



# GRACE NOTES

Volume 12 Issue 11 October 2024

## *Pastor Laura's Ponderings*

When we lived on our 25 acre farm in Kentucky, Craig mowed a path that I could walk that went all the way around our property. There were flat parts as well as small hills to go up and down. While our property was mostly wide open, the back acres were surrounded by trees. It is one of the things I miss most about Kentucky. It was absolutely magical during several parts of the year when the hay and various wild flowers would begin to grow on the sides of the mowed path and the trees were just beyond it. I did a whole lot of prayer walking while I was there. I also acknowledged that the years leading up to moving there had been hard. Going through our foster care journey and raising kids that came from hard beginnings took a toll on me physically. The stress of the pandemic and all that went along with that for the church and my family took a toll on me. I was very unhealthy when I moved there. God spoke to me about the importance of taking care of my body. I began to walk my property, sometimes multiple times a day. When I began, I had to stop many times to catch my breath. I was so out of shape! God spoke to me loud and clear about how my faith walk includes my mental and physical health too. I committed right then and there to be more intentional about taking care of ALL of me. I'm excited that with our new sermon series for October "Walk with Jesus" we are going to have opportunities hosted by our Faith and Wellness Committee to gather at different times and locations to walk together. I look forward to the exercise, the fellowship and the time to simply enjoy God's creation. I look forward to the ways that God will work through this sermon series and our walking events. I hope you will join us!

*Pastor Laura Barkley*

### **Health and Wellness Group**

In conjunction with Pastor Laura's "Walking with Jesus", we will offer an opportunity to actually walk together, during the month of October. Each week we will come together at a different time and place.

The dates and places are as follows:

- 10-3 @ 6pm - walking the neighborhood
- 10-10 @ 1pm - Rock Run Preserve
- 10-13 - walking the labyrinth after service
- 10-24 @ 1pm - Van Horn Woods
- 10-29 @ 1pm - Lake Renwick Preserve

We will meet at the designated place, just give me a call, Pat Kwasniewski

# OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

## August

### 2024 Income & Expense Summary

Comparison to expected cash flow for budget approved 12/10/23 and revised 6/25/24

	August		Year to Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
INCOME	\$21,709	\$31,440	\$190,918	\$189,465
EXPENSES				
Apportionment	\$2,137	\$0	\$17,096	\$12,822
Salaries & Benefits	\$13,588	\$11,726	\$121,460	\$115,836
Administration	\$1,129	\$1,246	\$9,033	\$10,393
Programming	\$791	\$1,008	\$6,333	\$3,040
Church Buildings	<u>\$7,890</u>	<u>\$7,095</u>	<u>\$63,120</u>	<u>\$66,793</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,535	\$21,075	\$217,042	\$208,884
SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT):	-\$3,826	\$10,365	-\$26,124	-\$19,419

NOTES:

- 1) Very good month for income in August -- Now close to budget YTD.
- 2) Expenses continue to run less than budget, but still challenges ahead for 2024.

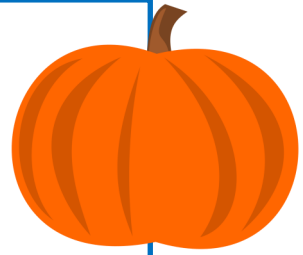
**GRATITUDE CORNER**

Thanks for all the amazing work of many folks to  
make our fall at Grace exciting:  
education, worship, social time and more.



## Looking ahead in October

- Oct 6 **World Communion Sunday**
- Oct 13 **Labyrinth** (after worship service)
- Oct 19 **United Women in Faith Sunday** (UMW)
- Oct 27 **Church Charge Conference** in the Sanctuary at 6:30 pm
- Nov 3 **All Saints Sunday** (Remembering those who have left us)
- Daylight Savings Time Ends



## DAYBREAK SHELTER

**DAYBREAK** meals are returning! Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> breakfast and Monday, October 21st dinner. Sign up sheets for donations are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Thanks for your continued support.

Diane Lutz

## ASP WREATH FUNDRAISER

Every Sunday starting October 6th. Before and After Sunday School and Church

Look for the table in the Narthex

Wreaths can also be ordered online from home

Log into [GiftItForward.com](http://GiftItForward.com)

