

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



GRACE NOTES

Volume 10 Issue 9 September

Sunday, October 16, 2022

Grace United Methodist Church

Registration - 12:30 p.m. Walk—1-3:00 p.m.

1 mile, 3 mile, and Indoor Mile Options

**ENDING
HUNGER
ONE STEP
AT A TIME**

**CROP HUNGER
WALK**





“Rooted in Grace”

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2:6-7)

Many of you are praying for the mission and ministry of Grace United Methodist Church. We have a rich history and it shows in our daily practice of faith. I invite you to look at the bulletin board with pictures, past activities and the brief history of the church to provide some context where we have been and the opportunities for today. The board is located in the corner leading to the Sunday School wing. Can you find yourself in the picture? Can you identify some of the people in the activity pages?

Last week we engaged in a conversation as part our strategic plan for the next 3 to 5 years. Pastor Nancy was generous in her time as she co-leads this conversation. We claimed the scripture passage from Paul’s letter to the Colossians so that we are *rooted in him, strengthened in the faith and overflowing with thankfulness*. We are moving in the direction that we are **“Rooted in Grace.”** The grace of God in Jesus Christ is richly given to all of us.

We will be asking questions, forming small groups and connect with one another so that our expressions of faith will be firmly rooted in Jesus, the source of all grace. We have identified three areas that will help us to move forward with confidence and hope.

The three areas are: ***Digital Ministry, Missional Presence and Generosity.***

Each area will complement one another. I used the word “alignment” as a way of moving us forward. For example, *Digital Ministry* will address our worship needs & also celebrate our talents and gifts for music. *Missional presence* is allowing us to open new doors so people can serve uniquely. The ongoing needs of maintaining a church facility is crucial. *Generosity* is taking a look at our commitment in prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness.

This a broad outline and we will get there in the fulness of time. But this is our common work. My impression is that we have not done this before. As we re-engage the church, in the post-pandemic, let us fully trust and invest in the faith we have received so that we can overflow with thankfulness.

Let us be rooted in grace.

Pastor Romir

OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

July

2022 Income & Expense Summary

Comparison to expected cash flow for budget approved 12/16/21

	July		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
INCOME	\$19,300	\$17,011	\$158,100	\$192,743
EXPENSES				
Apportionment	\$2,128	\$0	\$14,896	\$6,384
Salaries & Benefits	\$16,424	\$14,314	\$120,878	\$115,334
Administration	\$1,175	\$834	\$8,225	\$8,884
Programming	\$1,071	\$497	\$7,496	\$3,113
Church Buildings	<u>\$10,063</u>	<u>\$8,880</u>	<u>\$57,038</u>	<u>\$58,211</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,861	\$24,525	\$208,533	\$191,926
SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):	-\$11,561	-\$7,514	-\$50,433	\$817

Notes:

- 1) Income now above budget by \$35k
- 2) Expenses \$8k below budget when adjusted for not paying apportionment Apr-Jul
- 3) Because the approved 2022 budget is not balanced, there are still challenges.



BRING US YOUR SHOES!

Would you ever think that your old shoes could help raise money for our church budget? Well, they can and here's how. Grace Church is participating in a fundraiser where there is nothing to buy or sell, all we need is your support and your old shoes. We are looking for our church members to support this effort by agreeing to collect

25 pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes in the next 6 weeks. Here's how you do it:

Start in your family's closets and gather pairs of shoes that you've outgrown, are out of style, or out of season. If you have 25 pairs, great, if not please ask your neighbors and/or co-workers to do the same. These shoes will help support our program as well as individuals in developing nations like Ghana, Haiti and Cambodia. You can drop the shoes off at church or call Diane Parro (630-430-3808) and she will pick them up. If you can't collect 25, then try for 15, 10, or 5. Remember, every pair that you collect helps.

THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

met September 17, 2022, for a business meeting which included discussion of our upcoming Sunday Soup Sales fundraiser. We approved our 2023 budget as presented. Our main focus was the filling of 50 gently used purses with essential items for women who are served by Ground-work. The purses were blessed in worship on September 18 for delivery to Groundwork the next day.



