

September 2018

From the Minister's desk

Friends, I hope you all had a very happy and joyful summer with family and friends. Now summer is slowly slipping away and we will soon see signs of fall in the trees turning yellow, orange and purple. With autumn comes another busy season in the life of the church. We will be delighted to see the children and young families returning to church after summer holidays. This is the time of the year we pause to think about what the passing days have revealed to us. In what ways we have been shaped or changed by the experiences of the past? What direction our journey of faith has taken? How we have been growing spiritually? As we begin another season in the life of the church let us grow in the knowledge of God. Let us turn to God to help us grow closer to each other and to God.

This newsletter reaches you as we get closer to Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving reminds us that as we take our place in everyday work there is a reason to begin by thanking God, for the gift of life and work. When we meet with family and friends there is a reason to be joyful by thanking God for the gift of love and relationship. Farmers who labour with soil and seed have a reason to thank God for bringing forth the fruit of their labour. When we feel we are left alone or forgotten we have a reason to thank God, for our loving God never forgets or leaves us alone. When we are tired and feel worn out we have a reason to thank God, for God is our strength, there is no need that God cannot fulfill. When the burden is heavy God is there to lean upon. When the pain in our soul is severe, God is there to comfort. When depressing moments weaken our spirits we may feel empty and void in side, God fills the aching spirits with his power, so we can live each day of our life, giving thanks to God. Thanksgiving day comes once a year

but like the Psalmist we can live our thanks fully aware of what God is doing in our lives.

*Through trials and errors, failures and successes
My God has cared for me. His love has led me or
carried me*

*Through times of want and years of abundance
God has kept me through the stormy past;
And will secure and guide me through the unknown
future.*

*I never need to be afraid, no matter how uncertain
the months and years ahead of me.*

*My God is great and I love to give my thanks.
(Psalm 105 paraphrased)*

I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving.

Mohandas Barnabas

Small Voices of Grace

Small Voices is back for another exciting year! This group is made up of almost 30 children between the ages of 3 and 10. Small Voices meets every Thursday for 45 minutes. It is a very busy 45 minutes filled with games, singing and of course a snack. Children in this group become a community. They have learned to help each other out when needed, include everyone and have fun no matter what. It has truly been a blessing to see this group form and change year to year! We are



very lucky to have Mrs. Weimer and lots of new helpers come join us. This group would not be possible without them! Watch for Small Voices every third Sunday as they bring joy and happiness to the congregation!

Kendra Gonczy, Youth Coordinator

Welcome to the **2018-2019 Sunday School Season**. Our first class was held on Sunday, September 16th after our Kick off on Saturday, September 15th.

This year our classes will following a similar set up as last year. As an incentive, for every 4 classes a child attends they will be awarded a small prize.

All ages are welcome to come downstairs during Sunday School time. Children ages 3+ are welcome to join us in the classroom while children under 3 are free to join their parent(s) in the Nursery. **On the third Sunday of each month (Small Voices and Potluck), the Nursery will be staffed with our preteen/teen volunteers.** I encourage you take advantage of this time and to participate in the service upstairs while your little one plays.

This year the Church Board would like to encourage the children to participate in the offering. Offering envelopes will be sent home on an "as need basis" and if your child would like to give an offering they can bring it with them to Sunday School and we will do a collection at the beginning of each class.

I am excited to work with the children and continue our learning from last year. If you would like to extend the Sunday School lessons in your home please note the "**Family Page**" that will be sent home with your child at the end of each class.

Stephanie Knibbs,

Sunday School Coordinator

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Email address: grace.veyburn@sasktel.net
Website: graceunitedchurch-veyburn.ca
"like" us on Facebook: **Grace United Church-Weyburn**
"follow" us on twitter: [@gracechur](https://twitter.com/gracechur)

Spirit of Grace

Spirit of Grace is made up of 10 girls between the ages of 8 and 12. This group meets every Monday evening to try and accommodate all of these girls' very busy schedules!

This year, Spirit of Grace will be doing an entire church service themselves. It will be a surprise when it happens so make sure you don't miss it!

The girls will be working on more difficult music this year and will be trying some 2-part singing...wow!

This fall, they will be working on a musical to present to the community. Keep your eyes and ears open to find out what it is and when it will happen.

This group is such a fun group to meet with. They bring a lot of energy and are always excited to start something new! They have formed friendships and bonds that will last for years to come. It has been so amazing to see them come together to make music and friendships! Here's to another exciting year!

Kendra Gonczy, Youth Coordinator

United Church Women (U.C.W.)

U.C.W. members meet the second Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm in Upper Grace Hall. Three new members were welcomed at our first meeting. Each meeting includes worship, a short program and a short business meeting. At our last meeting a chiropractor spoke to us on the importance of exercise for a healthy mind and body. A report was given on food safety. We were also updated on the Johnston family situation.

Laura Chapman will look into homeless patients at the Regina Pasqua Hospital who need warm clothing when released from the hospital. This will be the third year we have supported this project. Church projects such as the Christmas Bake Sale, Garage Sale and Salad Smorg go towards supporting ongoing church projects.

We welcome all women of Grace United Church to join us in fellowship in the U.C.W. If you are unable to commit to regular meetings but would be willing to help out with our special projects please contact:

Mryt Thorson 306-842-0339 /
Jeanette Hamm 306-842-3826





Confirmation 2018 – 2019

Making new disciples for Jesus is the ministry of the church. The Confirmation program will start the first week of November.