Fundraising Code: GRACEUIL001

Referring member: Steve Meister



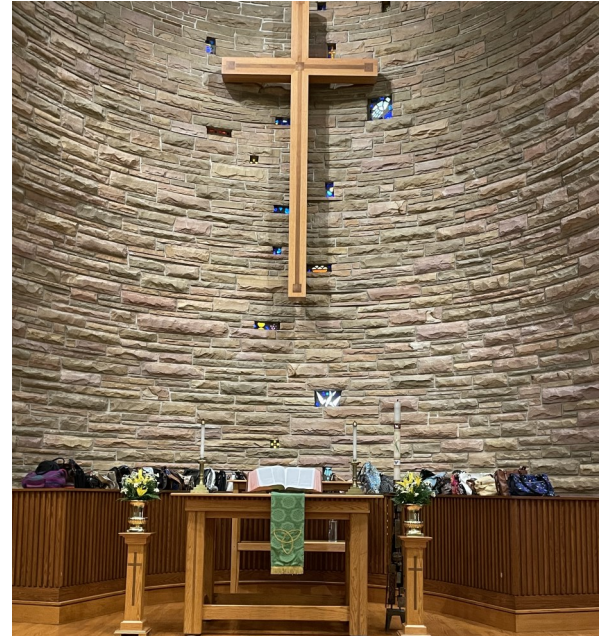
The Annual Church Conference date is Sunday, October 27th at 6:30 pm. All are invited to attend.

**CHURCH  
CONFERENCE**

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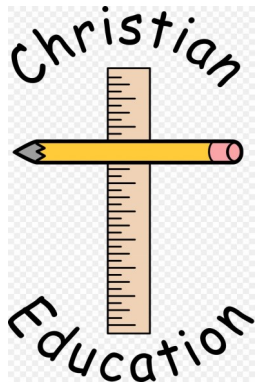
## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Saturday morning, 9/14/24, twenty women and two young supporters met in Grace Place to assemble purses for Groundwork. Fifty gently used purses were filled with many essential items like combs, toothbrush and paste, lotion, Kleenex, etc. for distribution to women who are victims of domestic violence requiring them to seek help. A delicious brunch was served following the activity. The purses were placed on the altar and were blessed during worship on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Purses will be delivered to Groundwork along with a monetary donation, books, and stuffed toys.



*The Adult Discussion Group will begin a six week study of "Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today" by Adam Hamilton. This video series addresses the hot-button issues that plague the church and cultural debate, and answers many of the questions frequently asked by Christians and non-Christians alike. The study will begin on Sunday, October 20, at 9:00 am. Discussion group meets in the first room off of Grace Place. All are welcome to join.*

# God's Work Our Hands

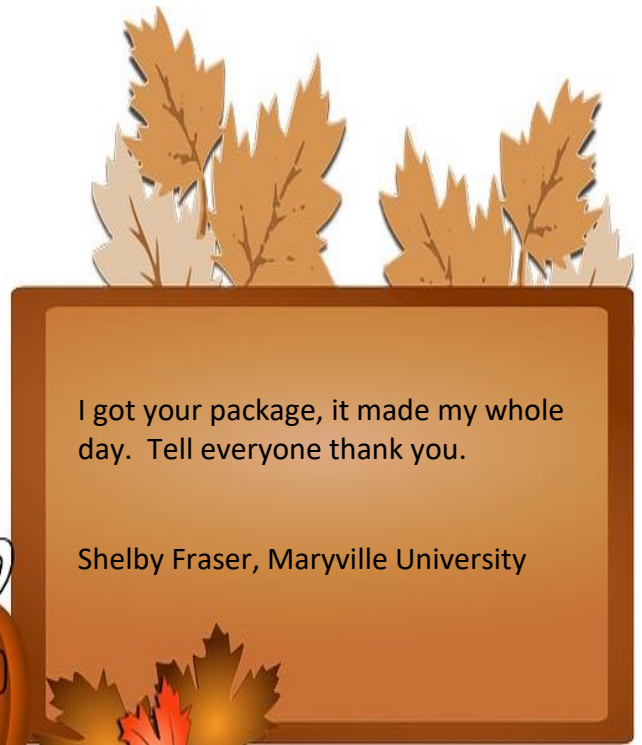


New Books added to the Church Library:

The Choice: Embrace the Possible, A Memoir by Dr. Edith Eva Ever. A remarkable personal journey of her survival in Auschwitz

The book of Forgiving, by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. The four-

fold path for healing ourselves and our world-each of us has a deep need to forgive, but sometimes it feels like an impossible task!



I got your package, it made my whole day. Tell everyone thank you.

Shelby Fraser, Maryville University

## FMSC : Feed My Starving Children

November 2, 2024

2 – 3:45 pm

They would like us to check in by 1:45 pm

We will be at the FMSC facility in Aurora

555 Exchange Court

Aurora, IL 60504

Please RSVP to Diane Morrow  
by **October 21st.**

There are only 40 spots available, so it will be first come first serve.

