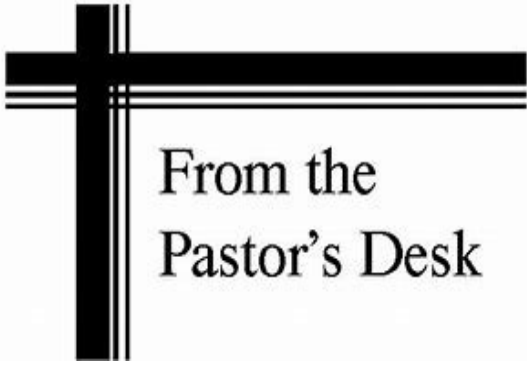
**THEY  
WALK**

**CROP HUNGER WALK**

**The "Walk for Mission" will support food and water resources ministries both globally and locally. Register today to be a walker OR to pledge your support for a walker.**

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/usa/team/grace-umc-joliet-illinois>

**Questions? Please contact Pastor Nancy.**



## “A Mighty Fortress”

October is full of opportunities to be in ministry. We are slowly but steadily returning to the rhythm of the Church. Our shared stories reflect the goodness of God. The hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” was written by Martin Luther in 1529 that reflects the beginning of the Reformation—the mark of the Protestant faith.

The first line in the stanza reads, “*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe; doth seek to work us woe, his craft and power great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*”

While Martin Luther’s name was forever etched in history, there were other before him who started looking to the Scripture as the primary source of identity. If not for the Englishman John Wycliffe, then we would not have the Bible translated into English. John Huss followed up the work of Wycliffe and it was noted that John Huss was the “spark and Martin Luther” lit the torch. Our understanding of Scripture changed from here on and that faith is a gift from God, it is freely given to all.

Later Reformers helped us shape our understanding of the Sacraments of the Lord’s last Supper. Five hundred years later, we celebrate our common ministry in offering Christ for the world with the wide world community of faith. Our faith is local, our mission is boundary breaking.

A mighty fortress is our God. I had the chance to visit San Juan, Puerto Rico several years ago and toured the “*Castillo San Felipe del Morro*”, also known as El Morro. It was a fort designed to guard the entrance to the San Juan Bay. Since Puerto Rico and the Philippines shared colonial history, there was also a Fort named *Fort Santiago* facing the Manila Bay. In Israel, there is an ancient fortification in the Southern District on top of an isolated rock plateau, over looking the Dead Sea. It was the site where resistance prevailed against the Roman Army. Fortress is a defense against invaders.

When God is our fortress, it illuminates the power of God. God is working in our lives and never ceases to remind us that faith is strong. We count our blessings and name them one by one. Even when we are going through a time of struggle, there is the assurance of Jesus calming the storms and making all things new.

Come and join us in *Worship, Discipleship & Mission*.

***Pastor Romir Esguerra***

# August

## 2021 Income & Expense Summary

### Comparison to expected cash flow for budget approved 12/19/20

	August		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>INCOME</b>	\$23,700	\$20,965	\$213,300	\$224,690
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Apportionment	\$1,954	\$1,954	\$15,632	\$15,632
Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$8,034	\$7,681	\$65,968	\$63,307
Personnel	\$8,577	\$5,565	\$67,162	\$44,998
Administration	\$1,058	\$832	\$8,466	\$7,600
Programming	\$1,050	\$200	\$8,400	\$2,780
Church Buildings	<u>\$5,517</u>	<u>\$4,496</u>	<u>\$58,534</u>	<u>\$55,850</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$26,190	\$20,728	\$224,162	\$190,167
<b>SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):</b>	-\$2,490	\$237	-\$10,862	\$34,523

#### Notes:

- 1) Income lower than expected in August but still above expectation YTD
- 2) Expenses below expectation by \$34k YTD (unfilled staff positions for most of year)

## Six-in-One Offering

We United Methodists observe "Six Special Sundays with Offerings." The Six Special Sundays with Offerings are: Human Relations Day, One Great Hour of Sharing, Native American Ministries Sunday, Peace with Justice Sunday, World Communion Sunday, and UM Student Day.

Instead of asking for contributions to all six special offerings at six different times of the year, we are asking once. The first Sunday in October, is World Communion Sunday. Your contributions help individuals and families locally and globally. From scholarships for local ethnic minority students to children's ministries in rural areas, your contribution helps build the reign of God here and around the world.

Consider contributing \$1 per offering (\$6 per household). Your dollars combine to make a difference. Please consider giving to the "Six-in-One Offering" for our Six Special Sundays with Offerings.



## DAYBREAK SHELTER

In October we will start serving again at Daybreak Homeless Shelter. We will be serving dinner on the 3rd Monday of the Month. Steve Meister will be serving breakfast the 3rd Tuesday of the month. We serve from October through May. We are hoping to serve in person this year. Last year we delivered the food ready to serve. Until we receive more details from the Daybreak staff we continue to ask for monetary donations for food supplies. Checks made out to Grace UMC with Daybreak written in memo can be sent to church. I'm planning to have a sign up sheet for food items starting in November. Thank you for supporting this important local mission.

## ASP WREATH FUNDRAISER

- ◆ Every Sunday in October
- ◆ Before and After Both Services
- ◆ Look for the Table in the Narthex
- ◆ Wreaths can also be ordered online from home
  - ◆ Log into GiftItForward.com
  - ◆ Fundraising Code: GRACEUIL001
  - ◆ Referring member: Steve Meister

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

LARRY KIES (#09572Z)

Larry is a Technical Advisor working with the farm manager in developing the agricultural program at the Africa University in Zimbabwe. He is also involved in the agricultural particulars, as well as teaching classes in crop production and farm management.



