



# Days of Grace

JULY 2026 EDITION

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Children's Sunday School @ 9:00 am**  
**Worship Services @ 10:00 am**

### JULY

**1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> - Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church**  
**8<sup>th</sup> - Women's Ministry - ZOOM @ 7:30 PM**  
**10<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Movie @ 3:00 PM**  
**18<sup>th</sup> - PAL - Grace UCC Helpers @ 9:00 AM**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> - Women's Ministry - In Person @ 7:30 PM**

### AUGUST

**5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> - Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church**  
**12<sup>th</sup> - Women's Ministry - ZOOM @ 7:30 PM**  
**14<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Movie @ 3:00 PM**  
**15<sup>th</sup> - PAL - Grace UCC Helpers @ 9:00 AM**  
**26<sup>th</sup> - Women's Ministry - In Person @ 7:30 PM**

**Church Sanctuary is open every Wednesday from**  
**11:00 – 12:00 for**  
**A moment of Peace & Stillness**





**Acts 2:46-47 “Every day they met together, breaking bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God.”**

Dear Friends,

I recently had the honor and privilege of attending the first Keystone Conference Annual Meeting. The Keystone Conference is only 6 months old; it began January 1, 2026 with the merger of the four historic Pennsylvania UCC conferences. People from all over the state traveled to Millersville University to spend time together in fellowship and in worship. We worshipped with Rev. Dr. Marcia McFee, including a blessing from our UCC General Minister and President Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson. Rev. Dr. Gregg Edwards Rev. Dr. Mary Luti, Rev. Freeman Palmer, and Secretary Russ Redding, PA Secretary of Agriculture filled our spiritual cups through conversation and prayer.

Our theme this year was “Joy at the Table”. What a beautiful picture—welcoming everyone to our table in love and widening the table to make room for everyone. There is not joy at every table though. There are so many people in the state of Pennsylvania who have food insecurity, meaning that they cannot guarantee when they will have their next meal. Secretary Redding shared a wonderfully crafted message that wove theology with public policy with statistics on food insecurities, and stories of farm life. We were all part of the People of the Table mission, bringing rice and beans to the Lancaster Food Hub and donations of other food to area food banks.

My friends, I wish that you had all been there with me this weekend. My spiritual cup has been filled and I am recharged and renewed, and I am so grateful. But the beautiful thing is that what happened at Annual Meeting doesn't have to stay at Millersville. It can move beyond those walls and into each of our lives. We often find ourselves sticking together with the same friends. We find that we have the same conversations. The beauty of this world is in the uniqueness of each of us. In a world that encourages division and separation—boxes to contain and isolate, we have this Christ-filled opportunity to make our tables longer, to welcome a stranger into our circle, and to offer love in a world that needs it so desperately. This week, my friends, I challenge you...I implore you...to find someone who is different than you—geographically, politically, economically, or physically. Invite them to your table. Break bread together and share in the One who unites us together. Friends, may your tables grow longer this week. Add another chair. Make room for someone new. That's where Christ meets us.

Blessings and peace,

*Pastor Amy*



# WOMEN'S Music Ministry

## SECOND WEDNESDAY

of every month,  
we will meet via



@ 7:30 PM

## FOURTH WEDNESDAY

of every month,  
we will meet

*in person*

@ 7:30 PM

either outside in  
Franklin Street lawn  
or in the  
gathering place  
(weather pending)



*Women of all ages*  
are invited to participate in both.



The Strengthen the Church Offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

*As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will:*



*Plant* new churches



*Awaken* new ideas in existing churches



*Develop* the spiritual life in our youth and young adults



THIS OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN ON  
*Sunday, July 5th*

Together, we can strengthen Christ's Church for future generations.

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*  
— 2 Corinthians 9:7

*Thank you*  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
AND GENEROSITY!

*Love God. Love Neighbor. Make a Difference.*

BIBLE STUDY GROUP AND MOVIE  
HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD FOR  
THE SUMMER. WE WILL  
RESTART IN SEPTEMBER.  
ENJOY THE SUMMER AND WE WILL  
SEE YOU SOON.





### PROVIDE A LUNCH (P-A-L)



Grace is still preparing the meal every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at Hanover Area Council of Churches for the PAL lunch! Contact Linda or Craig Bixler with any questions.

### GATHERING PLACE REFRESHMENTS



Our Gathering Place on Sunday mornings is abuzz with great fellowship and caring hearts. Won't you consider joining us before and/or after the service? We're also seeking new people to offer to provide snacks.... Nothing fancy needed 😊. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board

### LECTOR SIGN UP



If you are interested in being a part of the morning worship service by serving as a Lector, please see the bulletin board in the Gathering place to sign up. Thank you.

### PRAYER REQUESTS



If you have a prayer request, please call, text, or email Pastor Amy Fawks who will then add your request to the Bible Moment and Prayer Line (717-346-1703). You may leave messages on the Prayer Line or reach her at 717-698-6366. You can email her at FawksAmy@gmail.com.



