

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Mission statement: Grace United Methodist Church is a family of faith striving to share God's love with all people.

October 31, 2022

Words from the Pastor

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ,

Light to Light

Back when electricity was first being introduced to a little village, almost everybody in a particular church switched from the propane lanterns to electricity just as soon as it could get hooked up. However, the oldest couple in the congregation couldn't get their electricity because they were waiting for the poles to go up and the wire to be strung. So, they continued to use propane lanterns.

The day finally came when the electricity was brought into their home. Everyone came for the festive event. The old man waited for it to get extra dark; then he told his wife to go turn on the switch. When she did, the light filled the room, and everyone rejoiced. The old man grinned from ear to ear, picked up a propane lamp and said, "It sure makes lighting my lamps easier." And with that he lit a lamp, and his wife turned off the electricity.

-Michael Hodgkin

Good afternoon to you on this Monday. How wonderful it is that we find ourselves on the final day of October. I read this story and it reminds me of what happens as God presents us new and exciting opportunities, but we miss them. Like the man using electricity to help light his propane lamp. How is God calling you to make a change this season? Change is not easy, it can feel like changing out of well-worn, comfortable clothes. Often we default to what is comfortable versus what is needed, but this cannot be our excuse for not changing. This is not a valid reason for being inflexible to God moving in our midst. These changes don't often happen overnight, but rather through our daily surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit. How is God calling us to try something new?

Our Stewardship campaign wrapped up and pledge cards are still coming in. Many thanks to all who have pledged their support of Grace UMC's ministries in 2023. If you have not already done so, please join me in pledging to support our 2023 ministry budget by returning your completed pledge card and commitment of support.

Starting on November 30, I will lead a new Advent Bible study. All you need is your Bible, thinking cap, an open spirit, and something to take notes. We will study and learn together. Each gospel writer begins his book differently: Matthew and Luke include narrative about Jesus's birth, but Mark and John do not. In this study, we'll look at how each gospel begins. I pray you will join us on any Wednesdays that you are available.

In Christ Service,

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker



♥Jane Keidel Rosen, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Family of Vera Okpych, ♥Family of Maria Calero, ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Tyrone Jenkins (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Kathleen Knorz Bush (friend of Loretta Lewis Zimmer), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Patricia Sullivan (friend of Jenifer Hartig), ♥Jim Poch, ♥Christine Doeringer, ♥Rasheen Rutledge (cousin of Naomi Brown), ♥Our Military men and women here and abroad, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥Thornton Stone (father of Brian Stone), ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥All United Methodist Women in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for one month. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information.

† - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2022

11/06	M. Pershad
11/13	K. Pearce
11/20	D. Nicosia
11/27	D. Pike

SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS - 2022

MISSIONS – February/April/July/November 2022

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY – January 16, 2022

UMCOR SUNDAY – March 27, 2022

EASTER – April 17, 2022

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY – May 1, 2022

GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY – May 8, 2022

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY – June 12, 2022

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – October 2, 2022

THANKSGIVING – November 24, 2022 (Thursday)

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY – November 27, 2022

CHRISTMAS EVE – December 24, 2022 (Saturday)

CHRISTMAS – December 25, 2022 (Sunday)

DONATIONS. *We continue to need your help in supporting Grace Church.*

Your checks can be mailed to the church office, or you can use **Venmo or Zelle**. Venmo allows you to make a direct deposit donation to Grace Church electronically. If you are already signed up, you can use this now. If not, it is easy to sign up. *Go to [Venmo.com](https://venmo.com) and follow the easy directions.* The Church is listed as Grace Methodist VS. Currently a good number of the congregation are using **Zelle** (*do not use the Church phone number, use the Church email address – GraceVSNY@aol.com*). Also, please put your **Envelope Number** on your Venmo/Zelle donation. More and more of our friends and members are using these avenues for their donations and we appreciate it. Thank you

PLEASE: If you still have old offering envelopes with your Env#, use them. If you are giving by check, please put it in an envelope marked with your Env# and Name. If you do not know/remember your Env#, please give Eileen a call (516/825-1182) or email (GraceVSNY@aol.com) and she will give you your number. Your Contributions are input based on your Env#. Any questions, give Eileen a call.

Charge Conference forms were sent out. The Conference is scheduled for Thursday evening (in person) at 7PM - November 17th/BKR. All paperwork should be emailed to Eileen **no later than November 9th!!**

We are in need of **Volunteers** to work on the **Counting Teams**. It would require your time only once every six weeks after Church. Please call Eileen in the Church Office if you have any questions and/or are willing to join!! Thank you.

The **United Women of Faith** are looking for women who will replace those members who are leaving their current positions. For more information, please contact Tonia Ukanwoke.

