



Grace United Church of Christ
128 E. Baltimore Street
P.O. Box 448
Greencastle, PA 17225

  Grace Notes  

May/June 2022 Issue

Pastor Mark's Newsletter Article

In the *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course* during Lent, the participants learned about having a “daily office”—set times during the day to stop and intentionally connect with God. I thought I would share resources that have helped me through the years to do this. Check some of them out and let me know if they are helpful to you, Pastor Mark

Online Resources

- *more of Pete Scazzero's teachings www.emotionallyhealthy.org
- *Iona Community (Scotland) www.ionabooks.com (there is a daily worship that is about 20 minutes long)
- *Center for Action and Contemplation www.cac.org (Contemplative Spirituality, including Richard Rohr's teaching)
- *Listen to Daily Bible Readings (search www.catholic.org)
- *UCC Daily Devotional (Search www.ucc.org/daily-devotional) This can be automatically sent to your email as well.
- *Spiritual Resources for people with dementia (www.spiritualeldercare.com)

***You Tube:**

Reliable and engaging Bible Book overviews (Bible Project)

Good Guided and Prayerful Meditations (search for “Beatrix von Watzdorf”)

Search solid teachers of the Bible like NT Wright, Walter Brueggemann, William Paul Young, Brian Zahnd, Eugene Peterson, and Amy Jill Levine

Print Resources

**God Calling*, AJ Russell, ed.

**Jesus Calling*, Sarah Young

**My Utmost for His Highest*, Oswald Chambers



Here's What's Happening . . .

Our **Hidden Treasures Yard Sale** is just around the corner on **Friday, July 8th from 8 AM to 4 PM.** We need your help!!!

Drop off dates for yard sale items will be **Monday through Thursday, beginning Monday, June 20th from 9 AM to 2 PM.** We need helpers to accept, clean, and organize donations. Please sign up on the forms by the elevator and vestibule. Please see Chet or Marg if you need to make other arrangements.

We will be having a **Chicken Bar-b-que Meal during the Yard Sale.** This will be for pick-up only from 11 AM to 1 PM. Tickets will be available to sell ahead of time, \$12 each. The meal includes $\frac{1}{2}$ chicken, baked potato, pepper slaw, water, roll and butter.

We will need lots of help with the Chicken Bar-b-que and yard sale to cover the various areas. Sign-up sheets will be available soon to volunteer your time. With your help, we hope to make this another successful fundraiser for Grace Church.

First Saturday Free Community Meal will not be held during the months of July, August, and September due to holiday weekends and OHW (Old Home Week). We will be back October 1st with another delicious meal!



CHURCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS:

We have open spots for Greeters/Ushers, Readers and Communion servers for May and June. Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the front vestibule.

Activities & Fundraising Committee

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the social hall starting at 7pm. Please come out and join us or contact Chet or Marg for more information. We need more volunteers to help with our upcoming events!

Laundry Love

Due to the tight inside space at The Laundry Spot, we have put this outreach program on hold till further notice. Contact Carolyn Shoemaker with any further questions.

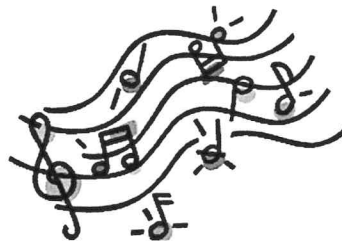
Monthly Refreshments & Fellowship

We are holding fellowship time with refreshments served on the second Sunday of each month. Everyone welcome to join us in the social hall following worship service. Our next fellowship times are scheduled for May 8 and June 12.

Worship & Spiritual Committee

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 22, at 9am, in the social hall. Meetings are now scheduled for every other month until further notice. Please contact Rev. Mark, or Cathy Keefer for details if you would like to join this committee. Everyone is welcomed!

Chancel Choir



Choir rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings, at 7:15pm, in the sanctuary. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for practice! Please contact Patty Stepler with any further questions or concerns.

Consistory

Board

Meeting

Next board meetings are scheduled for May 15 and June 19, both at 8:30am in the social hall. Please keep in touch with board members or church office for any changes.