### JULY FILM

This 1998 romantic comedy is about two rival bookstore owners. The film will be shown Friday July 10th at 3 PM in Fellowship Hall. The film is rated **PG** and runs 120 minutes. Snacks provided. Doors locked at 3:15.

### WOMEN'S MUSIC MINISTRY



On the second Wednesday of every month, we will meet via zoom. @ 7:30 PM & on the fourth Wednesday of every month we will meet in person @ 7:30 pm either outside in Franklin Street lawn or in the gathering place (weather pending) **Women of all ages are invited to participate in both.**

### PERSONELL COMMITTEE

Personnel



The Personnel Committee has been busy with monthly routine tasks. We are pleased to have a short -term accompanist join us for many Sundays to lead us musically this summer through the end of the summer. Our Music Director Search Committee will meet to discuss Grace UCC's expectations for a permanent position. We will also brainstorm wording for advertising the position. The committee includes Pastor Amy and a representative from Personnel, Worship and Music, Finance, and Consistory, as well as 2 Choir Members.

## CURRENT CONSISTORY MEMBERS - 2026

**Co - President** – Vickie Arnold . . . 717-476-1492  
**Co – President** – Jenn Weaver . . . 717-451-9703  
**Vice President** - Joleen Fennell... 717-633-7813  
**Secretary** – Craig Bixler . . . 717-632-5606  
**Asst. Secretary** - Anita Kincaid . . . 717-476-1222  
**Co – Treasurer** – Brad Arnold . . . 717-688-0890  
**Co – Treasurer** – Rick Boyer . . . 717-881-9116  
**Asst. Treasurer** – Chelsey Topper . . . 717-640-1092  
**Becky Boyer** . . . 717-881-9116  
**Susan Dienes** - . . . 717-870-1288  
**Angie Boyers** - . . . 717-817-5344

## GRACE UCC STAFF

**Pastor** - Amy Fawks . . . 717-698-6366  
**Organist/Dir. of Music** -  
**Office Manager/Bookkeeper**-  
Karen Samuelson . . . 717-688-9891  
**Sexton** – Zachery Jackson . . . 301-802-1570  
**Office Phone Number** . . . 717-632-1146  
**Prayer Line and Bible Moment** . . . 717-346-1703

## 2026 Committees & Teams

**Administrative Committees (bold denotes chair)**

- **Budget & Finance:** **Brad Arnold, Richard Boyer**, Linda Bixler, Pastor Amy Fawks, Chelsey Topper
- **Deacon's Fund:** **Pastor Amy Fawks**, Victoria Arnold, Craig Bixler, Rebecca Boyer, Fay Emlet
- **Education Fund:** **Linda Bixler**, Brad Arnold, Richard Boyer, Pastor Amy Fawks, Chelsey Topper
- **Memorial Fund:** **Pastor Amy Fawks**
- **Nominating:** **Victoria Arnold**, Pastor Amy Fawks, Jenn Weaver, Judy Rummel
- **Personnel:** **Joleen Fennell**, Angie Boyers, Fay Emlet, Pastor Amy Fawks, Pam Kreitz
- **By-laws & Policy:** Dormant in 2026

**Trustees:** Leonard Bankert, Craig Bixler, Pastor Amy Fawks, David Fawks, Mike Mummert, Chelsey Topper

### Worship & Music Team

- **Worship & Music:** Pastor Amy Fawks, Victoria Arnold, Martha Channell, Susan Dienes, Pam Kreitz
- **Hospitality:** **Victoria Arnold**, Pastor Amy Fawks, Angie Boyers, Anita Kincaid, Chelsey Topper
- **Head Usher:** Consistory
- **Altar Guild:** **Susan Dienes**, Rebecca Boyer, Pastor Amy Fawks, Joleen Fennell, Anita Kincaid, Chelsey Topper

### Church Relations

- **HACC:** Craig Bixler, Linda Bixler
- **Conference Delegates:** **Pastor Amy Fawks**, Craig Bixler, Linda Bixler, Jenn Weaver, Chelsey Topper

### Empowerment Team

- **Visitation:** **Pastor Amy Fawks**, Craig Bixler, Linda Bixler
- **Pastoral Relations Team:** **Pastor Amy Fawks**, Rebecca Boyer, Charlie Fennell, Jenn Weaver
- **Stewardship:** **Chelsey Topper**, Pastor Amy Fawks

### Faith Formation

- **David Fawks, Jenn Weaver**, Linda Bixler, Pastor Amy Fawks, Joleen Fennell, Anita Kincaid

### Outreach Team

- **Craig Bixler**, Janette Becker, Linda Bixler, Rebecca Boyer, Angie Boyers, Pastor Amy Fawks, Joleen Fennell, Pam Kreitz, Chelsey Topper, Marsha Theisson



## **JULY**

**July 5<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 24:34-38, 42 -49, 58-67 & Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13, Zechariah 9:9-12 & Psalm 145:8-14, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19

