



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

**♪ ♪ GRACE NOTES ♪ ♪**

**July/August 2022 Issue**

July & August 2022 Newsletter Article  
from Pastor Mark Ruzicka

Isn't summer great? I mean besides having to cut the grass...it's mainly wonderful! I like the feeling of just "flying out" the door...and not having to put your coat and hat on! Summer can also be a time of renewal or sabbatical as well. In the *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* Course led by Peter Scazzero that many of us took this past Spring, we learned that four practices characterize true Sabbaths (as opposed to just "time off"). They are: **Stopping, Resting, Delighting, and Contemplating**. I hope you can incorporate each of these four things in your summer! Ask yourselves, "How can I **stop/delight/rest/contemplate** more...in this season of summer?"

My whole family (all five of us) will be visiting my twin brother Jay, his wife and his young son (my nephew) this summer. I will tell you all about it when I return. But I wanted to let you know that I will be taking some time off; specifically, July 11 through July 24. I have lined up guest preachers: the Rev. Peter Emig for July 17 and Harold "Marty" Zimmerman III for July 24. Peter is a friend of mine who served Solomon's UCC in New Franklin for over 30 years...and is now retired. Marty is a young man from Greencastle who wrote the story of experiencing a stroke and his recovery. I thought hearing how his faith and community has helped him would be inspiring to all of you. I hope you come...and bring a friend.

On August 7, Dave Reeder will be our special singer in honor of Greencastle's Old Home Week Celebration. This is definitely a cause for delight...and another reason to invite a friend to church.

I say it often and I hope you don't mind me repeating it: the church grows by invitation! This is a tried and true way for our church family to survive and thrive into the future that God has for our church.

In Christ, Pastor Mark





## **NEW MEMBERS:**

We welcome our newest church members, Bobbie Sponseller, Tom Stine & Nancy Stine! We welcome their happy smiles at worship and we are blessed to have them in our GUCC family! Welcome!

## **CHURCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS:**

We have open dates in July and August for Greeters/Ushers, Readers and Communion Servers. Please see the sign-up sheets located on the front table in the vestibule. We appreciate everyone who volunteers their time during worship.

## **Worship & Spiritual Committee**

Our meetings are scheduled bi-monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 9am, in the social hall. Our next meeting is scheduled for July 10th. Please contact Rev. Mark, or Cathy Keefer for further details about this committee. Everyone is welcome to join us!

## **Laundry Love**

This outreach program is still on hold, no further updates available. Contact Carolyn Shoemaker for any further questions.

## **Activities & Fundraising Committee**

Our Hidden Treasures Yard Sale and Chicken Barbeque is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>, from 8 to 4pm. Stop by for lunch and treasures. The chicken meal will be available starting at 11am. Tickets are still available at the church office for \$12, or at the door for \$13. Chicken only is \$6.

Yard Sale Donations are still being accepted on July 5, 6, and 7, from 9am till 12noon.

## ***Called to Care Committee***

This committee is trained in care giving and visitations and helps us to be in better touch to meet the needs of our congregation as they arise. We meet quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month. The meeting for July has been rescheduled till August 2, at 6:30pm, in the social hall. Contact Pastor Mark or call the church office at 717-597-2983 if you would like more information about this group.

# **Condolences:**

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Fisher Family, as Frances Mae 'Pickle' Diehl has recently passed away.*

May the *love* of those  
around you  
*help* you  
through the  
days ahead.

## **Monthly Refreshments & Fellowship**

Fellowship time with refreshments are being held 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 July 10, August 7 (for our guest vocalist), and August 14.

## Chancel Choir

There are no rehearsals during the summer months. The choir will resume singing in the Fall. Please contact Patty Stepler for any further questions.

### **Consistory Board Meetings**

There will be no board meeting in July. The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 21, at 8:30am, in the social hall.

### **Grace Snyder Circle**

There are no Guild meetings during the summer months. Their next meeting will be held on September 12, at 1pm, in the social hall.

### **GRACE'S FREE CLOSET**

The Closet is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am till 12:30pm. If you can help volunteer some time, please contact Nancy Myers. We can always use volunteers to help sort, tag, greet and keep the downstairs room clean and organized. Grace's Closet will be closed on July 4 for the holiday, and it will also be closed during our Hidden Treasures Yard Sale Fundraiser on July 8.

# **Fundraisers**

We thank everyone who helped us during our Boost Your Day Breakfast fundraiser! We are thankful for such a great church family and appreciated everyone's support!

## **First Saturday Free Community Meal**

Due to upcoming holidays and Old Home Week, there will be no free community meals in July, August or September. We will be back on October 1st with another delicious meal! Looking forward to seeing you in the Fall!

## **Live Streaming of Worship**

Live streaming of our services will continue to be available on our Facebook page for those who are unable to attend worship.