UMCOR RESPONDS TO HURRICANE FIONA

Hurricane Fiona, the first major hurricane of this year's Atlantic hurricane season, caused catastrophic damage in Puerto Rico and brought torrential rains to the Dominican Republic. It has

left millions without power and running water, and only continues to gain strength as it batters Turks and Caicos and heads for Bermuda.

UMCOR is in close contact with the disaster response coordinator of the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico and awarded an initial solidarity grant to help address immediate needs.

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.

Six-in-One Offering

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.



Ridgewood Pantry

All loose coin offerings on the Sunday before the third Wednesday of every month, will be used toward the support of the Ridgewood United Community Pantry, Joliet, Illinois. The food pantry operates every Wednesday in support of the Ridgewood area on the east side of Joliet. The funds are used to supplement the pantry's budget for the purchase of food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank for distribution through the pantry.

Grace UMC staffs the party on the third Wednesday of each month. The pantry is located at 301 Fairbanks, Joliet, IL at Trinity UMC. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Cathy Kazak. Future dates are: Oct 19, Nov 16, and Dec 21.

If you would like to donate monetarily, there are envelopes on the welcome table. Checks can be made out to RUCP and mailed to RUCP, in care of Jay Wait; or write a check to GUMC designated for the pantry. Also, non-perishables donations can be put in the blue tub under the coats outside the office.



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

Clara Midrula Biswas (#13952Z)

Clara serves as a Director of Street Children Ministry in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She works with the 'poorest of the poor,' especially children, in slum areas and garbage dumps to facilitate their transfers to relocation and rehabilitation centers.



SEPT. ATTEN	WORSHIP 8AM	CHILDREN'S SUNDAY	ADULT SUNDAY
Sept 4	62		
Sept 11	6/58	15	14
Sept 18	8/67		
Sept 25			



10/2—Melissa Rath

10/4—Richard Farrar

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—Jean Young

10/19—Stephanie Meister, Donna Robertson

10/20—Michael Purciarello

10/22—Arne Young

10/23—Michelle Ray

10/25 - Tracy Fahnstrom

10/26—Douglas Larson

10/28—Kendall Kolodziej

10/29—Rick Daniel

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

Gus & Nancy Kramer October 23, 1976

Debbie & Douglas Larson October 27, 1979

Maida & Joe McCormack October 27, 1979



SUNDAY SOUP SALES

The Grace United Women in Faith group plans to take orders for 18 different dry soup mixes on November 6 and November 13, 2022. On Sunday, November 6th we will have sample tastes of several favorites. These are good to have on hand for a rainy/snowy day, and they make wonderful gifts. Selections will be available for pick up near the end of November. These mail well, so think about gifts for Christmas and other such occasions in addition to a stash for your pantry. Watch for more information soon!

DAYBREAK SHELTER

The food sign-up sheets for Daybreak (Oct. 17) and Daybreak Breakfast (Oct. 18) are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Drop off item before noon on the Sunday before Daybreak date.

Our Thanks!!

Ron & I are grateful for all the cards & kind wishes we received honoring us on our anniversary! We're Feeling Very Blessed!