Encourage your children and grandchildren, ages 13 and over, to join this program. Please call the church office to register and for information. Recognizing the busy schedule young people have at this time of the year the confirmation program is designed to make it easy for them. All that a confirmand is expected to do is choose a mentor. A mentor could be one from the family, a friend or someone known in the congregation. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. Looking forward to hearing from you. Contact the church at (306) 842-5131 for more information.



April 7, 2018

Tyson Becker & Ashley Skjerdal

September 1, 2018

Ward Holland & Cheryl Krowicki

WCS Grads

We recognize the graduates of Weyburn Comprehensive School from Grace United Church.

Congratulations to:

Olivia Barber
Riley Croal
Jacey Fellner
Cameron MacMurchy
Alex Richards
Emma Von Hagen



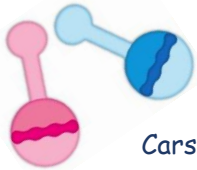
Congratulations also to:

Denver Klein, who graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering

Carson Reiser, grandson of Marvin and Helen Reiser, graduated from High School in Calgary, Alberta on June 1, 2018

Shae Rivard, grandson of Willa-Mae Donald, who graduated from Grade 12, in Regina and moving to Invermere, BC

Charlene Donald-Rivard, daughter of Willa-Mae Donald, who is now General Manager of a hotel in Invermere, BC



Baptisms

Carson Dale Richard-Raymond,
son of Stacy Raymond

Bailey Marie Monteyne, daughter of
Krystal Monteyne and Cody Lacoste

Cassius Wesley Henning,
son of Richard and Carly Henning

Jax Anders Jensen,
son of Eleesha Cooper and Grant Jensen

Brinley Grace Jensen,
son of Eleesha Cooper and Grant Jensen

Emerson Andrew Garth Aspen,
son of Nate' -Marie Aspen and Christian Short

Dawson Brent James Kyle,
son of Damon and Justine Kyle

Victoria Van Roon, daughter of
Jeremy and Julie Van Roon

Funerals and Memorials

Cheryl Lynne Roberts
Heather Catherine Keefe
Georgina Lorraine M'Adams
Olivia Eileen Dammann
Ruby Irene Hood
Ferris Charles Lawrence
Edna Mae Mactaggart
Ethel Laura Campbell
Craig Robert Daer
George Peter Barsness
Lona Wilkinson





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FAITH AND HUMOR ONLINE STUDY GROUP

For four Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in October (2, 9, 16 & 23) the Christian Education Committee is sponsoring an online video series for discussion and reflection. It may sound counterintuitive, but humor and laughter are some of God's greatest gifts. In this course pastor and stand-up comic Susan Sparks offers clever insights into how we can see humor as essential to the spiritual journey. The four presentations are entitled: Faith & Humor; Humor and the Bible; Humor and Healing; and Humor and Empowerment. The sessions will be facilitated by Vic Wiebe and should last 45 minutes to an hour. Also, arrangements are being made for Bonnitta Whitrow, now a member of our congregation and a leader in laughter workshops to engage with us for a brief time at the end of one of the sessions.

It is hoped that the time and length of the sessions would make it attractive for some of the parents of our Sunday School children to attend for their own development and to get to better know others in the congregation.

For any in the congregation for whom attendance is not practical, the videos themselves can be viewed online as can a significant number of other courses offered by ChurchNext, an online site affiliated with the Episcopal Church in the USA. To get password access to our church's temporary subscription for this site, contact Vic Wiebe at 306-861-1770.

The Christian Education Committee is working towards more opportunities for education for all ages in Grace United.

Christian Education Committee is establishing a bank account at the Weyburn Credit Union, under the Consolidated Policy of Grace United Church (February 27, 2011)

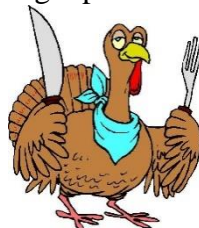
The Mission of Grace United Church is to help people discover and nurture their Christian Faith, within a loving and inclusive community, which serves God daily in the world.

Fall Book Study



Fall book study will begin on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 10:00 am. The book chosen for this season is titled "**Christianity after Religion**" authored by **Diana Butler Bass**. Bass offers a fresh interpretation of the "Spiritual but not religious" trend and shares a hope-filled vision for a renewed faith that stays true to the real message of Jesus. Everyone is welcome!

Signup sheets for the **Turkey Supper on Monday, October 29th** are located in the Saint Andrews Gathering Place. Tickets for the Turkey Supper will go on sale before and after the church services: October 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. Tickets can also be purchased at the office.



Silent Auction items are welcome and can be dropped off at the Church office. Donated Silent Auction items are to be brought to the church by noon on the day of the turkey supper, Monday, October 29th.

If you are cooking a turkey for your family's Thanksgiving dinner, we would appreciate it if you could use the turkey bones to make turkey stock to be used for making the gravy for our Turkey Supper on Monday, October 29th. Please bring the gravy stock before Sunday, October 28th, label it and put in the fridge in Upper Grace Hall.

Thank you for your donations of time and talent, Fellowship Committee

Co-ordinator,
Susan Lawrence