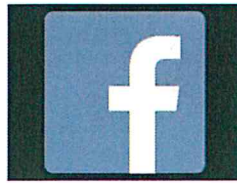
**Please comment 'hello' so we know you are watching along with us!**

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**

There were no scholarship applicants for this year.

We donated \$2000 to the scholarship fund at the Lancaster Theological Seminary in honor of Rev. Ralph S. Geiman.

The loose change offering received on Educational Sunday, total of \$102, has been donated to our Education Fund.

Congratulations to all the graduates of 2022!

### **275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 14, at 9am, in the social hall. Anyone interested in getting more involved is welcome to join us!

### **New Church Email**

We are transitioning over to a new email address. Please be sure to put our new email address in your contacts so our correspondences don't end up in your spam folder.

Our new email is: [gucc128@outlook.com](mailto:gucc128@outlook.com)

# Member Birthday's

## July

7/11 – Mary Frances Myers

7/12 – Clarisse Hicks

7/13 – Jan Shafer

7/18 – Bill Storms

7/25 – Earl Bodes

7/25 – Nancy Myers

7/26 – Ethel Fisher

7/28 – Faye Baker

7/28 - Nancy Stine

7/29 – DeBorah Alston

## August

8/11 - Emory Stahl

8/26 – Roger Stahl

8/31 – Pat Zimmerman



## Newsletter Deadline

Do you have anything you would like to share in our next newsletter? Members are welcome to submit any announcements, joys, news, articles or committee updates to share with our church family. Deadline to submit articles for our Sept/October issue of Grace Notes is Monday, August 15, at 12 noon. You are welcome to drop off articles at church office or submit through our email.

[gucc128@outlook.com](mailto:gucc128@outlook.com)

## Office Hours

Monday – Thursday, 8am-2pm  
Church Office will be closed on July 4



## UPCOMING EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES:

TBA in the Fall  
Spaghetti Dinner  
Pork & Sauerkraut Meal  
Annual Church Picnic & Outside Worship



## MEETING MINUTES

### CONSISTORY MINUTES OF MEETING

**May 15, 2022**

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

**DEVOTIONS:** Pastor Mark read Psalm 46.

**WORK OF THE CHURCH:** Covid is starting to increase. No changes made.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/SUBTRACTIONS:** Education – no scholarship applications.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion made by Carolyn Shoemaker/Mark Stahl to approve and passed unanimously.

#### **INFORMATION AGENDA:**

Pastor Mark: On May 21<sup>st</sup>, he will be attending a workshop on Church Growth along with Marg Stouffer, Carolyn Shoemaker, & Deb Homer. There were no updates or concerns regarding Called to Care Committee.

Fundraising and Activities: The upcoming scheduled Fundraising Events are as follows: Breakfast on May 21<sup>st</sup>; Yard Sale on July 8<sup>th</sup>; Chicken BBQ on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Building & Grounds: *Kitchen Sewer Drainage Pipes* - Mark Stahl reviewed a bid from East Coast Trenchless to repair the drainage problem. He also researched multiple estimates for the project and a motion was made by Carolyn S./Chet N. to override these estimates. A motion was made by Deb H./Carolyn S. to accept the bid by East Coast Trenchless at a cost of \$7432.00 and this passed unanimously. The ladies' restroom will be closed effective 5/15/22 until completion. Mark S. will update the congregation of the drain repair to see if funds can be generated. *Repair of round window facing the parking lot* – Mark S. got an estimate of \$300.00 for rental of a lift and \$500.00 to repair and paint the window. A motion was made by Jeff S./Carolyn S. to proceed with the window repair and was approved and passed unanimously. *Cemetery mowing/weeding* is being done by church members.

Finance Committee: The church will be experiencing significant billing increases from Columbia Gas, West Penn, Comcast, Atlantic Securities of approximately 10% to 25+%. Continued ideas of ways to save the church money is welcome. Larry S. gave an overview of Grace's finances.

**ACTION AGENDA**: No action was taken regarding the moving of the pew/benches back to their original home or the streaming equipment. Carolyn S. will follow up regarding reserving the Nelson Pavilion at the King Playground for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of September for future years.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be June 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cathy Keefer, Secretary

## **CONSISTORY MEETING**

**June 19, 2022**

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

**DEVOTIONS**: Pastor Mark read parts of Psalm 30.

**CONSENT AGENDA**: Motion made by Jeff/Lorna to approve and passed unanimously.

## **INFORMATION AGENDA**

Pastor Mark: Mentioned that today was Father's Day and that 20 years ago he was ordained at Laurie's Station, PA. He also informed consistory that a family from Florida contacted him down on their luck and he visited them and offered prayer.

Fundraising & Activities: Upcoming Yard Sale and Chicken BBQ is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup> with tickets being sold and "treasures" being dropped off.

