

# GRACE NOTES

Dec. 2014 / Jan. 2015  
Volume 15, Issue 7

A Publication of  
Grace  
Presbyterian Church



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## Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Chris Kirwan  
[gracepastor@gpcfww.org](mailto:gracepastor@gpcfww.org)

### Choir Director

Debi Thorpe  
[mommyrodda@aol.com](mailto:mommyrodda@aol.com)

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Sue Creager  
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[nojogetts@juno.com](mailto:nojogetts@juno.com)

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### Custodians

Dennis Allen  
[woodshakers13@gmail.com](mailto:woodshakers13@gmail.com)

Tim Bauman  
[Batb1977@hotmail.com](mailto:Batb1977@hotmail.com)



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### November 30<sup>th</sup>

10:30 AM - Hanging of the Greens special worship to  
kick off the onset of Advent

### December 1<sup>st</sup>

5:30-7:30 PM - Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A with  
Grace Presbyterian Church

### December 7<sup>th</sup>

10:30 AM - Worship with the celebration  
of the Lord's Supper

### December 14<sup>th</sup>

10:30 AM - Children's Christmas Pageant during worship  
12 PM - Session Meeting  
1:30 PM - Caroling with the Choir to  
Home-Centered Members

### December 21<sup>st</sup>

10:30 AM - Choral Cantata during worship

### December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve

7:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service with the Lord's Supper

### December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas

Merry Christmas!  
The office will be closed

### December 26<sup>th</sup>

Office will also be closed

### December 28<sup>th</sup>

10:30 AM - Worship service with Christmas Carols

### December 31<sup>st</sup>

The office will be open for half a day

### January 1<sup>st</sup>

Happy New Year!  
The office will be closed

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# PASTOR CHRIS' CORNER



Just recently I watched a very informative “2 minute video” for Advent, done by a company called “broken halo.” The video was really informative, and helps one to remember and focus on what the season of Advent truly means and represents. It is a subtle reminder of how much we can often get wrapped up (pun intended) in focusing solely on Christmas, that we forget the journey that brings us to Christmas in the first place. I would encourage you to try and Google the video if you get a chance. It can help to serve to inform and remind us about the many meanings the season of Advent carries with it.

Additionally, one of the best quotes from the two-minute film was one towards the end of it. The message was clear: “If you are sick of Christmas by the time December 25<sup>th</sup> rolls around, then you are doing Advent wrong.” This is a very true sentiment, and it seems to be a constant battle we face with society each and every year. In fact, this year, I believe I saw “Christmas” decorations actually out and for sale at a few retail stores even before Halloween. I figure once Christmas stuff begins to go on sale at Easter, then we can say it all has come full circle, right? All joking aside, it is crucial to maintain the spirit of hope and joy that Advent has and brings with it. When all is said and done, just remember to keep this time of Advent holy: to pray ceaselessly, wait patiently, to find joy in our lives, and to prepare our house for the arrival of a special guest: Jesus Christ.

## Presbyterianism 101



### **The Book of Order – G-1.03 The Membership of a Congregation – G-1.0301– The Meaning of Membership and Baptism**

In Jesus Christ, God calls people to faith and to membership in the Church, the body of Christ. Baptism is the visible sign of that call and claim on a human life and of entrance into membership of the church. The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God’s love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The baptism of those who enter the covenant of membership upon their own profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior witnesses to the truth that God’s gift of grace calls forth a response of faithfulness. Thus, the triune God, incarnate in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, gives to the Church not only its mission but also its understanding of membership.

### **The Book of Confessions -The Second Helvetic Confession – Chapter XX – Of Holy Baptism 5.186**

ONE BAPTISM. There is but one baptism in the Church of God; and it is sufficient to be once baptized or consecrated unto God. For baptism once received continues for all of life, and is a perpetual sealing of our adoption.

## From the Choir Director



Debi Thorpe



**The snow is falling and all around it IS beginning to look a lot like Christmas!**

For me, this is the best time of the year – the smells, the sights, and the sounds, add to the excitement of celebrating the birth of the tiny baby who came to save us all and one of my favorite parts of the celebration is the music of the season.

This year at Grace we are preparing several beautiful pieces to bring to worship and to the Home-Centered members of our congregation. Here are just some of the events we will be bringing to you:

- ♦ On November 30, the adult choir will begin the service of Hanging of the Greens
- ♦ On December 14, our youth and children will present a Christmas program for the Congregation
- ♦ Also, on December 14, all Adults, Youth, Children and Friends of Grace are invited to join together as we share Christmas carols with our Home Centered members. We will be meeting at 1:30 inside the church. (If you have questions or you can drive, please contact me)
- ♦ On December 21 the children will join the adult choir (and even the Congregation!) as we share “Do You Hear What I Hear?” during worship.



All are welcome, whether you like to sing or listen!  
I hope you’ll join us!

In Christ,  
**Debi**

⇒ On February 7, 2015 area music students will participate in the ISMAA Solo & Ensemble Contest. I would like to extend an invitation to any ISMAA participant (or your children or grandchildren or friends) to share your musical offering with the Grace family during our worship time. We would love to hear you (and it can be a great practice and way to overcome those jitters)! Please see me with any questions or to schedule.

## October/November 2014 Session Highlights

- ♦ Session approved that baptism request for Charlotte Marie Jacobs, which took place on Sunday, November 23rd.
- ♦ The session recommended to the congregation to reduce the board of deacons from a size of 12 to a size of 9, citing difficulty in attaining people to fulfill the vacancies for the class of 2017.
- ♦ A new 15 passenger “Turtle-Top” van, courtesy of the very generous Smock Foundation was approved to be purchased by them, and shared by both Grace Presbyterian and United Faith Presbyterian Churches. The hope is that these vans can allow home-centered members to attend worship more regularly. Plus, this would offer the respective churches some flexibility to take large groups to events.

# Up To Date with Committees & Groups



## NEWS FROM PW

PW Christmas Party and White Elephant Exchange is Saturday, December 6th, noon to 2 pm. All women from Grace are invited. Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. And don't forget your white elephant gift.

Come join our regular get togethers!

**SARAH CIRCLE** - Lunch is at Raimondo's at 11:30. We will meet at the church at 12:30 for a brief business meeting and then our bible study. All women of Grace are invited.

Next dates: December 11 and January 8

**LUNCH BUNCH** - Come have lunch at Glenbrook Mall Food Court on the last Thursday of the month - All are welcome!

Next dates: December 18 and January 29

See Evelyn Brunnegraff if you would like to join us or have any questions.  
(424-2804)



3B will be on break starting December 8th and resume classes on January 5th. Make it a New Year's resolution to join us not only for the Body-Brain-Beliefs, but also for the fellowship and fun the class offers. Just a reminder to those who attend, if Fort Wayne Community School closes due to weather, then we will not have class.



Church Women United's Christmas party is set for 10 a.m. Dec. 12 at East Wayne Street United Methodist Church, 300 E. Wayne Street. Shirley Woods from the Euell Wilson Center will be the guest speaker. CWU will be collecting gifts for the center's after school program. They would like donations of craft items (construction paper, paints, crayons, stickers, etc.) and cleaning supplies (facial tissue, toilet tissue, hand soap, dish soap, paper towels, etc.). Donations can be brought to church until Dec. 7. The Euell Wilson Center, YMCA youth program, and Fort Wayne Rescue Mission are the three non-profit organizations that CWU are contributing to this year. There is no charge or registration needed to attend the CWU Christmas party. Please see Pat Morrison with any questions.

## From the Treasurer...

2015 Offering envelopes will be available on Sunday, December 14, on the table in the Narthex. Please remember to pick up your box of envelopes and take it home.

If you would like your box to be mailed, please call the church office at 426-4712.

## The Prayer Shawl Ministry

(a.k.a., Stitch'n Time) continues to meet with our Presbyterian neigh-

bors at Trinity on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Feel free to drop in with your project in the morning and join all of us for lunch at a nearby restaurant.

With the temperatures falling and the holidays just around the corner, now is a perfect time to reach into the prayer shawl basket and give a shawl to a deserving member. That friend can be someone who needs a spiritual lift, someone who has made a valuable contribution to our church family, or someone who has recently experienced a great joy. If you can't knit or crochet but would like to contribute to the prayer shawl ministry, please contact Beth White for ideas on how you can help.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Please note our December and January calendars are not included in this newsletter. They will be emailed and available to pick up at church. Thank-you!*



# Halloween WITH GRACE



Halloween night was COLD but a fun night for the neighborhood. Approximately 300 kids joined us for our spook-tacular event on Friday, October 31st.

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone who donated candy and baked goods. We received 65 bags of candy! Also, thanks to the volunteers who helped serve drinks and run the games during this event. Not to mention the people who helped set-up and tear down!



And a special thank you to the brrrrrr...ave souls who weathered the storm outside for trunk or treat!

Pictured left to right: Wil Searer, Tamara Searer-Jenkins, Marjory Leas, Jill Werling and Bill Werling.

## Members of Grace clear the yard of leaves, just before the snow fell!



Thank you to the Mission committee for organizing the Rake & Run. And thank you to Betsy, Dennis, Harley, John C., Jon W., Kelly, Todd, and Wil for helping rake the church property on Sunday, November 16 after worship.



