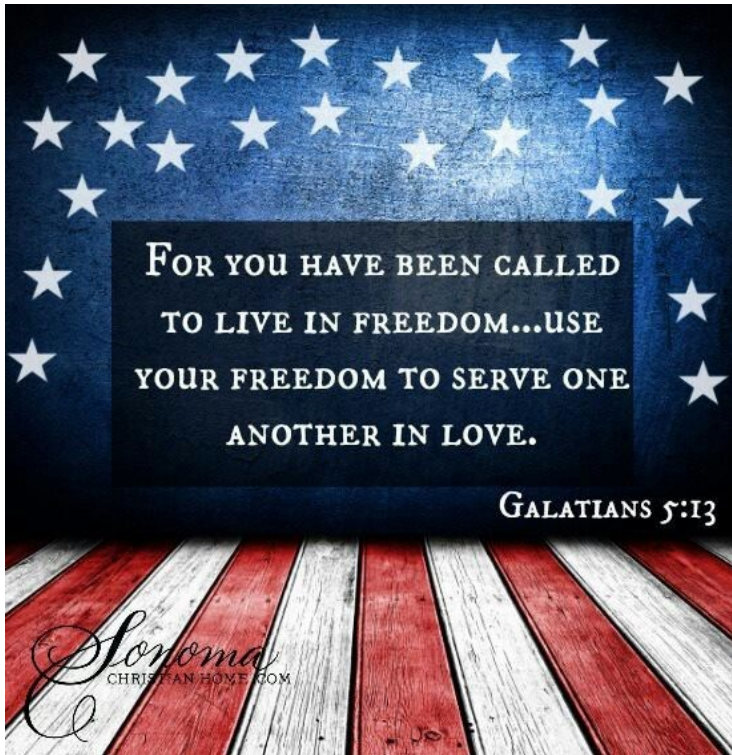


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 05, 2026



Pastor Sandy Kraft

127 S. Pennsylvania Avenue

Centre Hall, PA 16828



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

July 05, 2026
10:00 AM

6th Sunday after Pentecost



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CENTERING WORDS—Genesis 24, Psalm 45

“May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes” ...Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your earIn the place of ancestors you ...shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you for ever and ever.

NOTE: If you are able, please stand where this symbol appears †

+CALL TO WORSHIP—

LEADER: You are called to be free; but do not let this freedom become an excuse for letting your physical desires control you.

PEOPLE: We come seeking the power of the Holy Spirit to direct our lives.

LEADER: God has called us all to service.

PEOPLE: We pray for the Spirit to produce in us kindness and goodness, that we may be free to serve the needs of others.

+OPENING PRAYER—

Almighty God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have set us free. Give us this day a clear understanding that we were not set free for self-indulgence but for service. Take from our minds all thoughts of using our freedom to become masters through power, and instill in us a passion to use our freedom to become your faithful servants through love. In Jesus's name. Amen.

+HYMN—For the Beauty of the Earth (verses 1,4,5 &6), page #92 UMH

FIRST SCRIPTURE—Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

PRAYER

+HYMN – We Shall Overcome, page 533 UMH

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

THE MESSAGE

COMMUNION

INVITATION—

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON—

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. From the dust of the earth you formed us in your own image, giving us beauty, intelligence, and a soul to represent you in this world. Sadly, in our arrogance we chose to trust the word of the serpent rather than your word of promise: we chose the tragedies of sin and death over the blessings of righteousness and life. Even though we turned our backs on you, Holy Creator, you never gave up on us: you sent us your covenant and your prophets and, in the fullness of time, you sent your very Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to gather us into your family once more. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ – our Lord, our master, our brother and friend. Through his birth, ministry, death and resurrection, Jesus revealed your love for us in word and in deed; in him you have brought us out of the nightmare of sin and death and into glory in your amazing grace; in him

we live, and move, and have our being in the sure and certain knowledge that his righteousness is our righteousness, his grace our grace, his peace our peace. And, now, Jesus calls us to his join with him in your eternal banquet, offering us the best seats at the table even though we do not deserve to even join in the feast. But the words are sure, and certain, and worthy of full acceptance: “Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”

For on the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with your Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY—Page 94, UMH

+CLOSING HYMN—America the Beautiful, page 696 UMH

BENEDICTION



★ ONE ★
Nation
★ UNDER ★
God

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S OUTDOOR SERVICE

Worship Leader: Pastor Sandy Kraft

Liturgist: Matt Powell

Acolyte: Witlee Ash

Pianist: Aimee Gahagen

Greeters / Communion Assistants:

Erskine and Willie Cash

Electronic Technicians: Jack Oakes, Jeremy Peters

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE— July 12, 2026

Liturgist: Merrilee Barner

Acolyte: Emma Evans

Greeters: Gale Marshall and Jane Taylor

Bell Ringer: Lincoln Evans

Church Checker: Brian Heiser—June 29 to July 12

CHURCH AND PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastor Sandy's cell phone: (570) 575-8225

Email: skraft@susumc.org

Church office phone number: 814-364-1701

Church office email address: gumc127@gmail.com



Please keep all members, family, and friends in your thoughts and prayers, especially those listed below:

06/14/26—no requests

06/21/26—no requests

06/28/26—Continued prayers for Leah and Luca Azemar, thankfully Luca is now home the NICU; Continued prayers for Susan Romanini to ease her back pain—both requested by Merrilee Barner

Prayers for the Darr Family, Alan's brother Ron passed away. The Darr's address is below:

Allan and Laura Darr, 4511 Green Island, Okatie, SC 29909

Please keep Jason Barron in your thoughts and prayers during his continued military deployment.

REMINDER: *To request a name to be printed in the weekly church bulletin, please refer to the prayer request cards located in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate. Or, call or email your requests to the church office. Thank you.*

Please keep our homebound friends in your thoughts and prayers!

Bertha Cassidy
Liz Fink

Lou Cole
Evelyn Yost

NOTE: addresses available in the directory, or contact the church office.

UPCOMING *Events*

07/08/26—Group Event—Union Pacific's Big Boy locomotive passing through Huntingdon County on July 8th.

Please meet at the church parking lot at 12:15 PM to discuss carpooling with whoever is there. Note: Due to Carl's work schedule, he will meet us on site.

Address: 6192 Isenberg Lane

Alexandria, PA 16611

Please bring a lawn chair and dress accordingly for the weather conditions.

If you are planning to attend, please sign up on the clip board to be passed around during today's church service.

For more information, please contact Carl Cassidy at 814/574-2866

08/03-07/26—Beloved Community Day Camp—see details on next page

09/16/26—Group Event—Sight and Sound Theater, "Joshua", 3:00 P.M. Ticket price is \$85.00. See clip board to sign up.

Payment due by August 9th. Just drop payment check into the collection plate, or drop off at the church office.

Finance Committee Reminder:

The Finance Committee decided to divert all Building Fund donations to current maintenance and repairs. The annual Trustees' budget is \$11,000 annually and these funds will help offset needed repairs. We want you to be aware this is the case. The "Building Fund" is currently over \$50,000 and there are substantial "Memorial Funds" that can be used for any unexpected major expenses. Please contact Chris Hosterman if you have any questions concerning this change.

BELOVED COMMUNITY DAY CAMP

August 3rd —7th

Volunteers age 18 and older are needed for the Beloved Community Camp to be held August 3-7 at Lion's Club Park, 153 E. Church Street, Centre Hall.

This all-day camp (8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) is for children completing kindergarten through 5th grade. There will be games, Bible lessons, singing, crafts and lots of good food! Volunteers can help with food prep, escorting participants throughout the day to and from activities, crafts and games. You can volunteer for one day or up to five days! Please note on the sign-up sheet which days you are available and what you are interested in doing.

The Camp complies with Safe Sanctuaries as required by the United Methodist Church and supported by the Centre Hall Council of Churches. If you need assistance with acquiring clearances, please call Grace Church office at 814-364-1701 and someone will be in touch with you. Your help will make this a wonderful experience for the campers!



July Mission — Penns Valley Youth Center

Their mission is to provide students in the community with hope, worth, and friendship. To do so we provide a fun and safe environment in order to encourage healthy habits and promote wise choices. Teenagers from every walk of life need a place outside of the home and school where they can relax, have fun, meet friends and be themselves. We operate an After School Program that includes tutoring, workshops, healthy foods, gym time and weekly family style dinners. We just contracted with a counselor to have on-site appointments available to students and their families. Over the past 8 years, we have worked hard to build relationships with the Penns Valley School District, local churches and businesses and individuals that are all working together to take care of the students in Penns Valley.



REMINDER—The Food Pantry crew meets every third Tuesday of the month.



July — liquid hand soap

August — laundry detergent

Thank you!



2026 Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child"

"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?" ~Isaiah 43:19

We have revamped our "Category of the Month" Campaign to be more specific. We are asking for these specific donations OR **monetary donations so that we can purchase items in bulk** at a lower cost. Please make sure your checks/envelopes specify "OCC Donation" before placing in the offering plate or mailing to the church. We will continue to accept other items but are specifically highlighting these needs.

JULY REQUESTS: 200 one subject notebooks or composition books, 1000 pencils, 200 pens

AUGUST REQUESTS: 100 Boxes of Crayons (24 ct.) and / or colored pencils, 100 coloring books, 100 kids scissors (blunt ends)

Empty Shoeboxes (It costs of \$157 to order 200 preprinted OCC shoeboxes!)

Old T-shirts – to be transformed into jump ropes! (stained, faded, small holes – all okay!)

More information?

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/Operation Christmas Child>

Questions? Please contact Coordinator Kelly Wian (call/text 814-360-0257), or the church office. Thank you!