Building & grounds: Kitchen/Sewer/Bathroom issue is fixed and the Women's bathroom is now open after Chet and Mildred cleaned it. Mark is working on getting estimates to have the round window repaired/painted and one estimate is \$750.00. The cemetery mowing is being kept up by a great team of volunteers and several remarks from the public were shared with how nice it looks.

Finance Committee: Will consider having Larry evaluate the church's funds.

**ACTION AGENDA:** A motion by Carolyn/Chet to keep the pew in the social hall and return the front pony wall back to the front of the sanctuary was passed unanimously. Regarding the growth of the church, Pastor Mark recommends “word of mouth” and possibly doing individual interviews as to “why I love Grace UCC church” and share on Facebook. Additionally, a brief discussion was held regarding the safety of our church family and measures to take to develop a security plan to assure continued safety measures. This will be discussed more at a later date once we discuss a plan with our insurance agent. To be discussed later is the removal of the water fountains.

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

Next meeting will be August 21, 2022 at 8:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cathy Keefer, Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

GUCC’s financial statement for  
2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (April 1<sup>st</sup> thru June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022)  
will be available in the next newsletter

\*\*\*\*\*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

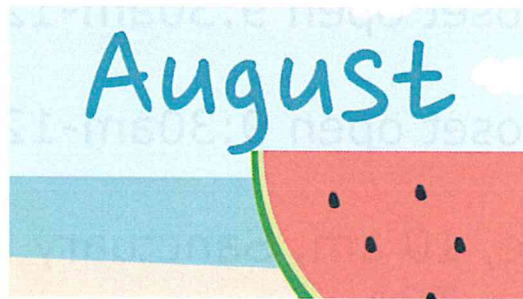
(Please contact committee members, board members or church office for any questions or updates about any items listed below.)



- 1** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 3** Worship Service with Communion, 10am, Sanctuary  
Communion Servers: Nancy Myers & Mildred Minnich  
Greeters/Ushers: Tony & Deb Homer  
Reader: Tony Homer  
Scriptures: 2 Kings 5:1-14, Gal 6:7-16, Luke 10:1-11
- 4** **Happy Independence Day!**  
Church Office Closed  
Grace's Free Closet Closed
- 5** Accepting Yard Sale Donations, 9-12pm, social hall  
Activities & Fundraising Committee, 7pm, social hall
- 6** Accepting Yard Sale Donations, 9-12pm, social hall  
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 7** Accepting Yard Sale Donations, 9-12pm, social hall
- 8** Grace's Free Closet Closed  
Hidden Treasures Yard Sale, 8am-4pm, social hall  
Chicken BBQ Sale, carry-out, 11-4pm, social hall

- 10** Worship & Spiritual Life Committee, 9am, social hall  
Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & TBA  
Reader: Nancy Myers  
Scriptures: Amos 7:7-17, Col 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37  
Refreshments & Fellowship, social hall, following service
- 11** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 13** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 15** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 17** Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Guest Preacher: TBA  
Greeters/Ushers: Jean Rice & Cathy Keefer  
Reader: Lu Miller  
Scriptures: Amos 8:1-12, Col 1:15-28, Luke 10:38-42
- 18** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 20** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 22** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 24** Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Guest Speaker: TBA  
Greeters/Ushers: Tony & Deb Homer  
Reader: Tony Homer  
Scriptures: Hos 1:2-10, Col 2:6-15, Luke 11:1-13
- 25** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

- 27** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 29** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 31** Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: Sydnae Vanner & Jim Thomas  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Hos 11:1-11, Col 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21



- 1** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 2** Called to Care Committee, 6:30pm, social hall
- 3** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 5** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 7** Worship Service with Communion, 10am, Sanctuary  
Guest Vocalist: David Reeder  
Communion Servers: TBA  
Greeters/Ushers: Mildred Minnich & Chet Nye  
Reader: Lorna Thomas  
Scriptures: Isa 1:1, 10-20, Heb 11:1-3, Luke 12:32-40  
Refreshments following worship, in social hall
- 8** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Consistory & Committee Reports due to church office  
for June & July

- 10** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 12** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Private OHW event in social hall, 10-4pm
- 14** 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee, 9am, social hall  
Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Myers & Mildred Minnich  
Reader: Nancy Myers  
Scriptures: Isa 5:1-7, Heb 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56  
Refreshments & Fellowship following worship, social hall
- 15** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Deadline to submit newsletter articles for Sept/Oct  
issue of Grace Notes
- 17** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 19** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 21** Consistory Board Meeting, 8:30am, social hall  
Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: Tony & Deb Homer  
Reader: Tony Homer  
Scriptures: Jer 1:4-10, Heb 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17
- 22** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 24** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 26** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

- 28** Worship Service, 10 am, Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: Sydnae Vanner & Jim Thomas  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Jer 2:4-13, Heb 13:1-8, Luke 14:1, 7-14
- 29** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 31** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm

