



Days of Grace

MAY 2026 EDITION

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

MAY

- 1st, 6th & 20th – Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church
- 8th – Monthly Movie @ 3:00 PM
- 9th – Second Saturday @ 1:00 PM
- 13th – Bible Study Group & Movie @ 12:30 PM
- 13th – Women's Ministry – ZOOM @ 7:30 PM
- 16th – PAL – Grace UCC Helpers @ 9:00 AM
- 27th – Women's Ministry – In Person @ 7:30 PM
- 31st – Fifth Sunday

JUNE

- 3rd & 17th – Red Cross Blood Drive here at the Church
- 10th – Bible Study Group & Movie @ 12:30
- 10th – Women's Ministry – ZOOM @ 7:30 PM
- 12th – Monthly Movie @ 3:00 PM
- 20th – PAL – Grace UCC Helpers @ 9:00 AM
- 24th – 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

Dear Friends,

It is such a beautiful time of year. I'm sitting in my office with the window open...listening to the birds and basking in the blooms on the trees and on the ground. As I get older, I hold onto these welcome signs of spring a little tighter each year. I wish I could bottle the sounds, and smells, and sights and hold onto it all year long. I just love the reminder that things are starting anew. What a great metaphor for our lives too. When we feel like we are stuck in a rut, in the same routines and the same predictable paths, each day is an opportunity to try something new. Mix up your routine or venture into something new!

Last month, our youth led worship—fully and completely. Grace UCC is on its own path toward something new and exciting. The children are coming back to church and want to be a part of it all. The beauty of that Sunday was that the children chose the parts of worship they wanted to lead. Some spoke from the pulpit and lectern. Some took the microphone around to the congregation. Others handed out bulletins, brought in snacks for the Gathering Place and welcomed people as they arrived at church. We even had our youth running the sound board so that every voice could be heard.



To me, this was a powerful moment. The kids chose the parts of worship that speak to them—that means that they are engaged and present, already participating each week from the pews. God is still speaking—especially through the youth of Grace. They shared their gifts in ways that brought worship alive. It felt like watching seeds take root and begin to grow right before our eyes. The most exciting part? They all asked when they could lead again!

Take a deep breath of that spring air and let it remind you that new life is not only possible, but it is already happening! Wherever you find yourself today, may you trust that God is right there, inviting you into something new.

Grace and peace

*Pastor
Amy*

Join us May 31st, for 5th Sundays are Special at Grace as we celebrate Trinity Sunday. Join us immediately after worship for a special ice cream sundae fellowship. Each part of the sundae represents a part of the Trinity:

- Ice cream = God the Creator (foundation, source of all)
- Sauce = Christ (poured out, connecting everything)
- Toppings = Spirit (colorful, surprising, moving among us)



COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**SATURDAY MAY 23
9AM-1PM**

**GRACE UCC
100 Fourth St. Hanover
In the parking lot beside the church**

2 choices to pick from: Spots are \$20.00 each or you can donate gently used items to the church for them to sell for the church.

**CONTACT ANGIE sgbus10674@gmail.com
You must provide your own tables. You can sell anything you want. (NO ALCOHOL).**

If you want to drop things off at the church for donations you can drop off starting May 1. We ask that no clothing be donated.



Mother's Day 4" Potted Plant Sale

The Grace Outreach Committee will be selling 4" potted pink geraniums and 4" potted calibrachoa ("million bells") for Mother's Day. The price will be \$5.00 per plant. Any profit will go towards future Outreach Committee projects.

Order forms for the plants can be found in the Gathering Place beginning Sunday April 5th. We are limiting the sale to 100 plants. On Sunday April 12th the plants will be advertised to the public. 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 3rd.

The plants will be available for pickup at Grace on Saturday

May 9th from 8 AM to 2 PM. Plants can also be picked up Sunday May 10th.



Bible Study & Movie Gathering!

Date: May 13

Bible Study Time: 12:30 PM

Movie: 2:00 PM

2014 Movie rated PG and is 1 hour 39 minutes long.

A small-town father must find the courage and conviction to share his son's extraordinary, life-changing experience with the world.

Location: Parlor on the 1st floor for Bible Study & Fellowship Hall for the Movie following.

🗨️ Dive into uplifting discussion

👥 Enjoy an inspiring movie together

👉 Meet friendly faces & form great friendships

Whether you're new or have been studying for years, **everyone is welcome!** Bring a friend and come as you are 🧡

We'd love to see you there!



GRACE UCC

FAITH GROWS WHEN
FRIENDS COME
ALONG!

Invite-a-Friend-Month

10AM SUNDAY WORSHIP

MAY | 2026

WE WANT TO CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF
COMMUNITY AND FAITH BY
ENCOURAGING EVERYONE TO BRING A
FRIEND, NEIGHBOR, OR FAMILY
MEMBER TO CHURCH. YOUR
INVITATION COULD BE THE FIRST STEP
IN SOMEONE ELSE'S JOURNEY OF
HOPE, LOVE, AND CONNECTION. NO
PRESSURE TO COME ALL AT ONCE...
ANY SUNDAY IN MAY IS PERFECT!

