



Days of Grace

May 2025 Edition

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

7th & 21st - Monthly Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church

2nd – Monthly Movie @ 3:00 pm

17th – Provide-A-Lunch (PAL)

21st – Bible Study Group @ 12:30 pm
movie @ 2:00 pm

JUNE

4th & 18th - Monthly Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church

13th – Monthly Movie

21st - Provide-A-Lunch (PAL)

Please Join Us

The Transition Team and the consistory of Grace welcome you to attend our worship service on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 10am in the sanctuary. Reverend, Dr. Nora Foust of our Penn Central Conference will be joining us. We celebrate that through the past many unsettled years, our doors have remained open! Grace continues to be a gathering of faithful people who are joined together by God's unwavering love and who are committed to sharing his greatness.



What a remarkable transition time this has been! Grace should be so proud of the work and ministry that has been accomplished since August of 2023. Although rocky at times, we have stayed the course, and Grace has emerged a stronger more secure body of Christ. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Transition (Yoked) Pastor. I have requested to both Consistory and Pastoral Relations that May 25, 2025, be my final Sunday with Grace. With my sabbatical starting on June 1st it seems to be the perfect time for me to transition out of the yoked ministry between Grace and Trinity, Gettysburg. I do so, knowing that Grace is poised for a fruitful and faithful future.

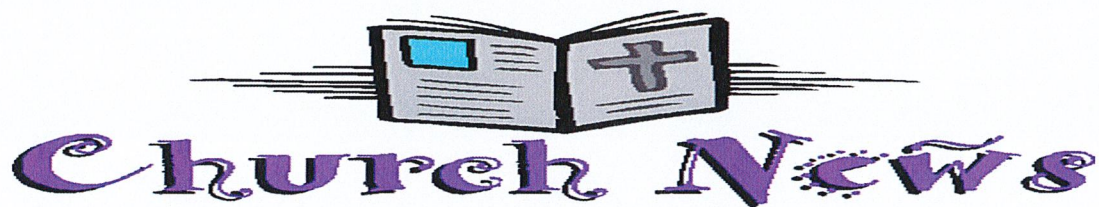
Together, we have been able to achieve:

- Reformation of the Finance Committee
- Frequent Pastoral Relations Team conversations
- Creating a Spiritual Council of active Edlers and the Pastor(s)
- Reforming the Worship and Music Committee
- Personnel Committee
 1. Creation of Employee handbook (in the works)
 2. Adjusted staff job descriptions
 3. Updated staff and volunteer child clearances
 4. Updated staff evaluation tool
- Constitution and Bi-Laws Team
 1. Updated the Constitution and Bi-Laws
 2. Updated church policies
- Creation of regular staff meetings to create a more cohesive staff connection
- Getting Grace back to being a UCC 5 for 5 giving congregation
- Amy Fawks voted in as Associate Pastor and a MID on tract for Ordination
- Pastor Amy granted Lay Ministerial Standing from the Gettysburg Association for ministry at Grace UCC.
- Creation of a Property Committee
- Frequent Town Hall conversations to shape the future of Grace
- Review of the church profile

This list represents only part of the work that Grace has done over the past 14 months. A greater achievement has been the re-establishment of trust and love through conversation, fellowship, hopes and dreams! I trust that Grace UCC will continue this work. I hope that many of you will be in attendance on Sunday, May 4th as Grace welcomes Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Nora Foust. It is the perfect opportunity for any questions, concerns and joys to be shared.

Again, I thank you for trusting me and for trusting in yourselves during this time of transition. I look forward to a time when our two congregations can worship and fellowship together again.

Blessings!
Pastor Fred



CO CO CHATTER

Who: Any members or friends of Grace

When: 3rd & 4th Mondays of the month 11:00 – 12:00

Why: To share thoughts, ideas, suggestions etc. with church leadership

Where: Gathering Place

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

\$769.00 was collected in March for One Great Hour of Sharing. Thank you for your support.



Special Message from Leonard & Nancy Bankert

Leonard & Nancy Bankert would like to share a donation opportunity for everyone at Grace UCC. Their granddaughter is going on a 90-day mission trip to the Philippines and donations would be greatly appreciated. Her name is Jayln Rigsby, and the trip is to a remote section of the Philippines that has no running water.