Grace Snyder Circle

They are holding their annual Women in Christ Banquet on May 9, in the social hall. There will be no meetings held during the summer months, they will resume in the Fall.

Women In Christ Banquet

The banquet is scheduled for May 9, in the social hall, with the meal being served at 6:30pm. Entertainment is gospel music being sung by Anna Lee and Dave Kopp. The cost for adults is \$20, children between 6-7 years of age are \$10, and 5 and under are free. Blue Heron will be catering this banquet. Contact Nancy Myers or Nellie Stahl to sign-up for the banquet. Everyone invited (you don't need to be a Guild member)!

GRACE'S FREE CLOSET

We are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am till 12:30pm. If anyone is able to share some of their time, we could use helpers to sort, tag and greet our visitors. We are accepting gently used clothing, along with spring décor for our downstairs seasonal room. If you can help volunteer or have further questions, please contact Nancy Myers.





First Saturday Free Community Meal

Grab-and-Go style take-out meals will be provided on the first Saturday of each month, from 11am to 1pm.

Pick-up at the social hall entrance.

May 7: Menu includes chili, beef hot dog on a bun, dessert & a bottle of water

June 4: Menu to be determined later

If you are a homebound church member or in need of a meal delivered, please contact Chet Nye to make arrangements. There will be no free meals in July, August or September due to the holiday weekends and OHW (Old Home Week).

*** Everyone Welcome ***

*** Donations Appreciated ***

*** Limited Quantities ***

Fundraisers

Our Ham & Soup Fundraiser held this past March was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who helped! We thank everyone who donated their time, supplies and purchased soup & sandwiches to help support GUCC! We are blessed to have such a great church community!

Upcoming Boost Your Breakfast

Our Breakfast Fundraiser is scheduled for May 21, from 7am till 10:30am. We will have eat-in or take-out available. We will be selling tickets in advance to help us plan for the amount of food needed. Our menu includes: scrambled eggs, bacon, hashbrowns, biscuits, sausage gravy, apple or orange juice, and coffee. Adults \$8, Youth 6-12 years \$5, Children 5 and under are by donation. Contact Chet Nye, Marg Stouffer or church office to get your tickets!

Live Streaming of Worship

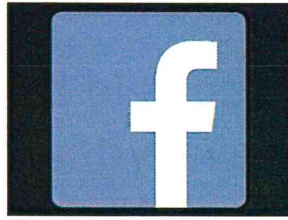
Live streaming of our services will continue to be available on our Facebook page for those who would like to watch from the comfort of your home.

Please comment 'hello' so we know you are watching along with us!

You can find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/>

Facebook



If you have access to Facebook, please 'like' our page, Grace United Church of Christ, it will help keep you updated on events and changes. If you are out of town, or want to watch our worship service from the comfort of your home, please gather on our Facebook page at 10am on Sunday mornings for a live stream of our service. Comment 'hello' so we know you are watching with us. This is a great way to stay connected with everyone!

GUCC Website

Our weekly worship programs along with our newsletters can be downloaded from our website anytime!

You can make donations through our website. Just click on any DONATE button, use drop down box to choose where you would like your donation to be used. You will need your credit card. Once you submit any contributions, you will receive an email receipt for your tax purposes. Any questions with this new donate button, please contact Kate Kennedy or Elaine in the church office.

You can find us at: <https://www.graceuccgreencastle.com>

Educational Sunday

Educational Sunday is scheduled for June 12th.
Contact Lorna Thomas with any scholarship questions.

General Primary Elections

GUCC is one of the facilities that Franklin County uses for voting purposes. The 2022 General Primary elections will be held on Tuesday, May 17. The social hall will be open from 7am to 8pm for those who use this location to vote.

Strengthen the Church Offering

The Strengthen the Church (STC) offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will help to plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. The theme for this year is "All Together". We will be receiving **STC Offering on Sunday, June 5, 2022.**



Member Birthday's

May

5/13 – Tom Stine
5/18 – Roy Thomas
5/26 – Jeff Stouffer

June

6/4 - Rev. Ralph Geiman
6/4 - Franklin (Bud) Walck
6/12 – Ron Myers
6/17 – Kate Kennedy
6/17 - Barry Shoemaker
6/18 – Lorna Thomas
6/19 – Kermit Hicks
6/21 – Deb Homer
6/21 - Rashaw Alston
6/22 – Ben Thomas
6/26 – Joseph Koons



Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
8am – 2pm

Closed on May 30 – Memorial Day

Newsletter Deadline

Members are welcome to submit any announcements, joys, news, articles or committee updates you would like to share with our church family. Deadline to submit articles for our July/Aug issue of Grace Notes is Thursday, June 16, at 12 noon. You are welcome to drop off articles at church office or submit through our email.

officegucc@gmail.com

275th

Anniversary

Committee

This is a new committee for planning our upcoming 275th anniversary of GUCC. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 5th, at 9am, in the social hall. Anyone interested in getting more involved is welcome to join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

July

Called to Care Meeting

Summer Bible Study

Church Yard Sale/Chicken Barbeque

August

Guest Vocalist

Old Home Week

TBA in the Fall

Spaghetti Dinner

Pork & Sauerkraut Meal

Church Picnic



CONSISTORY MINUTES OF MEETING

February 20, 2022

ROLL CALL: Pastor Mark, Jeff Stouffer, Margaret Stouffer, Mark Stahl, Carolyn Shoemaker, Chet Nye, Cathy Keefer, Lorna Thomas, and Deb Homer. Absent in person but participated via phone: Lu & Steve Miller. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Outgoing President, Margaret Stouffer.

DEVOTIONS: Pastor Mark read Psalm Chapter 37: 3 – 11.

WORK OF THE CHURCH: Lorna Thomas and Deb Homer were welcomed as new members. Election of Officers – Carolyn Shoemaker nominated Jeff Stouffer as President, Mark Stahl as Vice President, Cathy Keefer as Secretary and passed unanimously. Margaret has redone the handbook and they are not completely finished. She will be distribute when done.

CONSENT AGENDA: Passed by a Jeff Stouffer/Chet Nye motion and passed unanimously. It was noted under Building and Grounds that the \$1600.00 for the boiler repair and service agreement was paid by donations from several members.

INFORMATION AGENDA:

Pastor Mark: He was attending an installation of the Settled Minister at Zion UCC today at 2. Larry noted that the Pension Board has not responded back to him. Pastor Mark will send in 3 reservations for the seminar on May 21st at St. John's UCC in Chambersburg.

The Service of Installation for Pastor Mark is scheduled for April 24th at 3 pm and a meal will be served after the service. Carolyn and Deb will spearhead the meal.

Activities and Fundraising Committee – Consider having the yard sale and chicken Bar-B-Que.

Building and Grounds & Parking lot agreement – a fire extinguisher needs updated and Jeff Stouffer will donate that. Regarding the parking lot, Joel Henry, our insurance agent, sent us forms (to hold Grace UCC harmless if an accident occurs on parking lot) to forward to Melissa and Chris to sign. They in turn passed the forms on to their attorney for review. We are looking for some financial assistance from them for the upkeep of the parking lot since they use it.

Finance Committee – need to get more members involved in volunteerism. It was thrown out for a brief discussion to taxi any members unable to drive themselves to service.

Called to Care: Pastor Mark said calls are being made and are confidential in nature.

ACTION AGENDA:

Jan Shaffer requested to use the Social Hall on August 12th for a class reunion function and there will not be a fee associated with this use. Additionally, Ed & Gladys Doyle want to do some landscaping in the front of the church with adding shrubs. They will donate the shrubs and do the planting. A Time of Fellowship will be held after service on the Second Sunday of the month. Nancy Myers presented the idea of Pantry Pouches to be assembled by the congregation and donated to the two Food Banks in town. The action agenda passed unanimously after a motion by Margaret/Carolyn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be March 20, 2022 at 8:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Keefer, Secretary

ROLL CALL: Jeff Stouffer, Pastor Mark, Carolyn Shoemaker, Chet Nye, Deb Homer, Lorna Thomas, Larry Stepler, Cathy Keefer

DEVOTIONS: Pastor Mark read a scripture.

