

GRACE NOTES

April/May 2015
Volume 16, Issue 2

A Publication of
Grace
Presbyterian Church



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Christ
is
Risen!



HAPPY EASTER!

Sunday, April 5	Easter Sunday
Saturday, April 11	Outdoor property clean-up at Grace begins—see page 7
Sunday, April 12	Holy Humor Sunday — see page 7 Confirmation Classes begin (April 12—May 3)
Sunday, April 19	Gospel Sing II—Food, Song, & Fellowship—see page 5
Saturday, April 25	Goodwell/Laure Wedding at Grace—4 PM
Sunday, April 26	Compassion Sunday — see page 5 Session Meeting—12 noon
Monday, May 4	Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night—see page 8
Friday, May 7	National Day of Prayer—see page 5
Sunday, May 10	Mother's Day! Presbyterian Women's Plant Sale—see page 5
Sunday, May 17	Youth Sunday — see page 7 Confirmation Graduate Recognition Sunday School Recognition
Sunday, May 24	Pentecost Sunday— see page 7
Sunday, May 31	Trinity Sunday — see page 7



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PASTOR CHRIS' CORNER



Just a few weeks ago, my family and I were hanging out in the living room and my wife approached me with some excitement in her voice. She reminded me that one of our favorite television shows (and one of the only ones we really watch) would be starting a new season soon. The name of the show that we enjoy is called "The Voice." The premise of it is fairly basic; it does share some similarities to the once-popular show "American Idol." But, there are other areas where The Voice greatly improves upon that old model of searching for the next great artist or singer. For starters, the producers hunt for people with good (or at least fairly decent voices) to begin with. Then, those that are chosen to come on the show do so in front of a panel of four celebrity singers/artists. The catch is, though, that the celebrity judges are turned around in chairs so they cannot see the person performing. Therefore, they have to choose to invite the person to be on their team based solely on their voice.

Now, this can be quite entertaining to watch, and you find yourself rooting for a person if you know their particular story or background (which the show sometimes provides). It's interesting to see if some of the judges will turn around, or to listen to what they have to say to the person that performed. However, more often than not, Alyssa and I realized that what was often said by the judges to the performer was something positive. Even if the performance did not seem that great by the person, whether they were nervous or just have not had enough training, all four judges consistently find something positive to draw out of the performance. Or, at the very least, they find something encouraging to say to the person. Now, this is probably one of the major draws of the show for my wife and I, and we have commented on this many times. It is very refreshing to have critique, but instead of just straight critique, or making someone the butt of the joke, they are also positive, uplifting, and encouraging.

I enjoy this positive outlook and I feel it is what God calls us to also do on a regular basis. Sometimes in life we need to remain focused on the positive aspects. I realize this is not always possible, nor is it always easy. But, if we are able to find what is good, and grow on that in both ourselves and others, then we have a great starting place to look in life. In an alleged quote from Abraham Lincoln, it was he who supposedly said: "we can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or [we can] rejoice because thorn bushes have roses." Therefore, I encourage you to find the good, the positives in life and in others and rejoice in those blessings.

for one to pick up a red hymnal for their keepsake. All of the hymnals that were not picked up were taken to be recycled.

- ◆ Session agreed to once again have the Easter Egg hunt at Grace to take place on April 4th at 10 AM.
- ◆ A decision was made to keep the game tables in the current gold room. The pool table has been repaired by our resident handyman and master craftsman, Dennis Allen, and a new ping-pong table-top was purchased which will serve multiple purposes: it will cover the pool table when that is not in use, it can function as a ping-pong table, and, lastly it can also serve as a serving table if covered. Our hope is that this new area can be enjoyed by the children and youth, and used by the other groups of the church to full potential.

From the Choir Director



Debi Thorpe



Our choir works very hard throughout the year and this year was no exception. We learned several new songs and even a new Cantata for Advent – and although we work hard, we had a great time doing it all.

The weeks between Easter and Pentecost are especially fun for us because it is the time when we go through all the music we have sung in the past and pull out our favorites to sing again in worship.

If you have ever considered joining the choir, now would be a great time to be a part of our ministry as we relax a little and sing our favorites. We could sing your favorites, too! Please feel free to ask us any questions you might have or let me know a song you would like to hear in worship. We are holding a spot for you...no experience necessary...Come and join us!

In Christ,
Debi

Presbyterianism 101



The Book of Order – F-1.02 Jesus Christ is Head of the Church – F-1.0205 Christ Is the Foundation of the Church

In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Christ God reconciles all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of the cross (Col. 1:19-20). In Christ's name, therefore, the Church is sent out to bear witness to the good news of reconciliation with God, with others, and with all creation. In Christ the Church receives its truth and appeal, its holiness, and its unity.

The Book of Confessions -The Scots Confession – Chapter XVI – The Kirk [The Church] 3.16

As we believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, so we firmly believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk, that is to say, one company and multitude of men chosen by God, who rightly worship and embrace him by true faith in Christ Jesus, who is the only Head of the Kirk, even as it is the body and spouse of Christ Jesus.

February/March Session Highlights

- ◆ Session approved to make Sunday, April 26th Compassion Sunday.
- ◆ Session agreed to make Sunday, March 22nd the last chance

Up To Date with Committees & Groups



Vivian Allen and Pat Morrison attended Church Women United Day of Prayer and Praise at Calvary United Methodist Church on March 6. Beyond the chance to share our faith with those of other denominations, the day was blessed with a wonderful message based on John 13: 1-17. A Bible study was led by Suzon Baker from Covenant UMC. Mrs. Baker, a retired high school math teacher, brought Jesus' message of servitude to life. Jesus washing the feet of his disciples was a true act of service that was a message to his disciples and to us today.

Church Women United offers special times to gather with other Christians to share our faiths. Besides World Day of Prayer and Praise, there is also May Friendship Day, World Community Day, and the annual Interfaith Luncheon.

The next event is May Friendship Day, planned for May 1 at Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren. The theme this year is Journey of the Care-giver - A Task Entrusted to us by God. Those of us who have been or are currently caregivers know the joys and hardships of this mission.

While Vivian and I enjoy these meetings, we would enjoy them even more if friends from Grace were there to share them with us. The reservations for May Friendship Day is due by April 23. A sign up sheet is available in the narthex at church. The cost is \$3 that covers the treats offered following the service. Please consider joining us.



Monthly Meetings!

Come join our regular get togethers!

SARAH CIRCLE - We meet for lunch at 11:30. Then meet at the church at 12:30 for a brief business meeting and then our bible study. All women of Grace are invited.

—Meets 2nd Thursday of the month.

Next dates: April 9 and May 14

LUNCH BUNCH - Come have lunch at Glenbrook Mall Food Court on the last Thursday of the month at 11:30 am - All are welcome!

Next dates: April 30 and May 28

CANCER PAD SEWING - Come join the women in putting together cancer pads for Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana. A simple stitch is all that is needed. Anyone can come help with this great mission.

—Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00am.

Next dates: April 15 and May 20

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



Spring is here and many want to start moving and doing things after a very cold winter. 3B offers a movement (exercise) program designed for everyone 50+ years young.

We meet at 10:30 am on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday in the upper room. Check us out!



Next Meetings:

- Sunday, April 26, 2015
- May meeting to be scheduled



Next Meetings:

- No meeting in April
- Sunday, May 3, 2015



Congratulations Alex!

Alex Bowers won Airman of the Year 509th Maintenance Group at Whiteman Air Force Base.

New Transportation for Grace and United Faith Churches

For those of you who have both been on church property recently and are observant you may have noticed a new "vehicle" parked on the premises. That would happen to be the new "Presbyterian Churches of Fort Wayne" van! It comes to us courtesy of a very generous Smock Foundation donation. The hope is that we will use the van to transport home-centered members to and from worship and events, use it for youth events, and even for travel to and from Presbytery meetings or gatherings. We will also be using this van in conjunction with the United Faith Presbyterian church, which will require both understanding and a coordination of schedules. Currently, we already have a few willing drivers for the vehicle. But, if you would like to add your name to that list please see Pastor Chris. This is thought to be a long-term benefit to the Fort Wayne Presbyterian churches, and will hopefully be used to great benefit for many years to come.

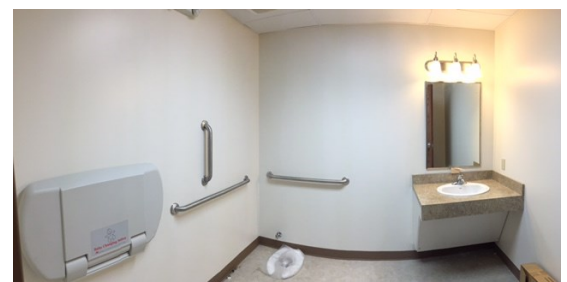


New sanctuary level restroom almost complete!