## The Library had a very successful Christmas Indoor Garage Sale!

A big Thank You to all who donated items for the sale, those who bought them, and those who helped in any way with the sale. The proceeds of \$218.90 will help with the kitchenette project. Don't forget that now is the time to donate any good/used Christmas items for the 2015 sale.

Tammy and Nancy



## Grace Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A December 1st



Grace met at Chick-Fil-A as a fundraiser and fellowship event on December 1<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30-7:30. Thank you to all that showed up to support us, we hope you enjoyed the meal and fellowship! Also thank you very much to the volunteers that helped make that night possible: Santa Claus, Bob Bausser, Stacey Monnier, Nancy Current, Tammy Menkes, Marjory Leas, and the finance committee for planning this event. Stay tuned for our next night as we will probably have another one in the near future!



- ⇒ On October 27, 2014, five members of Grace Presbyterian Church headed for the Byron Health Center to lead Bingo for the residents. Pictured left are Vivian Allen, Diana Eller and Evelyn Brunnegraff, they, along with Gene Allen and Pat Morrison, helped more than 50 residents play Bingo. Helpers from Fort Wayne Baptist Church were also on hand. The residents really enjoyed the many donations of prizes from members of both

### CWU EVENTS!



- ⇒ On October 6, 2014, Vivian Allen, Kelly Bellis, and Pat Morrison attended the annual Interfaith luncheon at Ceruti's. And on November 7, 2014, Vivian and Pat also attended World Community Day at Fort Wayne Baptist Church. Both events were sponsored by Church Women United and included wonderful music and inspiring speakers.

## Consecration Luncheon November 2, 2014

This year, we held another Stewardship Campaign based upon the Consecration Sunday material. It consists of many different factors, and inviting a guest speaker to come talk to the congregation. Yet, the primary focus of the campaign is for one to focus on: "What is God calling me to give?" That was the focus of the campaign and should be our focus when it comes to stewardship. The campaign culminated with a fully-catered luncheon, which you can see pictured here. It was a great meal that was enjoyed by all, and the generosity of all in attendance was also shared at the end of the meal.





# MEMBER UPDATES



## New Contact Info:

- ◆ Don Foland  
New Room #338 at Georgetowne Place
- ◆ Ruth Foland - New Address  
St. Anne's Nursing Home  
1900 Randallia Drive, Room 308  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

◆ Larry & Jan Gouker - New Address  
3004 Waterford Lane  
Muncie, IN 47304

◆ Dorothy Holsworth - New Address  
Lutheran Life Villages at Pine Valley  
9802 Coldwater Road, Room 117  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
447-0800 ext. 4117

◆ Hattie Springer  
New Room #55 at Emeritus Senior Living

◆ Don & Dee Stoiche - New Address  
11168 Parker's Bay Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46845  
755-2128

## Births:

William Ryan Konkle-Mahoney  
Born 10/29/14  
Parents - Ryan & Mary Konkle-Mahoney

## In Memory:

Carolyn Lewis - died 10/14/14  
June Clark - died 10/27/14



## In Touch with Our Home-Centered Members

Mildred Anderson #424-2457  
2010 Emerson Ave.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Norman Bauer #426-5210  
2009 Ellen Avenue  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Judy Bellis #387-9192  
532 Huffman St.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Janet Campbell #483-5045  
2425 Beineke Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Don Clark #483-8631  
3323 Chancellor Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Glen Clifton #432-6692  
4305 Aboite Lake Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Don & Ruth Foland #493-9128  
Don - Georgetown Place  
1717 Maplecrest Rd., Apt. 338  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815  
Ruth - St. Anne's Nursing Home  
1900 Randallia Drive, Apt. 308  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Maxine Ford #747-1663  
Kingston Residence  
7515 Winchester Road, Apt. 116  
Fort Wayne, IN 46819

Larry Gouker  
3004 Waterford Lane  
Muncie, IN 47304

Dorothy Holsworth #447-0800  
Lutheran Life Villages at Pine Valley  
9802 Coldwater Road, Rm 117  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Frank Dee Lehman #483-9281  
6318 Bittersweet Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Rev. Loran Lewis #447-7230  
Lutheran Life Villages  
6723 S. Anthony Blvd., Apt. E131  
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Robert Morell #489-2599  
1701 Wayside Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Arnie & Mary Patten  
1655 Hinton Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Harold & Evelyn Pelz #627-6817  
The Cedars  
14409 Sunrise Ct., Rm. 102  
Leo, IN 46765

George Ripple  
101 Surrey Lane  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Mary Scribner #484-3120  
Woodview Health Care  
3420 East State Blvd., Rm. 204  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Hattie Springer #484-0308  
Emeritus Senior Living  
4730 East State Blvd, Rm. 55  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Harry Stucky #424-0069  
1655 Cherokee Rd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Jean Swigart #483-0491  
2213 N. Anthony Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Lois Walsh #496-1421  
3110 E. Coliseum Blvd., Rm. 201  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

