

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

October 7, 2024

Ps 51:10,12 *“Create in me a pure heart O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.”*

Psalm 51 is a psalm of confession by King David after committing adultery with Bathsheba. This psalm happened to be one of my devotional readings this week. I don't know about you but for me, the theme of “confession” is not really my idea of a good time.

However, as I proceeded to meditate on these verses, it occurred to me that confession is really Good News. After David begins this psalm by openly admitting to his wrongdoing, he asks God to give him a pure heart, a steadfast spirit, and the joy of salvation. In other words, confession before God opens the door for a heart that is clean, a spirit that is steady, and a life that is joyful.

As I meditated on this Good News, it occurred to me that what I was feeling inside of me was the exact opposite. I've been feeling guilty, anxious, and sad. Was God actually calling me to confession so that I might be set free from a heart that was weighed down and burdened?

I proceeded to confess my burdens, my sorrows, and even my guilt in the presence of God. (I'd rather not publicly declare them to you now, but let's just say I had a good heart to heart with God!). What transpired was nothing short of a miracle. I suddenly found myself feeling guilt-free, stress-free, and sorrow-free!

I don't know what may be going on in your life but if you find yourself feeling guilty, anxious, and sad, maybe take a dose of confession, and see how you feel! It might taste a little sour in the beginning, but I guarantee that you'll feel better in the morning! Have a blessed week.

Pastor Kim



♥♦Helen Phillip (mother of Eleanor Phillip), ♥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 LaRoche (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 October 2024

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 or call (516)644-0979.

One **important change** that has taken place - we are no longer using Zoom to livestream the Sunday service. Instead, we have switched to a brand-new YouTube channel that will broadcast the service live. The sign-on is. (<https://www.youtube.com/@gracevalleystreamumc>.)

Church Council Meeting. There will be a meeting this coming Sunday, October 13, 2024, directly following the 10AM Service.

BLOOD DRIVE. A big thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered for our Fall Blood Drive. The 33 pints that were collected will definitely help save lives. Another big thank you goes to *Bob DiSalvo* who continues to organize this very important event year after year. Let's not forget he is also our very talented in-house chef who provides the meals for our donors and volunteers!!

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. We are hoping to have a volunteer for this Sunday, October 13, 2024.

United Women in Faith Update:

We had a wonderful United Women in Faith Sunday September 29. We thank Rev. Prumeh Lee Kim for delivering the Children's Message and the Sermon. We were inspired by the story of Esther. Dr. Tonia Ukanwoke was presented with a UWF pin and certificate in honor of her seven years serving as our UWF President. See the attached picture from UWF Sunday. Five of us went to the United Women in Faith District Meeting Saturday, October 5 at Brooks Memorial UMC. Our Grace UWF vice president Andrea Owen-Boyd was elected Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator for the district, and Dr. Tonia Ukanwoke was elected Communications Coordinator for the district. We wish them well in their new positions and ask the Holy Spirit to guide them and bless them.

Career Day is Saturday October 19. 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) 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. 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 1st Sunday of the month – 10AM/Education Building)
- ***Every Second Sunday of the month** – Healing Prayer Service after Church/Chapel
(*Starting Date TBD*)
- ***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

- ***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

- ***Saturday, October 19, 2024** – Career Day and Luncheon 10AM-2PM/Gym



Have a great week! Eileen