Ron & Peg Tucker

October

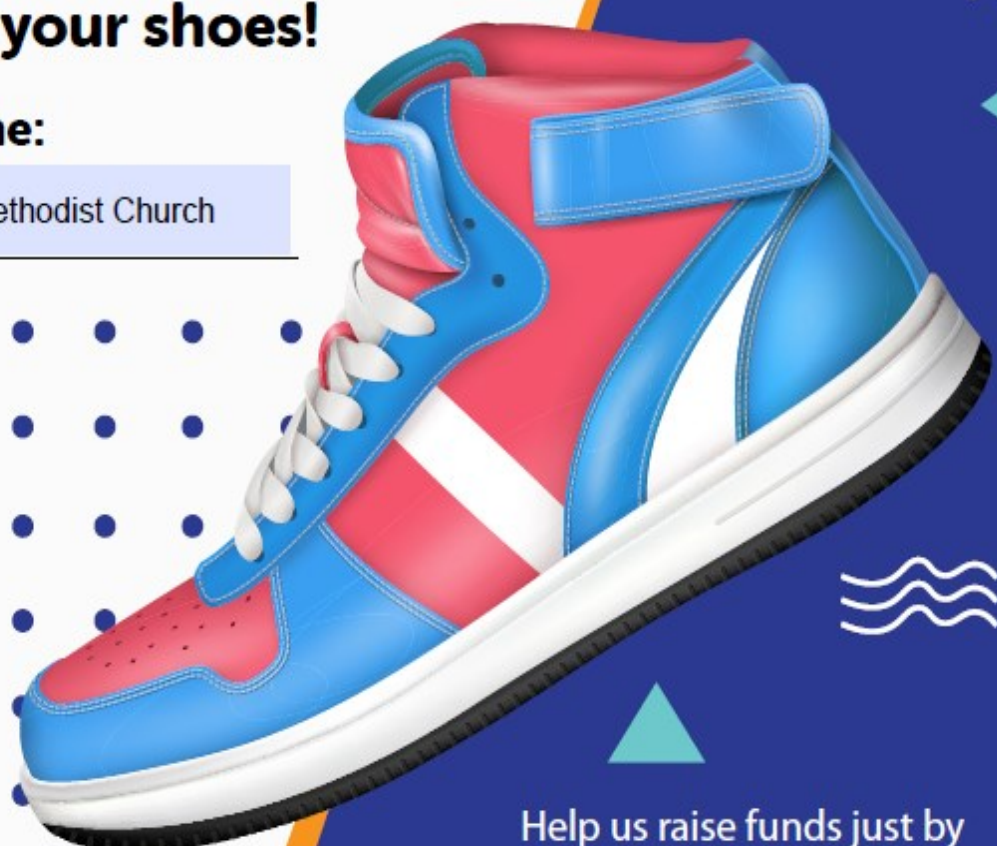
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8am Worship 9am Christian Ed 10:30 Worship Wreath Sale	3	4 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 SPRC	5 10am Coffee Convo's 11:30am Pantry 6 pm Bible Study 6:15 Bells	6 7 am Men's Breakfast	7	8
9 8am Worship 9am Christian Ed 10:30 Worship Wreath Sale	10	11 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 <i>Trustees</i>	12 10am Coffee Convo's 11:30am Pantry 6 pm Bible Study 6:15 Bells	13 7 am Men's Breakfast	14 6:30 Cub Scouts	15
16 8am Worship 9am Christian Ed 10:30 Worship 1 pm Crop Walk Wreath Sale	17 5pm Daybreak	18 7am Daybreak Breakfast 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Daycare Board	19 10am Coffee Convo's 11:30am Pantry 6 pm Bible Study 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	20 7 am Men's Breakfast	21	22
23 8am Worship 9am Christian Ed 10:30 Worship 30 8am Worship 9am Christian Ed 10:30 Worship	24 31	25 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Church Council	26 10am Coffee Convo's 11:30am Pantry 6 pm Bible Study 6:15 Bells	27 7 am Men's Breakfast	28 6:30 Cub Scouts	29

Cleaning Out Your Closet?

We need your shoes!

Group Name:

Grace United Methodist Church



Drop-Off Location:

Grace UMC - Joliet

Dates:

By 10/31/22; 9-3 (M-TH)

Contact:

Diane Parro @ 630-430-3808

Help us raise funds just by donating gently worn, used and new shoes! Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collected shoes not only help support us, but they will be reused and given a second life by those in need through #microenterprise. It's a WIN-WIN!

Grace United Methodist Church

1718 Avalon Avenue

Joliet, Illinois 60435-5799

A graphic with a rounded rectangular shape. The background is a gradient of orange and yellow, with several bright yellow diagonal lines. On the right side, there is a stylized red and white floral or leaf-like pattern. The text is centered and reads:

**Annual
Church Conference**

Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022

7:00 p.m.