## FLU CLINIC CANCELLED

Grace family, Again COVID-19 has gotten in the way of the flu-shot clinic. If you remember, I hosted a flu-shot clinic in Grace place, usually during the first or second Sunday of October. Since things are still a little "iffy", I suggest everyone get their flu shot wherever it is you feel comfortable.

Thank you, Pat Kwasniewski

## HANDBELLS/CHANCEL CHOIR

The Bells and Chancel Choir invite you to join us! Bells rehearse Wednesday evenings at 6:15-7:15 and the Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30.

If your schedule requires flexibility we understand! Or if you would like to join only for a short time, we welcome you with open arms!

Please consider joining the Choir and sing your way through the holidays! A Christmas Cantata is scheduled for the last Sunday in Advent. You can rehearse with us starting in November through the Cantata or Christmas Eve. What better way to celebrate the birth our of Savior than through your musical offering!

Please talk to Peggy or any Bells or Chancel Choir member!

## ATTENDANCE

### WORSHIP

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 5	49	
September 12	10 & 82	17
September 19	16 & 57	16
September 26	12 & 63	16

# BIRTHDAYS!

- 10/2—Melissa Rath
- 10/4—Richard Farrar
- 10/5—Pastor Fritz Bartels
- 10/7—Brent Fraser, Brianna Furto
- 10/8—Tina Mason
- 10/9—Aimee Eichelberger
- 10/10—Kimberly Egizio
- 10/11—Shannen Rojas
- 10/13—Sandy Brazeal
- 10/16—Eric Small
- 10/19—Stephanie Meister, Donna Robertson
- 10/20—Michael Purciarello
- 10/21—Jackie Klainsek, Corinne Barz
- 10/23—Michelle Ray
- 10/25 - Tracy Fahnstrom
- 10/26—Douglas Larson
- 10/28—Kendall Kolodziej
- 10/29—Rick Daniel
- 10/30—Barbara Van Dyke
- 10/31—Cathy DuBois, Theodore Poplawski



- |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Connie & Paul Schroeder    | October 14, 1989 |
| Michelle & Brent Fraser    | October 18, 1997 |
| Cheryl & Jeffrey Deardurff | October 20, 1995 |
| Mary & David McBride       | October 21, 1961 |
| Melissa & Lloyd Meinhart   | October 21, 1989 |
| Connie & John Renzi        | October 21, 1988 |
| Debbie & Douglas Larson    | October 27, 1979 |
| Maida & Joe McCormack      | October 27, 1979 |

## ROY AND JOYCE WAHL

Joann and I would like to thank all of those at Grace who have sent cards, shared memories, and made memorial contributions on behalf of our parents. We know mom and dad loved and valued their church family and based on the sympathy cards, they were also loved. We appreciate all of the kindness. Joann McCoy and Suzann Reid.

## BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for a Bible Study on the Book of Hosea. We will explore what it means for us when scripture says that God loves his covenant people. Our Bible Study will be held in person at both 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays - October 13, 20, 27, and November 3, 2021. The class will be co-taught by Pastor Romir and Pastor Nancy. Please let the church office know if you plan to attend so that we can have the bible study materials ready for you.

## ALL WELCOME TO JOIN UMW

**October 12 at 1pm in Grace Place  
to Make our Blankets  
for Big Brothers**



I want to thank my Church friends for their calls, cards, concerns and Prayers. I appreciate all your thoughts and Prayers. Thank you Grace friends. Pat Meyers.



Thank the congregation for all there prays and cards when having surgery and recovering..

Joan Krosnicki

# The History of Grace UMC

**March, 1888** ... Rev. O. F. Mattison, then pastor of Ottawa Street Church, accompanied by one of his members, Mr. L. E. Ross, made some house calls in the northwest part of town asking the promise of parents to send their children to a Sunday School which they proposed starting in the old third ward for some of the neighborhood children. As a result of Rev. Mattison's calls, children and adults agreed to attend the classes, and a mission Sunday School was organized under the care of Ottawa St. Church, with Mr. Ross the superintendent. The attendance, one month after organization, was eighty-nine and the interest so greatly increased that a larger more convenient place was needed. To be continued...





United  
Methodist  
Women

Twelve members of Grace United Methodist Women met Saturday, September 11 in Grace Place to fill 50 purses with personal-sized items for use by abused women who are in the "Ground Work" program. The purses were blessed in the worship service the following Sunday. The purses plus two large bags of small stuffed animals were delivered the next day as part of the UMW's missional endeavors.



# OCTOBER

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

					1	2
<p>3 9:30 Worship</p>	4	<p>5 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 SPRC</p>	<p>6 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir</p> 	<p>7 6:30 am Men's Breakfast</p> 	<p>8 6:30 Cub Scouts</p> 	9
<p>10 8am Worship 9 am Religious Ed 10:30 Worship</p>	11	<p>12 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Trustees</p> 	<p>13 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>14 6:30 am Men's Breakfast</p> 	15	16
<p>17 8am Worship 9 am Religious Ed 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>18 5pm Daybreak</p>	<p>19 7am Daybreak Breakfast 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Daycare</p>	<p>20 11:30am Pantry 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir</p> 	<p>21 6:30 am Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>22 6:30 Cub Scouts</p> 	23
<p>24 8am Worship 9 am Religious Ed 10:30 Worship</p> <hr/> <p>31 8am Worship 9 am Religious Ed 10:30 Worship</p>	25	<p>26 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30</p>  <p><b>Finance Committee</b></p>	<p>27 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir</p> 	<p>28 6:30 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>7 <i>Church Council</i></p> 	29	30

Grace United Methodist Church

1718 Avalon Avenue

Joliet, Illinois 60435-5799



# **Annual Church Conference**

**Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021**

**4:00 p.m.—In Person**