GRANNY'S ATTIC SALE/\$5 Bag - As we work towards reopening the Thrift Shop, we will be holding a community wide Granny's Attic Sale on Saturday, November 19th, from 10am-3pm. After the sale, we will move further along to prepare for the reopening of the Thrift Shop. Preparation for the sale includes sorting through the inventory, organizing it, cleaning, and moving items. The gym space will be ideal for selling as well. **For this to be successful many hands are needed.** We will be working Saturday morning, 11/5, from 10am-3pm. Please stop by so you can lend a hand or speak with Andrea for more info. It will be wonderful to open Grace to the community again.

HOSPITALITY – We are looking for Volunteers to assist at Coffee Hour. There is a sign-out sheet in the BKR. Individuals, family, Committees can sign up. You can also call the Church Office and Eileen will happily add your name to the sign-up sheet. Also, we would welcome donations of cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, bagels, etc. for the Coffee Hour.

If you require a **Hearing Aid**, please speak with one of our Ushers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. We had 6 kids and 8 in all for Sunday School on October 30. We talked about All Saints' Day and special people in our lives. We read from II Timothy 1: 2-5 where Paul reminds Timothy of the faith of Timothy's grandmother and his mother and how that faith has been passed on now to Timothy. We also told the rest of the story of Zacchaeus that Pastor Jeff started in the Children's sermon. We colored a picture for All Saints' Day, and we sang, "Jesus Loves Me" and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." We hope to see you next week in Sunday School!

This Sunday, November 6th, is Communion Sunday. Children will begin Sunday School in the Education Building and then come over to the Church and join their parents.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS – There will be NO Children's Choirs (rehearsal) the week of November 6th.

Grace Methodist Nursery School. GMNS is need of an assistant teacher, a Mommy and me teacher and teacher and assistant substitutes. For additional information, please call Diane at 516-825-2354.

WHERE CAN YOU VOLUNTEER....

Sunday School – Contact Kim Neri
Evangelism – Contact Andrea Owen-Boyd
Thrift Shop – Contact Andrea Owen-Boyd
Music – Call the Music Ministry Office (516/825-1940) Ken Richardson
Missions – Contact Katherine Perkins
Worship – Contact Kim Neri or Carol Provenzano
Acolytes – Contact Tim Neri
Ushers – Contact Mike Provenzano or Carol Provenzano
Counting Team – Contact Don Pike or Eileen Robertson
Hospitality – Contact Bob DiSalvo
Greeters – Contact Naomi Brown or Carol Provenzano
(Please call Eileen if you need contact information – 516/825-1182)



Treat yourself to a crisp autumn evening of beautiful music.

Tickets currently on sale for our 9th season. Some of the singers in our Music Ministry at GUMC are participating in this concert. Click the link below for tickets.

<https://www.evoco.vc/concerts/>

CALENDAR

Meetings: Please check the calendar below for which meetings are being held in-person or via Zoom. Thank you.

Weekly Meetings:

- ***Every Sunday** – Choir Rehearsal 8:15AM/Church
- ***Every Sunday** – Sunday School (in-person) 10AM
- ***Every Sunday** – Junior Choir 9:15AM/Bert Keller Room
- ***Every Sunday** – Rainbow Ringers 9:15AM/Bert Keller Room
- ***Every Wednesday** – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom
- ***Every Thursday** – Westminster Ringers 7:30PM

Upcoming Meetings:

- *Tuesday, November 8, 2022 – Board of Trustees 7:45PM/BKR
- *Sunday, November 27, 2022 – Church Council after 10AM Service

Monthly Meetings:

- *Every Second Sunday – UWF after Church/Upper Lounge - *In-person*

Upcoming Events:

- *Saturday, November 5, 2022 – Missions Food Drive for the INN/Educ Bldg Driveway
- *Wednesday, November 16, 2022 – VSRC Thanksgiving Service 7:30PM/Zoom
- *Thursday, November 17, 2022 – Charge Conference 7PM/BKR
- *Saturday, November 19, 2022 – Thrift Shop “Granny’s Attic Sale”/\$5 Bag Day 10AM-3PM
- *December 2022 (Dates TBD) – Missions Toy Drive
- *Sunday, December 11, 2022 – Annual Christmas Concert
- *Saturday, December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve Service 7:30PM
- *Sunday, December 25, 2022 – Candles and Carols 10AM
- *Saturday, December 31, 2022 – New Year’s Eve 11PM (TBD)
- *Saturday, January 28, 2023 - 8th Annual Evangelism Prayer Breakfast
- *Sunday, May 14, 2023 – Music Sunday



Eileen