WORK OF THE CHURCH: Decision was made to remove from the bulletins the Covid safety measures but to keep the live streaming section.

AGENDA ADDITIONS & SUBTRACTIONS: Under Building & Grounds for February's Meeting – corrected the fire extinguisher needs to be updated next year and Jeff Stouffer will donate that.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion made by Lorna/Carolyn to approve and was passed unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA:

Pastor Mark: Suggested distributing invitations to the Installation Service to those in attendance at services to share with others. Of note, invitations were also being sent to members not attending.

Building & Grounds: The Shoppe & Consignment Shop have presented a signed agreement to hold GUCC harmless regarding any injuries that may occur in the parking lot & have agreed to pay \$1200.00 per year.

Mark suggested the men's bathroom floor needs attention and he indicated that vinyl flooring would run around \$975.00. A motion was made by Carolyn/Chet and was approved unanimously to give Mark the okay to do. Jeff reported that solar energy may not be the way to go to decrease the church's electric bill as the cost would be currently too high (\$32,000.00 to \$60,000.00). This has been tabled for the time being.

Larry stressed that we would not want to pull this amount from the Masser fund. Additionally, Jeff will be looking into the possibility of changing the lights to LED.

ACTION AGENDA: To cut down on paper, consider placing the Hymn number in the bulletin instead of printing the entire hymn which would result in using the hymnals. Larry mentioned placing the pew that had been removed in the front of the sanctuary back to its original home and move the hymnal rack from the men's bathroom as well. This will be done when "strong" help can be secured. Lorna suggested that GUCC not lend out the medical equipment due to liability issues and a motion by Carolyn/Cathy to donate the equipment to the Lutheran Church and this passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am with the Lord's Prayer.

No meeting in April due to Palm Sunday, Easter, and Pastor Mark's Installation Service.

Next meeting will be May 15th at 8:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Keefer, Secretary

SPECIAL CONSISTORY MEETINGS REGARDING LIABILITY INSURANCE

HELD ON 3/27/2022

IN ATTENDANCE: Jeff Stouffer, Pastor Mark, Carolyn Shoemaker, Chet Nye, Mark Stahl, Lorna Thomas, Cathy Keefer

The cost of the church's liability coverage increased almost 18% showing the premium to be \$8702.00 from Bitner-Henry Insurance with a due date of April 1, 2022. Last year's annual policy was \$7396.00.

Discussion pursued regarding this increase since we had budgeted \$8500.00. After a motion by Lorna/Carolyn with a unanimous vote, the decision was made to request Bell Insurance to obtain a quote. Jeff will contact Carrie Heckman at Bell for a figure and Consistory will meet then to vote on possibly changing.

Additionally, Mark shared several vinyl tile samples. This will be to replace the existing floor in the men's bathroom and one was chosen by the members.

SPECIAL CONSISTORY MEETINGS REGARDING LIABILITY INSURANCE

HELD ON 3/29/22

IN ATTENDANCE: Jeff Stouffer, Mark Stahl, Carolyn Shoemaker, Lorna Thomas, Larry Stepler

Consistory members met with Carrie Heckman from Bell/Brethren Insurance. Last year's annual policy from Bitner-Henry Insurance was \$7396. This year, our insurance rate increased almost 18% with no loss runs to \$8,702. Carrie presented a new insurance premium to be \$6,915, which also includes Workers Comp. as well as a \$1,000,000 liability umbrella, again, totaling \$6,915. This means a savings our Grace UCC of almost \$1,800. So, we voted this evening to switch to Bell Insurance for the betterment of our Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Keefer, Secretary

<p style="text-align: center;">Grace United Church of Christ Statement of Financial Income and Expenses 1st Quarter - Jan-March 2022</p>

General Operating Account:

Beginning Balance	\$5,586.98
Income	\$24,811.85
Expense	\$27,685.11
Ending Balance	\$2,713.72

Building/Outreach/Fundraising/Grants Account:

Beginning Balance	\$9,663.62
Income	\$6,704.14
Expense	\$4,916.02
Ending Balance	\$11,451.74

Organ Fund Account:

Beginning Balance	\$44,579.32
Income	\$351.10
Expense	\$557.50
Ending Balance	\$44,372.92

German Reformed Cemetery Fund

Beginning Balance	\$1,495.30
Income	\$0.00
Expense	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$1,495.30

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Please contact committee members, board members or church office for any questions or updates about any items listed below.)