717-632-1146

100 FOURTH ST. HANOVER PA



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



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.

APRIL FILM



This 1973 Academy Award nominated classic, takes place in the 1960s and looks back on 4 teenagers on their last summer night before college. The film will be shown Friday April 10th at 3 PM in fellowship Hall. The film runs 1 hr 52 mins. and is rated **PG**. Snacks provided. doors locked at 3:15.

SHARING CORNER IS BACK



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

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 Committee monitors our Volunteer Clearances. We are in need of more volunteers to assist with children's and youth activities. During this school year, we have 1 class with K-6 children. A goal of Faith Foundation is to move to 2 classes with 2 adults per room. All volunteers do need to have the following: PA State Police Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse History, and Mandated Reporter. Should you have questions about completing the forms, please contact a committee member: Angie Boyers, Fay Emler, Pastor Amy, Joleen Fennell, or Pam Kreitz.

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 - Christian Keller... 717-356-1029
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
- **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:** Christian Keller, 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

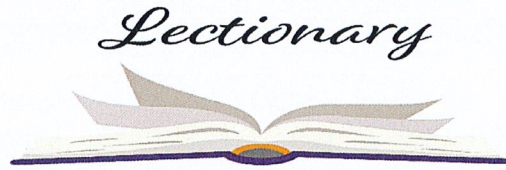
- **Visitation:** Pastor Amy Fawks, Craig Bixler, Linda Bixler
- **Pastoral Relations Team:** Pastor Amy Fawks, Rebecca Boyer, Charlie Fennell, Jenn Weaver
- **Stewardship:** Chelsey Topper, Pastor Amy Fawks

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



MAY

May 3rd – Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

May 10th – Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

May 17th – Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14: 5:6-11 John 17:1-11

May 24th – Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
(or Acts 2:1-21, John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39)

May 31st – Genesis 1:1-2:4a & Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20

JUNE

June 7th - Genesis 12:1-9 & Psalm 33:1-12, Hosea 5:15-6:6 & Psalm 50:7-15,
Romans 4:13-25, Matthew 9:9-13, 18 – 26

June 14th - Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7) & Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, Exodus 19:2-8a
& Psalm 100, Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

June 21st – Genesis 21:8-21, & Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17, Jeremiah 20:7-13 &
Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18, Romans 6:1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39

June 28th – Genesis 22:1-14 & Psalm 13, Jeremiah 28:5-9 & Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42

April Consistory Digest

There were nine members present including Pastor Amy Fawks and Rick Boyer.

Treasurer's Report:

General pledge March 2026: \$6,654.10

General pledge March 2025: \$6,596.00

YTD income: \$31,896.69

YTD expenses: \$60,500.31

YTD deficit: \$28,603.62

Checking account balances:

-- Operating Fund: \$19,490.83

-- Deacon Fund: \$17,361.50

-- Education Fund: \$11,067.83

➤ \$0.00

-- Memorial Fund: \$17,423.20

Joleen Fennell reported that clearances for all adults working with children will need to make sure that the following are up to date, PA Child Abuse, PA State Police Criminal Check, and Volunteer Mandated Reporter Training. Information regarding how to complete these tasks will be available by the end of the month. Folks whose clearances have expired or are soon to expire will be contacted by the Personnel Committee.

The \$2,650.00 quote from Smith Brothers Construction to do repairs to the windows in the Education Wing was approved.

WFX did repairs to the office alley entrance door, so it closes properly.

One Great Hour of Sharing donations totaled \$940.00.

Pastor Amy reported:

- Vacation Bible School will be at Trinity UCC Hanover, June 22 – June 26. Children from Grace, Trinity, and Emmanuel will be attending.
- Gettysburg Association Spring Meeting, April 19th at 2pm at Zwingli in East Berlin. Linda and Craig Bixler will be the delegates from Grace.
- Annual Keystone Conference Meeting: June 5-7 at Millersville University. Chelsey Topper and Jenn Weaver will attend as lay delegates.
- Karen will be taking her vacation days June 22-June 25. I will be at VBS from 8:30-11:30 but will have the church phone forwarded to my phone. The office will not be open until 11:30am on those days.
- Bring a Friend in May.

There was discussion about investigating painting in the building and improving lighting in the sanctuary.

Prepared by Craig Bixler 4/15/26



MOTHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

Find the hidden Mother's Day words.

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

MOTHER
LOVE
GRATITUDE

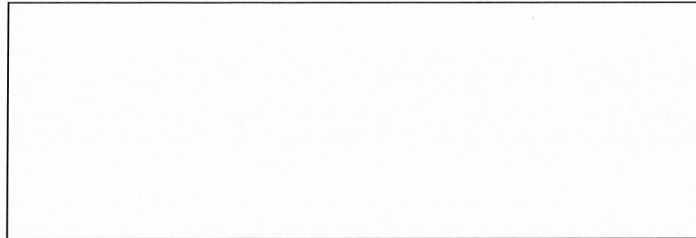
NURTURE
FAMILY
CARE

APPRECIATION
COMFORT
STRENGTH

SACRIFICE
WARMTH
HELPFUL



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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