**July 12<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 25:19-34 & Psalm 119: 105-112, Isaiah 55:10-13 & Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-13  
Romans 8:1-11 & Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**July 19<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 28:10-19a & Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24, Isaiah 44:6-8 & Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**July 26<sup>th</sup>** - Genesis 29:15-28 & Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 119:129-136, 1 Kings 3:5-12 & Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

## **AUGUST**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Genesis 32:22-31 & Psalm 17:1-7, 15, Isaiah 55:1-5 & Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

**August 9<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 & Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b, 1 Kings 19:9-18 & Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-23

**August 16<sup>th</sup>** – Genesis 45:1-5 & Psalm 133, Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 & Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15 (10-20), 21-28

**August 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Exodus 1:8-2:10 & Psalm 124, Isaiah 51:1-6 & Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

**August 30<sup>th</sup>** – Exodus 3:1-15 & , & Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b, Jeremiah 15:15-21 & Psalm 26: 1-8, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

## June Consistory Digest

There were 11 members present including Pastor Amy, Brad Arnold, and Rick Boyer.

Treasurer's report:

General pledge May 2026: \$7,503.00

General pledge May 2025: \$ 4,540.00

YTD income: \$54,678.89

YTD expenses: \$100,743.68

YTD deficit: \$46,064.79

Checking account balances:

-- Operating Fund: \$23,728.89

-- Deacon Fund: \$18,684.80

-- Education Fund: \$11,068.02

➤ \$0.00

-- Memorial Fund: \$17,423.49

Our Music Director Search Committee met on June 01. Members are Pastor Amy, Linda Bixler-finance, Martha Channel-Choir Member, Pam Kreitz-Worship & Music, Deb Rickrode-Choir Member, Joleen Fennell-Personnel. Our meeting discussion focused on immediate and long-term needs. Angie Boyers has also volunteered to join the committee as a Consistory member. The next Search Committee Meeting will be on July 15 at 3:45.

The December 2026 PAL meal will be Linda and Craig Bixler's last month to prepare meals, or possibly sooner. There was some discussion as to whether Grace wants to continue with the program.

Pastor Amy reported the theme for the first Keystone Conference, held at Millersville University, June 5-7, was *Come to the Table*. Approximately 600 attended. There was a lot of good worship and conversation. There are 507 congregations in the Keystone Conference with 72% having under 50 members attending. Chelsey Topper and Jenn Weaver attended as lay delegates from Grace.

The next Faith Formation (formerly Christian Education) meeting will be Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5 PM.

The Strengthen the Church offering will be Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Amy reported:

- SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:
  - Celebrating Graduates (June 21st)
  - Blessing of the Backpacks (Aug 30th)
  - Blessing of the Pets (September 12th)
- We have found someone who will play the piano on Sunday mornings through the summer. More details will follow.

Vickie Arnold and Jenn Weaver reported:

- We hope that everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer season. We will continue our second Saturday series in some different ways over the next few months. In June, we will hold our yard sale, rain or shine. (hopefully shine) July will follow with the town's annual Snacktown street fair.

- We are encouraging folks who would like to attend to sign up to collectively attend the fair together. We are considering possibly renting a booth for next year's fair and would like folks to attend to brainstorm what we could offer to our community at such an event.
- Our final second Saturday will be in August, and we will have another games gathering in Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite game: board, electronic, card, or mind! We will share in joyful play.

Prepared by Craig Bixler 6/12/26

### Special Thank You's

Thank you for your generous support of Trinity UCC–Dorseyville following the devastating fire that damaged their church.

Through your generosity, a total of **\$638.00** was collected and donated to assist Trinity UCC as they begin the work of rebuilding and restoring their ministry.

*"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." — Galatians 6:2*

Angie Boyers would like to thank everyone who either donated items or their time to make this yard sale such a success. We were able to raise \$799.00 that will go towards Building and Maintenance here at Grace UCC.



# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

## WORD SEARCH

T M N W Q J E T A R B E L E C D Y  
I M T Q H H Y M Q R Q U D U E I A  
O Q T A W Q M Z Y E X U C C N T D  
I N D E P E N D E N C E L C J A I  
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U R P U F U B E E A Y S T R U B H  
P O A Y D L D W T O E C I N C I P  
K W R W E A A I L P O E A U E O N  
F E K H T F O G I A D E U S D I H  
Y R L I I N T R B E M D T N A T L  
L I E T N P T Z E U R A E T R S C  
U F R E U S L Q R R R U I U A A E  
J V S O D L K V T S L R O K P J B  
W I T O E O M O Y B B F I U P J L  
I A S V Y E M R E D R E M M U S E

America

Blue

Britain

Celebrate

Declaration

Fireworks

Flag

Fourth

Freedom

Holiday

Independence

July

Liberty

Parade

Picnic

Red

Sparklers

Stars

Stripes

Summer

United

White



Grace United Church of Christ  
100 Fourth Street  
Hanover PA 17331



*CHRIST CALLS US TO REACH OUT WITH LOVE AND SHARE GOD'S GRACE*

**WELCOME EVERYONE!**

Grace United Church of Christ  
100 Fourth Street Hanover PA 17331  
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