The organization's name is "New International". You can donate directly to her account at New International via this link. <https://newinternational.org/give/campaign/philippines-2025> or you may call Leonard at 717-451-4580, and he can forward the link to you. When you go to the website for New International click on "Give", "Internship", the letter "P", "Philippines 2025", scroll down to "gift information" Click on in the green box and select Jayln Rigsby. **We thank you for your consideration, Len and Nancy Bankert.**

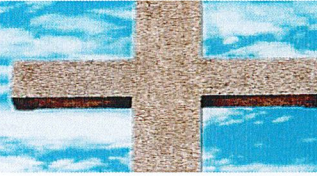
MOTHER'S DAY 4" POTTED PLANT SALE

The Grace Outreach Committee will be selling 4" potted pink geraniums and 4" potted two-tone petunias for Mother's Day. The price will be \$5.00 per plant. Any profit will go towards funds being collected later this year for Church World Service (CWS) Bucket Cleanup Kits.

Order forms for the plants can be found in the Gathering Place. If interested in making a purchase, please place your completed form along with your payment in a labeled envelope, and place it in the weekly offering plate. Please make checks payable to Grace UCC. The last day to order is Sunday May 4th.

The plants will be available for pickup at Grace on Saturday May 10th from 8 AM to 2 PM. Plants can also be picked up Sunday May 11th.

Announcements



PROVIDE A LUNCH (P-A-L)

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



GATHERING PLACE REFRESHMENTS

If you would like to provide light refreshments for fellowship time before and after the service, sign up at the Gathering Place or contact Vickie Arnold.



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 Fred Young 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 him at 717-253-2214. You can email him at pastoryoung.tuccgburg@gmail.com. Requests will be added to the weekly bulletin if received by Thursday night.



MAY FILM

This 2000 film is about a FedEx employee who gets stranded on an island. The film will be shown Friday May 2nd at 3 PM in Fellowship Hall. The film runs 143 min. and is rated PG-13. Snacks provided. Doors locked at 3:15.
JP



PROVIDE A LUNCH (PAL) COORDINATOR FOR GRACE

Members of Grace have been preparing the PAL meals every 3rd Saturday for over 40 years. Grace will need a new PAL coordinator by the end of 2025. The coordinator contacts the Hanover Area Council of Churches PAL Manager, currently Sharon Shreve, to plan menus. The Grace PAL coordinator also contacts volunteers to prepare the meals. Volunteers do not have to be members of Grace. Currently 5 people are needed every 3rd Saturday from about 9 AM to 1 PM. Please see Craig Bixler for details



SHARING CORNER

Have an item you no longer use or need? Examples - books you have read, unused cards, **unwanted items**. Consider our Sharing Corner in the Gathering Place. Drop off an unwanted item and take home a "treasure" or deliver an item to a shut-in or friend. Shop the Sharing Corner. Have fun looking. Bags will be available for your convenience. At the end of each month any remaining items will be donated to local agencies. Outreach Committee



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee is making steady progress with our Grace UCC Employee Handbook. We are also tweaking our Staff Job Descriptions to keep them current. The Committee meets monthly at 3:45 in the Gathering Place with our dates chosen to coordinate with everyone's schedules. For more information, please contact Vickie Arnold, Pam Kreitz, Fay Emlet, or Joleen Fennell.

CURRENT CONSISTORY MEMBERS FOR 2025

Co - President – Vickie Arnold . . . 717-476-1492
Co – President – Jenn Weaver ... 77-451-9703
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 ... 717-632-1053
Asst. Treasurer – Chelsey Topper ... 717-640-1092
Becky Boyer . . . 717-632-1053
Susan Dienes - . . . 717-870-1288
Glendon Ruhlman - . . . 717-632-7297

GRACE UCC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Frederick Young . . . 717-253-2214
Associate Pastor - Amy Fawks . . . 717-698-6366
Organist/Dir. of Music - Christian Keller 717-356-1029

Admin Assistant/Bookkeeper-

Karen Samuelson . . . 717-688-9891
Sexton – Dave Fawks . . . 717-880-2256
Office Phone Number . . . 717-632-1146
Prayer Line and Bible Moment . . . 717-346-1703

