

# GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

**September 23, 2024**

## **Words From the Pastor**

*“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*  
– 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Have you ever heard the phrase “when it rains it pours?” We wake up late because the alarm was accidentally in silent mode. Rushing to work, we spill coffee on our clothes. Arriving at work, we find an envelope on our desk that reads “annual job assessment.” Opening it, we read critical remarks about the quality of our work; and so it goes. We’ve all had days like this where it seems like nothing is going right. It seems justifiable when negative things happen to us for us to feel some negative emotions. At the same time, it can become problematic when negative experiences turn into a negative “mindset.” What I mean by this is that disappointing circumstances eventually result in us seeing the world only through negative lenses. Even if something good is happening around us, we become blinded to such things because of our mindset. It’s as if we can only see that which is “problematic” as opposed to that which is “pleasant.”

This week, I found myself going through this process of moving from negative feelings to a negative mindset. A few bad things quickly moved into a bad day, and the bad day led to a mindset where I kept seeing only the bad. That’s when I stumbled across 1 Thes 5:18 during my morning devotion. *“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”* In that moment, I began to think about all that I should be thankful for over the past few months. I was reminded of my families’ move to Grace United Methodist Church and how comfortable and welcomed we are feeling here. I was reminded of my daughter’s miracle of receiving a scholarship to go to college and her smooth transition so far. I was reminded of my son’s comments to me this week about making a few new friends at his new school. And in the exact reverse of what I just described earlier, a few positive experiences resulted in a positive mindset. My mind was flooded with memories of all that God given to me in my life. And it did not stop there. As I went about the rest of my day, even in the

midst of a few disappointments, I kept my focus and attention on all the positive things that were evident around me. Everywhere I turned, I could see God's goodness and provisions!

In a world where so many people have moved into a negative mindset, let us remember as followers of Christ that we are to be "thankful in all circumstances" and the more we practice being thankful, the more we will see the world, regardless of circumstances, through thankful lenses. Have a blessed week!

Pastor Kim



♥♦Charles and Edie Zipperlen, ♥Priscilla Caparelli (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Cecil and Carol Walker (friends of Barbara Woodford), ♥Veronica Stone (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥Cliff McBride (friend of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle (friend of Kim Neri), ♥David Biegler, ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Suella Fredrick (friend of Lorna McKenzie), ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Milly Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske). **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for two weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

### **SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS - 2024**

**MISSIONS** – January/April/July/October 2024

**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY** – January 14, 2024

**UMCOR SUNDAY** – March 10, 2024

**EASTER** – March 31, 2024

**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY** – April 14, 2024

**GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY** – May 5, 2024

**PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY** – May 26, 2024

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY** – October 06, 2024

**UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY** – November 24, 2024

**CHRISTMAS EVE** – December 24, 2024 (Tuesday)

**CHRISTMAS DAY** – December 25, 2024

### **COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR September 2024**

**September 29 – Marisa Pershad – Team 1**

### **COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR October 2024**

**October 06 – Marisa Pershad**

**October 13 – Debbie Nicosia**

**October 20 – Everett Fitch**

October 27 – Debbie Nicosia



**Chancel Choir** rehearsals are meeting on Thursday evenings at 8:00pm in the church. Kimberly Neri will be leading the group until we find a church music director replacement. **All** Adults and Teens who like to sing are welcome to join!! If you have any questions, please email Kim at [violinkim@aol.com](mailto:violinkim@aol.com) or call (516)644-0979.



**BLOOD DRIVE.** Give life, Give blood, on **Wednesday, September 25, 2024**, from 2:30PM-8PM we will be hosting our FALL BLOOD DRIVE in the Education Building Gym. We have an opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters while we serve our Lord and Savior. Please give so others may live! Dinner will be served to all donors and their family from 5pm-7pm. Please help us serve our community and save lives of God's children, bless you.

*Bob DiSalvo*

**Church School.** Our lesson continued with Genesis 39:2, The Lord was with Joseph. When we left Joseph last week, he was still in prison. Joseph had correctly interpreted a dream for Pharaoh's wine steward who had been in prison with him for a while. Although Joseph had asked the wine steward to remember him when he returned to his job, the wine steward did not, at least not right away. Two years passed. Then there were more dreams. This time it was Pharaoh who was dreaming. Although Pharaoh summoned all of his advisors and all of Egypt's religious leaders, none of them were able to interpret his dream. It was only at this point the wine steward remembered the young Hebrew man in prison who had correctly interpreted his dream. Joseph was summoned. Even before Joseph heard the dreams, he assured Pharaoh that God sent the dreams to Pharaoh and God would provide an interpretation of the dreams through Joseph. Joseph informed Pharaoh his dreams meant God was going to send seven years of abundance followed by seven years of severe famine. Throughout Joseph's story, God's work behind the scenes was evident. But Joseph was not a passive bystander relying on God to do all of the work. After interpreting Pharaoh's dream, Joseph proceeded to offer unsolicited advice. He

recommended a wise person be appointed to take charge of the grain harvest in the years of plenty in order to save grain for the years of famine. As Joseph obviously had hoped, Pharaoh took his advice and appointed Joseph to be his second-in-command. Joseph was thirty years old when these events occurred. It had been thirteen years since his brothers had thrown him into a pit and then sold him into slavery. During all of those years, God was with Joseph, at work in his life and in the lives of those around Joseph.