- 1** 9am meeting in social hall to form 275th Church Anniversary Committee
10am Worship Service with Communion, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Ed & Gladys Doyle
Communion Servers: Ed & Gladys Doyle
Reader: Lu Miller
Scriptures: Acts 9:1-6, Rev 5:11-14, John 21:1-19
- 2** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
Consistory & Committee Reports Due for March & April
- 3** 7pm Activities & Fundraising Committee, in social hall
- 4** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
7:15pm Chancel Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 6** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 7** First Saturday Free Community Meal, 11-1pm, social hall
- 8** **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**
10am Worship Service, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Lorna Thomas & Lorna Thomas
Reader: Lorna Thomas
Scriptures: Acts 9:36-43, Rev 7:9-17, John 10:22-30
Fellowship & Refreshments following worship, in social hall

- 9** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
Consistory agenda packets will be sent to board members via email this week
Women In Christ Banquet, 6:30pm, social hall
- 11** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
7:15pm Chancel Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 13** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 15** 8:30am Consistory Board Meeting, social hall
10am Worship Service, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Barry & Jack Shoemaker
Reader: Patty Stepler
Scriptures: Acts 11:1-18, Rev 21:1-6, John 13:31-35
- 16** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 17** 7am-8pm General Primary Elections, social hall
- 18** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
7:15pm Chancel Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 20** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 21** Boost Your Breakfast, in social hall, 7-10:30am
- 22** 9am Worship & Spiritual Life Committee, in social hall
10am Worship Service, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & Darlene Bitner
Reader: Nancy Myers
Scriptures: Acts 16:9-15, Rev 21:10 & 22 to 22:5
and John 14:23-29
- 23** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

- 25** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
7:15pm Chancel Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 27** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 29** 10am Worship Service, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Sydnae Vanner & Jim Thomas
Reader: TBA
Scriptures: Acts 16:16-34, Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
and John 17:20-26
- 30 Happy Memorial Day**
Church Office Closed
Grace's Free Closet Closed



- 1** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 3** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 4** 11-1pm First Saturday Free Community Meal, social hall

- 5** 9am, 275th Anniversary Committee Meeting, social hall
10am Worship Service with Communion, Sanctuary
Receiving Strengthen the Church Offering (STC)
Communion Servers: Tony & Noelle Homer
Greeters/Ushers: Tony Homer
Reader: TBA
Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21, Rom 8:14-17, John 14:8-17
- 6** Consistory & Committee Reports due for May
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 7** 7pm Activities & Fundraising Committee, social hall
- 8** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 10** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 12 Educational Sunday**
10am Worship Service, Sanctuary
Greeters/Ushers: Jean Rice & Cathy Keefer
Reader: Patty Stepler
Scriptures: Prov 8:1-4, 22-31, Rom 5:1-5, Jn 16:12-15
Refreshments and fellowship will be held following worship
- 13** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
Consistory agenda packets will be sent to board members via email this week
- 15** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 16** Deadline to submit newsletter articles for July/Aug issue of Grace Notes
- 17** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

19 Happy Father's Day

8:30am Consistory Board Meeting, in social hall

10am Worship Service, Sanctuary

Greeters/Ushers: Ed & Gladys Doyle

Reader: Tim Bryan

Scriptures: 1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15, Gal 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39

20 Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

21 Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

22 Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

23 Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

24 Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

26 10am Worship Service, in the Sanctuary

Guest Pastor: TBA

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & TBA

Reader: Nancy Myers

Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14, Gal 5:1, 13-25, Luke 9:51-62

27 Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

28 Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

29 Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall

30 Yard Sale donations accepted between 9-2pm, social hall