James Witzigreuter, Sr.  
3705 Summit View Place  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808  
#432-3500

Bill & Madge Zion #485-5353  
8426 Tewksbury Ct.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46835

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE



October 5	86	November 2	86
October 12	70	November 9	73
October 19	75	November 16	84
October 26	81	November 23	111
		November 30	82



December 12, 1959 Larry & Jan Gouker  
December 31, 1995 David & Carol Josse  
January 17, 1959 Don & Dee Stoiche  
January 21, 1949 Gene & Vivian Allen



Dec. 01	Norman Bauer
Dec. 01	Pat Morrison
Dec. 01	Evelyn Pelz
Dec. 03	Katie German
Dec. 07	Marilyn Young
Dec. 11	Madge Zion
Dec. 12	Rev. Bob Leas
Dec. 17	Jean Swigart
Dec. 18	Sharon Allen
Dec. 19	Holly Bouthot
Dec. 20	Jeff Kachmar
Dec. 21	Jeff Widmann
Dec. 23	Don Clark
Dec. 27	Betsy Kachmar
Dec. 28	Paul Wilkie
Dec. 28	Rick Werling
Dec. 29	Jill Werling

Jan. 2	Al Creager
Jan. 5	Ken Rogers
Jan. 7	Linda Knepple
Jan. 10	Dorman Keller
Jan. 13	Carol Courtney
Jan. 14	Skylar Kirwan
Jan. 17	Cathy German
Jan. 22	Dick Young
Jan. 23	Vivian Allen
Jan. 23	Bill Zion
Jan. 26	Carrie Geist





- The staff and students at Harrison Hill Elementary would like to thank the church members at Grace for their donation of school supplies. Some of the donated supplies are being used by the students already. The other

supplies will be given to students throughout the school year as rewards for excellent behavior. By donating these supplies you helped these students feel prepared for school. Thanks again for your support we really appreciate it.

*Thanks,  
Students and Staff  
at Harrison Hill Elementary School, FWCS*

- Thank you to Dennis, Todd, Harley, John C., Jon W., Will, Betsy, and Kelly for raking the church yard on a very cold day.

*Tammy Menkes*

- Thank you to the Grace members who freely gave donations for the caramel corn and peanut brittle that PW made.

*Presbyterian Women*

- Thank you to the 24 people who were counters in 2014. Your time and effort are greatly appreciated.

*Finance Committee*

- Thank you Dee, Jill, Linda, Judi, Tammy and Pat for helping with cancer pad sewing, fellowship and the salad luncheon. Twenty pads were delivered to Cancer Services of North East Indiana.

*Evelyn Brunnegraff*

## Our New & Improved Website!



By Deb Zimmerman...

After many months talking with Pastor Chris and wanting to add some things to the old web site which it wouldn't support...decided to upgrade to a new site. We are now able to have Pastor Chris's sermons on line and our newsletter under the media tab. It's much easier to add photos and events too. There are still a few areas "under construction", but the majority of the work is done.

While we appreciate all of the outreach projects and partnerships we have established over the years, we are hoping to focus more on what Grace is doing as far as events and advertising. We do have a tab called mission and outreach where we break down the areas of Grace Outreach and Local Community Programs.

Help is needed to keep the website fresh and up to date. If you see something that needs corrected or you would like added or deleted, please send a note to either Brian or I.

Please visit our church website at

<http://www.gpcfw.org/>

Contact:

Deb Zimmerman - zimfour1@gmail.com  
Brian Zimmerman - brianzimm@gmail.com



## Congregational Life Events Coming Soon...

**The SuperBowl Soup Spectacular** that was so popular this year is back for a return engagement after the church service on **February 1, 2015**. Once again Congregational Life will provide a variety of homemade soups for all to enjoy. Look for the sign up sheet for desserts and salads in the narthex toward the latter part of January. Wouldn't it be nice if we were celebrating the participation in the SuperBowl of two teams close to home...perhaps the Lions and the Colts? One can dream.

So many of you had such a good time at the **gospel sing** in October that Congregation Life plus Sue are planning another one for **March of next year**. Further details will follow at a later date. This time the committee members will treat everyone to a chili lunch complete with salads and different homemade desserts. A sign up sheet for this event will also be in the narthex closer to the day so the committee knows how many to prepare for.



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## Kitchen Shower



### The Presbyterian Women

are having a kitchen shower

(for the church kitchen) on

**January 25th**

January 25, 2015, after church. It is time to replace

outdated/missing items and get some new things that will

make the kitchen easier to use. Most of the items are very

reasonable in cost. After Christmas, we will have tags showing

needed items. If you wish to join in the fun, take a tag, get the

item, and come to the shower. Thank you for your support!