We hope it has not been a major inconvenience for hanging your coats up now that construction on a new restroom is underway! In case you had not noticed, or have not been around recently, construction has begun on a new sanctuary-level restroom! Thanks to the continued generosity of those contributing to the "Improve to Move" campaign, we have been able to reach another accessibility goal set forth by the Grace Building Committee with input from the congregation. Now, this restroom allows people to use the restroom without having to go up or down a flight of stairs. Furthermore, for the convenience of the parents of little one's there is now a diaper changing station in this restroom too! We hope that many find this restroom quite useful, and invite you to check it out in the near future as construction is winding to a close. Hopefully it will be open for use by the end of the month, so stay tuned!



Located inside lobby of ramp entrance



A look inside of the almost completed restroom



Compassion Sunday — April 26

As a result of our church's support and participation with Compassion, we have decided to participate in another "Compassion Sunday". We will be learning more about what this ministry entails, and have an opportunity for others to sponsor a compassion child if you have not already done so. We will be posting and listing more information regarding Compassion Sunday once we receive it from the Compassion headquarters. We hope you will join us this Sunday to discover more about Compassion and the many children this ministry helps and supports!



National day of prayer—May 7th

As we recognize National Day of Prayer, the church would like to fill up 24 hours of prayer on this special Thursday. There will be a sign-up sheet for one half hour increments (may sign up for more than one) from midnight to midnight. The church will be locked. Entrance will be made through the ramp door. Anyone needing a code to enter will need to contact the office. Don't know what to pray? There will also be Bibles and devotionals there.

PW Happenings



Kitchen cleanup is coming in April, although the date has not been set. We will announce it in the bulletin and church. If you want to help, let Evelyn Brunnegraff or Tammy Menkes. That way we will be sure to call you.



MAY —

Please mark your calendars for the PW Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale on May 10th. This is the perfect gift for Mother's Day as the plants are so beautiful. Or it could be a present for you yourself. If you have a special request for a plant please let us know and we will try to accommodate you.



JUNE —

PW Garage sale will take place Saturday, June 6th from 8 am to 2 pm. PW is accepting donations of items in good condition. So as you are doing that spring cleaning, please keep us in mind.

Please no clothing or shoes. Items are being accepted at any time. Also, we will be renting table space at \$5 per table to Grace members. Contact Tammy if you are interested in a space.

Food, Song, and Fellowship

Back by popular demand: **Gospel Sing II.**

Yes, food, song, and fellowship are coming your way courtesy of Congregational Life and Sue. We had such a good time the last time, we want to do it again.

When: After church service on April 19th
Where: Fellowship Hall
Who: Congregation
What: Gospel Sing and lunch



Watch for the sign up sheet in the narthex and further information in the church bulletin closer to the event. Your signature is necessary to determine how much food to order.

Come join in the fun!

MEMBER UPDATES



◆ Margaret McBride is back home from rehab—
3302 Cedar Ridge Run
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

◆ Jean Swigart is no longer in rehab at Heritage Park

New Addresses:

◆ New Apt. #
Dr. Robert & Rev. Barb Kenley
375 Brown Street, Apt. 201
West Lafayette, IN 47906

◆ Rev. Robert & Marjory Leas
912 N. US 23
East Tawas, MI 48730
Home Phone: 989-305-6766

◆ Amanda Neumann
818 Columbia Avenue, # C
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

◆ Evelyn Pelz new apartment # at The Cedars is 221

◆ Dee Weigel
4411 Park Place Dr., Unit 203
Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Correction to Directory:

◆ Tom and Janice Weber
612 Marston Court
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

In Memory:

- ◆ Dorothy Holsworth—died 1/26/15
- ◆ Harold Pelz—died 2/13/15
- ◆ Larry Gouker—died 3/5/15
- ◆ Paul Wilkie—died 3/7/15



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.311-B
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

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

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

Evelyn Pelz #627-6817
The Cedars
14409 Sunrise Ct., Rm.221
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

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

FEBRUARY/MARCH WORSHIP ATTENDANCE



February 1	worship cancelled	March 1	59
February 8	104	March 8	77
February 15	56	March 15	91
February 22	65	March 22	81
		March 29	78



April 5, 1970	Ken & Peggy Mahoney
April 10, 1948	Dick & Marilyn Young
April 14, 1990	Dr. Robert & Rev. Barb Kenley
April 25, 1964	Ken & Maureen Rogers
April 27, 1968	Norman & JoAnn Getts
May 17, 1986	Ervin & Gail Bellis
May 21, 2006	Rev. Chris & Alyssa Kirwan
May 23, 1965	Doug & Linda Haller
May 25, 1986	Todd & Cathy German
May 30, 1970	Dave & Nancy Gilbert