*Janet Stone*

**FINANCE MEETING.** There will be a Finance Meeting on Monday, September 23, 2024, in the BKR at 7:30PM.

### **Improvements are being made to our Facebook livestream of the Sunday service.**

Thank you all for your continued patience as we are attempting to upgrade the quality of our livestream for Sunday service. Just to give an update - we had a professional audio and video consultant come and spend several hours this week inspecting our audio and video equipment. He made recommendations for quick immediate fixes as well as long-term improvements. One important change that will take place is that we will no longer be using Zoom to livestream the Sunday service. Instead, we will be switching to a brand-new YouTube channel that will broadcast the service live. (This switch took place on **Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**) For those who are familiar with our Facebook livestream, the changes will not affect you as we will simply add a link on the Facebook page that automatically brings you to the YouTube livestream. In the meantime, please subscribe to the channel by following the link below. Reverend Prumeh Lee, the wife of Pastor Kim, will be available on Sunday mornings to assist everyone.

Please call, text or email her if you need help at 646-280-9885 or [prumeh.lee@nyac-umc.com](mailto:prumeh.lee@nyac-umc.com)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@gracevalleystreamumc>.

**Please sign up for *Coffee Hour*, now known as **FELLOWSHIP HOUR**.** There is a sign-up sheet in the Bert Keller Room. Please use the sign-up sheet in the BKR or call the Church Office. Thank you to our Hospitality Team for hosting this Sunday, September 22. The United Women in Faith hosted on Sunday, September 15. Thank you UWF for volunteering. Thank you to AE and Rev. Joong Kim for hosting Fellowship Hour this coming Sunday, September 29, 2024.

**CHURCH SCHOOL BEGAN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH.** **It's never too late to join us.** My name is Janet Stone and I am writing to invite your child to join us for Church School each Sunday. Church School is where students will learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and how to live a Christian life. We learn Bible stories and we learn how to use those stories to help us be better people. All rising PreK-8th Grade students are welcome. Children start out in Church at 10:00 with their families and are sent to Church School following the Children's Sermon. Please note that on the first Sunday of the month, children are directed to the Education Building first and then return to the church building in order to be with their family for communion. I am looking forward to a wonderful Church School year! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns at [mom2springers@gmail.com](mailto:mom2springers@gmail.com)

*~Janet Stone~*

**Career Day.** Grace United Women in Faith is holding a Career Day on October 19 in the church gym from 10 AM – 2 PM. All are welcome. We will have career tables with professionals in those careers there to answer your questions. We will also have lunch and a panel discussion. Tickets are \$20, but juniors and seniors in high school are free. We just ask that the high school students sign up in advance so that we know how many to expect. You can help by hosting a career table, volunteering in the kitchen, or by sponsoring a high school student so that they can come for free. The United Women in Faith will be collecting money at church for the sponsoring of the high school students' free admission to Career Day. For more information, see the attached Career Day flyer. Please contact Andrea Owen-Boyd (347-229-6633) or Katherine Perkins ([katherine.lowe.perkins@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.lowe.perkins@gmail.com)) with questions or to volunteer. Thank you!

**CALENDAR** – If you have any dates that you would like to have on our calendar, please send them to me at [GraceVSNY@aol.com](mailto:GraceVSNY@aol.com). The meetings could be weekly, monthly or just a special meeting or event. Thank you.

## **CALENDAR**

### **Weekly Meetings, Rehearsals and Gatherings:**

- \***Every Sunday** – Church School 10AM/Church  
(except 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month – 10AM/Education Building)
- \***Every Second Sunday of the month** – Healing Prayer Service after Church/Chapel  
(Starting October 13, 2024)
- \***Every Wednesday** – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week)
- \***Every Thursday** – Westminster Ringers 7PM
- \***Every Thursday** – Chancel Choir 8PM/Church
- \***Every Saturday** – Prayer Meeting 8AM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week)
- \***Every Saturday** – Thrift Shop 10AM-2PM
- \***Every Fourth Sunday of the month** – United Women in Faith

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- \***Monday, September 23, 2024** – Finance Meeting 7:30PM/BKR
- \***Sunday, October 13, 2024** – Church Council Meeting after the 10AM Service
- \***Saturday, November 9, 2024** – Charge Conference at St. John's/10AM
- \***Saturday, November 9, 2024** – Eagle Scout Court of Honor (Luke Lopez)/Gym
- \***Tuesday, November 12, 2014** – Board of Trustees 7:30PM/BKR (Teams Meeting Link is optional)
- \***Sunday, December 8, 2024** – Church Council Meeting after the 10AM Service
- \***Tuesday, January 14, 2025** – Board of Trustees 7:30PM/BKR (Teams Meeting Link is optional)

### **Upcoming Events**

- \***Wednesday, September 25, 2024** – Fall Blood Drive 2:30PM-8PM/Gym
- \***Sunday, September 29, 2024** – UWF Sunday
- \***Saturday, October 19, 2024** – Career Day and Luncheon 10AM-2PM/Gym

Have a relaxing week! Eileen