If you would like to make a donation that will be fine, too. Please make checks to FMSC and give to Diane Morrow



	WORSHIP	CHILDREN'S	ADULT
SEPT	8:30AM 10:30AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL	SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sept 1	9:30 am 82		
Sept 8	70	37	19
Sept 15	76	25	16
Sept 22	68	26	17
Sept 29	72	27	18



# BIRTHDAYS



# Anniversary

Marlin & Adrienne Hartman	October 5, 1979
Connie & Paul Schroeder	October 14, 1989
Michelle & Brent Fraser	October 18, 1997
Cheryl & Jeffrey Deardurff	October 20, 1995
Mary & David McBride	October 21, 1961
Gus & Nancy Kramer	October 23, 1976
Debbie & Douglas Larson	October 27, 1979
Maida & Joe McCormack	October 27, 1979

- 10/2 - Mikayla Barkley
- 10/2—Melissa Rath
- 10/4—Richard Farrar
- 10/7—Brent Fraser, Brianna Furto
- 10/8—Tina Mason
- 10/9—Aimee Eichelberger
- 10/11—Shannen Rojas
- 10/13—Sandy Brazeal
- 10/16—Jean Young
- 10/19—Stephanie Meister
- 10/19—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
- 10/31—Cathy DuBois
- 10/31—Theodore Poplawski

Sixteen Grace folks met at The Happy Place Café on September 17 for our first Lunch Bunch outing since Covid. Being together was super fun and made us all happy. Pat Meyers organized and Barb Fisher gave us chocolates in happy faces.



Our condolences to Trudy Pearson and family. Trudy lost Rick on September 11th.



## October – Missionaries (pg. 17) **David Makobo (#3021869)**

David's work in Senegal involves assistance to farmers in making their labor and the land more productive. Senegal is a small country on the west coast of Africa. It lacks significant natural resources but is adaptable to cultivation of millet and peanuts and the raising of livestock. The Senegal United Methodist Mission dates to 1989 and has some 19 congregations. Membership has grown steadily in the predominantly Muslim country.

## Faith and Wellness

There is much about COVID-19 that I do not know or understand, for example XEC variant, LB.1 strain, KP.2.3 and FLIRT mutations. One thing I do know, is that September 26th I got my COVID-19 and flu vaccination shots. Vaccinations have become controversial, with arguments on both sides. Please do your research, ask your doctor/health care provider, pharmacist and make your decision as to what is best for you and those of us around you. Help keep Grace UMC family healthy.

### ACTIVITIES:

1. 1st Sunday BP checks. We are in the library the first Sunday of every month 30 minutes prior to the start of worship service—come see us.
2. Lunch Bunch will dine again! A good time was had by 16 lunch—bunchers on September 17th. We will gather October 22nd at 12:30 pm at Rosemary's Café on Essington for more food and fellowship. Come join us. Please RSVP to either Pat Meyers or Barb Fisher .
3. Walking with Jesus In conjunction with Pastor Laura's "Walking with Jesus", we will offer an opportunity to actually walk together, during the month of October. Each week we will come together at a different time and place. We will meet at the designated place, just give me a call, Pat, 815-325-9007.

#### The dates and places are as follows:

10-3 @ 6pm - walking the neighborhood

10-10 @ 1pm - Rock Run Preserve

10-13 - walking the labyrinth after service

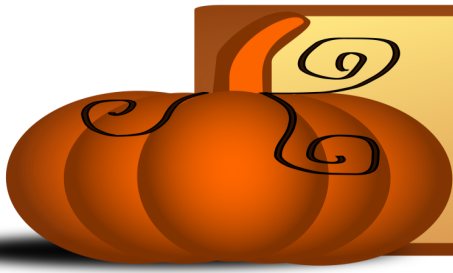
10-24 @ 1pm - Van Horn Woods

10-29 @ 1pm - Lake Renwick Preserve

4. Planning ahead: Mark your calendar! November 17th during Sunday School time, we are hosting a special speaker on Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia. Stay tuned for more information next newsletter.






Debi Shippy & Pat Kwasniewski



# OCTOBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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		1 10am Bible Study	2 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	3 7 am Men's Breakfast * 11:30am Panera on Jefferson, Community Office Hour	4	5
6 830am Prayer 9am Christian Ed 10am Blood Pressure screening 10am Fellowship 10:30 Worship/Communion	7 6:30p SPRC	8 10am Bible Study 1pm UWF mtg	9 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	10 7 am Men's Breakfast * 11:30am Panera on Jefferson, Community Office Hour	11	12
13 830am Prayer 9am Christian Ed 10am Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:40am walking the labyrinth	14 Columbus Day	15 7am Daybreak Breakfast 10am Bible Study 6:30 Daycare Board/ ZOOM	16 10am Worship Meeting 11:30am Pantry 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	17 7 am Men's Breakfast * 11:30am Panera on Jefferson, Community Office Hour 6:30pm Church Council	18	19
20 <b>WOF</b> Sunday 830am Prayer 9am Christian Ed 10am Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:40am Worship Mtg.	21 5pm Daybreak 	22 12:30p Lunch Bunch - Rosemary's Café 6:30pm Finance via ZOOM	23 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	24 * 11:30am Panera on Jefferson, Community Office Hour	25	26
27 830am Prayer 9am Christian Ed 10am Fellowship 10:30 Worship 6:30 pm Church Charge Conference	28	29	30 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	* Pastor Laura will be at 2400 W. Jefferson at Panera for the month of October for "Community Office Hour"		