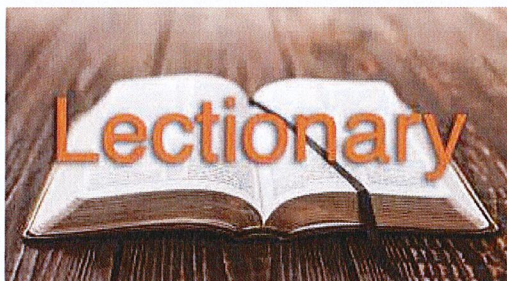
WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE 2024

Amy Fawks	Christian Keller
Susan Dienes	Becky Boyer
Pam Kreitz	Brad Arnold
Martha Channel	Rev. Dr. Frederick Young

ALTAR GUILD

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please speak with one of the committee members and we will discuss and consider your comment.

Thank you



MAY

May 4th – Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) & Psalm 30, Revelations 5:11-14, John 21:1-19
May 11th – Acts 9:36-43 and 23, Revelations 7:9-17, John 10:22-30
May 18th – Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Revelations 21:1-6
May 25th – Psalm 67, Revelations 21:10, 22-22.5, John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

JUNE

June 1st – Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97, Revelations 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26
June 8th – Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 9:14-17 or Acs 2:1-21, John 14:8-17 (25-27)
June 15th – Proverbs8:1-4, 22-31, Psalm 8, Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15
June 22nd – 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a & Psalm 42 & 43 or Isaiah 65:1-9 & Psalm 22:19-28, Galatians 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39
June 29th – 2Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 & Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 or 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 & Psalm 16, Galatians 5:1, 13-25, Luke 10:1-11, 16-2

April Consistory Digest

There were 13 in attendance including Rev. Young, Associate Pastor Amy Fawks, Brad Arnold, and Rick Boyer.

Treasurer's report:

General pledge March 2025: \$6,596.00

General pledge March 2024: \$7,960.00

YTD income: \$43,896.84

YTD expenses: \$60,241.97

YTD deficit: \$16,345.13

Checking account balances:

-- Operating Fund: \$17,074.80

-- Deacon Fund: \$15,725.82

-- Education Fund: \$11,406.73

➤ \$0.00

-- Memorial Fund: \$12,946.61

Rick Boyer reported:

Investment accounts were up at the end of March, but down to date in April. Funds will need to be taken from investments to pay bills. There is currently \$800,000 invested in CDs with interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 4.65%.

Karen Samuelson advised there are now expense vouchers and requests for expense reimbursements forms in the mail slots outside the office. These slots are on the right-hand side. The forms should be used for purchases and fundraising projects.

Joleen Fennell reported the Personnel Committee is continuing work on writing the Employee Handbook: Initial editing on pages 1-10 occurred, and members have been tasked to review pages 10-16, making notes for discussion at the next meeting.

Susan Dienes and Glen Ruhlman presented the updated Grace UCC By-Laws and updated policies to the Consistory for review. These documents will be discussed at the May Consistory meeting.

Brad Arnold reported for the Property Committee:

- The plastering repairs in the church have been completed. Now painting needs to be done in these areas.
- We are seeking to hire a handyman to assist with various maintenance needs both inside and outside the church building.
- Work continues on the repairs and upgrades in Fellowship Hall.
- More work under consideration for Fellowship Hall:
 - Hire a plasterer to plaster the rear wall and North Franklin Street wall.
 - Clean and oil the pine wall on the boiler room side.
 - Paint the stage wall.
 - Replace the baseboard heat covers.
 - Do a fresh air exchange study for the hall.
- An electrician will have to be hired to do work on 3 floors of the building.
- More ceiling tiles will need to be replaced in the building.
- The cost for plastering and electrical work may be in the \$30,000 to \$33,000 range.
- The damage to the window frames in the choir room needs repaired.

A utility pole was installed on the east side of North Franklin Street in the 1960s or 1970s to hold a light fixture aimed at the steeple. The base of the pole is rotting and will need removed. Craig Bixler will contact SWAM Electric about removing the pole. The pole is not on Grace property. The consistory decided not to have the pole replaced.

Associate Pastor Amy Fawks will be attending the PCC Annual Meeting in Harrisburg in June.

