

*A Sanctuary of Hope and  
Jesus' Love for Everyone*



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Pastor Stephanie Cramer***

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**Grace-St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

## **GRACE NOTES**

**November, 2020**

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Greetings!

We are standing on the threshold of winter's door. I know this is perhaps distressing news for some or most of you, but for me it is most glorious news! I love winter, I even love driving in the snow, but not the ice. Despite my personal proclivities, I recognize winter brings its own challenges. Our church will experience some of those challenges, which are made more acute by the pandemic. Probably our biggest challenge will be the 9:00 am outside service. Obviously, the cold temperatures and weather will most likely prelude our worshipping outside for a few months. I have some ideas which will be discussed at our November board meeting. We will update you through announcements, etc. when we know.

You will also be seeing some information on our annual stewardship drive in the coming weeks. It will look a little bit different this year, but the needs are still the same. Stay tuned for updates from the Financial Committee. Your financial participation is vital to the continuation of the important ministries Grace-St. Paul's supports. This is even more important than ever in the midst of the pandemic. People still need the hope that Jesus offers, and your contributions enable us to tell them of that hope in our little corner of the world.

There are some ways in which you can be involved in the life of your church at this time. We have started holding the bible study in person in the sanctuary on Thursday's at 10:00 am. We are just beginning a study on the book of Acts. I will be leading the study and am excited to do so. Though we are in person, there is a Zoom option for those who are not comfortable to come in person. Please see me if you are interested.

Donna DeVillers and Harold Sandford are also resuming Grief Share on Tuesday mornings in the sanctuary. This is a wonderful ministry. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this, please let Donna or Harold know, or you can talk to either me or Pastor Stephanie and we will put you in touch with them.

We recognize that this has been a trying year, and that the virus doesn't seem to be abating quickly. Our challenge as a church is to learn how to continue to be the Body of Christ to our community in the midst of our situation. Since it seems we will be dealing with this well into next year, it is vital that we learn to adapt and to embrace the ever-changing situation. Please continue to tell people of the wonderful story of Jesus and humbly offer to invite them to church, or to online church. We are eager to continue to be a beacon of light in a dark world.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

Pastor Tim

## **Sunday Worship**

**9:00 am- OUTDOOR B.Y.O.E. SERVICE**

**BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR, COFFEE, ETC.  
AND ENJOY THIS BRIEF (½ hour), MEANINGFUL SERVICE  
NO REGISTRATION or MASKS REQUIRED - SOCIAL DISTANCING STILL IN EFFECT**

**(As we near the winter weather, please check email, Facebook, church website, and church voicemail for possible updates/cancellations for this service.)**

**10:00 am- INDOOR WORSHIP**

**MASKS MUST BE WORN AND SOCIAL DISTANCING MAINTAINED**

**(Online livestreaming also available for this service. Please visit [gspumc.org](http://gspumc.org) for link.)**



**Attention children of all ages and parents!**

Check out the church's website for information and web link for lessons for Sunday.

You can pick and choose what activity you like to do.

There are coloring pages, mazes, word searches, crossword puzzles, etc. for preschool to elementary ages.

All lessons are from the church lectionary.

We miss you all. Stay safe.

- KidzZone Teachers



New GriefShare group begins 11/3/2020 @ 10am.

GriefShare is a 13-week program with video and discussion each week. \$10 charge for materials, but scholarships available.

If you or someone you know is grieving the loss of a close family member or friend, we are here to help.

Call Donna (570) 225-8565 or email [gspumcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gspumcoffice@gmail.com) for info



If you are in need of prayer, would like to participate in praying for others, or would like to volunteer to distribute requests, please email [gspumcprayer@gmail.com](mailto:gspumcprayer@gmail.com) or talk to Donna deVillers.

When submitting prayer requests, please keep the confidentiality of the person in mind. God knows the situation and all details are not always necessary.

Requests may also be submitted via our Facebook closed Prayer Group: GSP online Prayer Room

***"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."  
Acts 2:42***

## **Thursday Morning Bible Study 10 am**

We are studying the book of Acts.

Join us in the church sanctuary. Social distancing will be in place and please wear a mask.

If you would like to join via Zoom, please email the church.

## **Introducing THE CLASS MEETING!!**

What is a Class Meeting, you say? Well it stems back to the roots of Methodism and was REQUIRED of members in the early days of the church.

A class meeting is a small group of believers who meet together weekly to discuss how their relationship with God has been over the past week....aka.. *How is it with your soul?*

Did you know we have a thriving Class Meeting small group in our congregation that has been meeting (via ZOOM) for 21 weeks.

Need a boost in your relationship with God and others? Feeling nudged to grow as a disciple? Consider starting or joining a Small Group Class meeting. It's very different from any group you've been a part of in the past... for more information, please contact Donna deVillers (570) 225-8565 or [gspumcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gspumcoffice@gmail.com).

# GSP Women's Ministry Meeting

All ladies of GSP are invited!

**Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 am via Zoom**

Zoom is an online video chat. There is also a phone call-in option.

For Zoom link and questions, please contact Heather Bacsick at [sweet88@ptd.net](mailto:sweet88@ptd.net).

## Please note:

- **Administrative Council:** Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm via Zoom.
- **Grace Notes newsletter:** Information for the December *Grace Notes* is due by 12 noon on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to Heather Bacsick. Please send information to [sweet88@ptd.net](mailto:sweet88@ptd.net).



## Celebrations!

**Happy Birthday to:** Grace Kenna 4    Jacob Pieri 4    Steve Oldman 5    Harold Sandford 10  
Denise Savoie 11    Diane Clarke 19    Joy Connell 22    Marian Dickes 22    Marion Hamilton 28  
Lee Adams 30

**Happy Anniversary to:** Ruth & Bill Trimble 19    Shirley & Don Meader 22

*\*If your special day is not listed, please contact Heather Bacsick ([sweet88@ptd.net](mailto:sweet88@ptd.net))*



### PENN-KIDDER MINISTERIUM AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

40 Church Road, Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

P. O. Box 2210, Albrightsville, PA 18210

570-722-1712 / [pkmasp@ptd.net](mailto:pkmasp@ptd.net) / [www.pkmasp.vpweb.com](http://www.pkmasp.vpweb.com)

*A Safe, Secure, Faith-Based Learning Environment for the Children of Our Community*

Hello,

November 8th will mark two months, two months that school is back in session. The After-School and Before-School Programs are up and running albeit at a much lower enrollment. We are operating at about 50% of our normal number of children. Things are expected to change for the better after the first of the year. Many of our parents withheld their children from face-to-face school and will re-evaluate after Christmas.

You will notice the Mini Mobile Container in the parking lot. Church chairs and a lot of Program things are stored there. The container will be gone when we move to a less restrictive status and we can return to a more normal existence.

Upon entering the building, you may smell a faint scent of bleach. The smell is the disinfectant that is used to sanitize the church each day. It is nothing to worry about. Hand sanitizers are located throughout the church.

Focusing back on our children, we have three of our children being named as students of the month. Report cards will be out soon, and we expect many of our children will be on the Honor Roll.

Seeking some fun and an opportunity to learn the New Math, the ASP is always looking for volunteers. Contact Donna Tweed if you are interested.

Yours in Christ,  
Rick Tweed