April 01	Joyce Campbell
April 08	Dale Lehman
April 08	Don Foland
April 09	Chris Fahrenbach
April 17	Cayden Lyons
April 19	Wil Searer
April 22	Brenden Lehman
April 22	Mildred Anderson
April 23	April Lehman
April 27	Autumn Callahan
April 28	Rev. Loran Lewis
April 28	Carl Jacobs
April 30	Audrey Seitz
April 30	Dave Gilbert

May 01	Alex Bowers
May 03	Jess Ankney
May 03	Helen Ricker
May 03	Tamara Searer-Jenkins
May 04	Arwen Courtney
May 08	Stella Jacobs
May 09	Phyllis Wilkie
May 10	Dave Zimmerman
May 11	Janet Campbell
May 20	Janice Weber
May 25	Margaret McBride
May 26	Dee Stoiche
May 26	Meghan Mahoney
May 28	Ervin Bellis
May 29	Angie Barchak



- Once again I want to thank my Grace family for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, and e-mails I have received during my last surgery and recuperation. You have all been so encouraging, and it has really lifted my spirits. It may take up to 6 months for all the tingling and swelling to go down, but I have feeling in my hand and fingers and I can play the piano. Prayers have sure been answered. Praise the Lord. Thanks again.

Love, Sue Creager

- Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers, and cards. It is greatly appreciated and I look forward to receiving them at St. Anne's.

Ruth Foland

- Thank you to all of the children and adults who helped decorate Easter bags, and make Easter cards for our home-centered members.

Holly Bouthot

- Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and donations in Paul's memory. Everyone has been so kind to me. In times like this you realize how important your church family is.

Phyllis Wilkie



Dennis Allen is humbly requesting to have some helpers for improving the grounds around the church! With the rough winters we have had, it often takes a toll on the grounds around

the property of Grace. As a result, Dennis Allen is inviting anyone that is willing and able to join him on Saturday's in April to pitch in and help. It would be good if people could show up around noon to begin helping and start whittling down Dennis' outdoor checklist for Spring cleaning. We hope that you can help on one afternoon, or all afternoons! Let's continue to help keep Grace looking nice!



APRIL 12TH — HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

In good ole' Grace Presbyterian fashion, we will once again be celebrating Holy Humor Sunday. This is a Sunday in which the primary premise is to poke fun at sin and Satan for death no longer having a hold over not only our lives but Christ's life as well. Usually, we have quite a bit of fun on this Sunday, as it is not much at all like our other worship services. Many jokes and stories are shared, and this year we are planning on having a "craziest hat" contest, so be sure to wear one if you have it! This is always a fun Sunday to lead and worship in and we hope that if you are able to make it you find it equally enjoyable.

MAY 17TH — YOUTH SUNDAY

Youth Sunday this year will be full of a lot of different events and recognitions! First, we will be welcoming the youth that successfully complete the confirmation classes as new members. Then, we will be recognizing recent graduates and congratulate them and wish them well on their next journey in life. Plus, we will be enjoying a worship service that is youth-created, youth-infused, and youth-led! We all look forward to this special service every year, and I know this year will be no different!

MAY 24TH — PENTECOST SUNDAY

On this Sunday we celebrate the birth of the church and the gift given to humanity of the Holy Spirit. The liturgical for this worship service and day is red. As a result, if you are planning on attending worship this Sunday we invite you to wear red in celebration of this momentous day! The red represents fire and symbolizes the presence of God.

MAY 31ST — TRINITY SUNDAY

Trinity Sunday is the Sunday in which we celebrate (believe it or not) the Holy Trinity! That, of course, is God, being one God, but existing as three separate "personhoods:" God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This seeks to celebrate the expansiveness of God, while at the same time upholding the unity of God. The Trinity is a challenging concept, at time, for us to comprehend. Theologians throughout the years have published countless articles, books, and essays on the matter. But, the best description I have ever heard on the Trinity took place in seminary when a professor simplistically stated that the Trinity is like Aquafresh toothpaste. There is but one singular tube of paste, but, it carries with it three different functions.



Grace Presbyterian Church
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Join us again for a favorite church fundraiser!

What: *Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night*

Where: *Jefferson Pointe* 

When: *Monday, May 4, 2015 5:30-7:30 pm*

We are gathering for another spirit night to share with family and friends. Grace will make 15% on all dine-in and carry-out sales from 5:30 to 7:30. Please be sure to join us! Sign up at church if you are interested in helping greet and serve. Thank you!