Board of Education news:

Associate Pastor Amy reported there will be a planning meeting for VBS April 17 at 10am at Trinity UCC Hanover. This will be a joint planning meeting with Trinity UCC, Hanover, Emmanuel UCC, Hanover, and Grace. The Grace Board of Christian Education will meet Wednesday, April 23 at 6pm.

Joleen Fennell stated the electronics in the youth Sunday School room are not in good condition. It would be helpful to purchase a smart TV. Currently, there is a 55" Vizio at Sam's for \$264.00 with a 3-year warranty. The Consistory approved the purchase.

Craig Bixler reported for the Outreach Committee:

- Trinity UCC, Gettysburg, Trinity UCC, Hanover, and Emmanuel UCC, Hanover, will be contacted in May to see if the congregations would be interested in partnering with Grace's CWS Bucket Cleanup Kit project.
- The collection for One Great Hour of Sharing was \$769.00.

Associate Pastor Amy included the following in her report:

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Continue to meet monthly with another Member in Discernment.
- I finish my 6th PAM course on 4/8. It is called Ministerial Ethics and Professional Development.
- I have met with my Advisor, Rev. Heather Kurtz
- I continue to meet with my discernment team here at Grace.
- I have been granted Lay Ministerial Standing by the Gettysburg Association. Jenn Weaver and Linda Bixler attended the meeting with me.
- I performed my first funeral for my mother-in-law on March 20th.

AV/IT UPDATES:

- The cabling has been completed. Due to special music, I will be able to try the first live streamed service on April 27th.

Rev. Young included in his report:

Transition Update:

- Rev. Dr. Nora Foust, Associate Conference Minister for the Penn Central Conference will join Grace for Worship on Sunday, May 4, 2025. She will be here to talk about the transition and to answer any questions on Pastoral Leadership for Grace. Letters have gone out to all members of Grace UCC encouraging attendance.
- The visitation will continue to be shared by Craig and Linda Bixler, and Pastors Fred and Amy who will visit, call, or send cards to Grace's homebound folks.
- Associate Pastor, Amy Fawks will begin serving as sabbatical pastor from June 1-August 31, 2025.

Consistory Co-presidents Vickie Arnold and Jenn Weaver reported:

- On March 29 we led a group of productive workers on a spring cleanup. We not only made the church look better but we created opportunities for different generations to interact and work together. We will continue to foster inter-generational connections and learnings through two upcoming events.
- We look forward to Nora's visit on May 4 and for her guidance on moving our church forward. We continue to encourage anyone who would like to have face time with us to meet with us either the 3rd and 4th Mondays of the month at 11am in the gathering place or to reach out to set up time that better suits.
- The intergenerational candy making held April 11th and 12th was a success.



Mother's Day Flowers

4" potted pink geraniums and 4" potted two-toned petunias will be available to purchase for Mother's Day. The cost is \$5 each.

All proceeds from the flowers will be used by the Outreach Committee to purchase supplies for Church World Service clean-up buckets.

Fill out the form below and place it and money in an envelope and return it to Grace by Sunday, May 4. Envelopes may be placed in the offering plates. Flower envelopes are available in the Gathering Place.

Checks should be made payable to Grace UCC.

Flowers can be picked up on Saturday, May 10 from 8AM-2PM or on Sunday May 11.

Mother's Day Flowers

Name: _____

_____ pink geraniums \$ _____

_____ two-toned petunias \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Return the form and money by Sunday May 4.

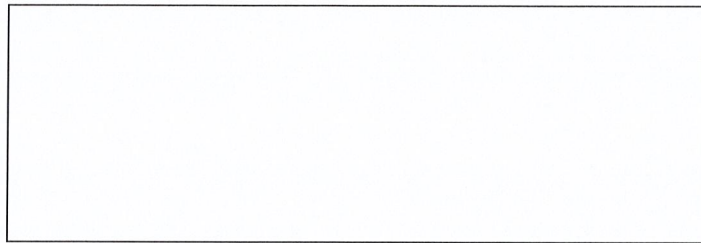
MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC & PARTY

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

BBQ	FAMILY	HOT DOGS	POOL
BURGERS	FRIENDS	LAUGHTER	RED WHITE AND BLUE
CELEBRATION	FUN	OUTDOORS	SUNSHINE
COOKOUT	GAMES	PATRIOTIC	TABLECLOTH
DECORATIONS	GRILL	PICNIC	WATERMELON



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!

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