

GRACE NOTES

August/September 2015
Volume 16, Issue 4

A Publication of
Grace
Presbyterian Church



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gracepastor@gpcfw.org

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mommyrodada@aol.com

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sacreager2801@comcast.net

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Dennis Allen
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SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF TAILGATE LUNCH

September 13

Has anyone else gotten that sense of Fall in the air? The nice cool breeze blowing through your hair (or over your head if you lack hair) and the temperatures slowly dropping to an average that is below hot? If so, then that can only mean one thing, right?! That we will be having our annual tailgate Sunday school kickoff party soon, on September 13th!



You are invited to wear your favorite collegiate or professional team's gear to show your true school/team spirit! This is an event that is hosted by Christian Education and we hope that you will come enjoy the festivities and the food. That means you might need to bring your appetite too! This is a great Sunday to get back into the swing of things especially since we will be beginning our new book study as a church together.

Hope to see you all there! Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Main dish and drinks will be provided.

All-Church

"Book Clubs"...coming in September

The Christian Education Committee is planning an all-church book-reading event for September 2015! This event will coincide with the start of Sunday School on September 13. Small-group "book clubs" will be meeting on Sunday morning and throughout each week so that you can attend when it is convenient for you.



The book we will be discussing is: "God is Just...Not Fair" by Jennifer Rothschild. This is a book about finding more than just answers. It's for anyone who needs hope when life doesn't make sense - for all who reach for a God who might sometimes feel distant.

For those of you who have already signed up, you will be contacted by your group leader. He or she will provide you with information regarding meeting times, book payment (\$10.00), and other details.

If you have not signed up yet, please do so! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Or you may contact
Pastor Chris,
Cindy Bowers,
Peggy Mahoney, or
Cathy German.



PASTOR CHRIS' CORNER



As I sat down to write this month's newsletter article, pondering what to write, one particular word kept popping up in my head: balance. It is a word that seems to be making a lot of appearances in my life lately. I have spotted it in Facebook posts, in news articles, used in various blogs, on television, etc. I just seemed to run into it around every corner. Well, in congruence with those occurrences, I figured it would be good to actually speak about this emphasis of balance. You see, in this life we need balance. I feel there is a good reason that God made both day and night. Not to mention, that we have been commanded to also acknowledge the Sabbath and keep it Holy. It was that we would hold at least some semblance of balance in our own lives. It also would seem (at least in my own life) that I become more stressed, anxious, and impatient when my sense of balance is thrown off. If I have a busy week due to work or have not had a chance to tend to my spiritual needs and nourish that aspect of my life, then I feel thrown off-balance due to the lack of it being present.

Yet, I cannot help but think how many areas of not only our lives, but in the world, balance is essential. For our ecosystem, it is critical that a good, healthy balance is maintained. Otherwise, we run the risk of upsetting that balance and throwing everything off; some creatures can become extinct, others may have to migrate to other areas to avoid a lack of resources or an abundance of predators.

There is a built-in checks and balances system, and one that requires a good balance to maintain. Similarly, in our own lives, if, diet-wise, we consume too much of one food-type then our bodies begin to get out of balance. If we eat too much sugar, we may receive a quick burst of energy, but it quickly fizzles sapping us of long-term strength, endurance, and energy.

In regards to our own spiritual life, and well-being, I too, feel that balance is a crucial piece to the puzzle. It is humanly impossible to read the Bible 24 hours a day 7 days a week. In fact, most activities, no matter how much we might love them, we need to take a step back and take a break from them every once in a while. This, is natural, and is to be expected. Of course, we do not want to lean too far in the other direction either. We do not want to abstain from even picking up a Bible or fail to pray at least periodically. This then, is where the balance comes in. When we ask, do we need to work or rest? Well, we need both to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Do we consume nothing but health foods, or can we enjoy a treat every once-in-a-while? Here, again, maintaining a balance is key. Do we pray ceaselessly, or can we take a break and pray in moments that occasionally work better for us? Or, do we need to feel guilty about not reading Scripture daily, or can we find out a routine or system in which we can remain spiritually fed outside of church? The answer to that, of course, again, is balance. In order to maintain our sanity, our health, and remain in a place where we will not come to resent or neglect our physical, emotional, and spiritual health, we must focus on a word that God has created since the genesis of the world, that of balance.

From the Choir Director



Debi Thorpe



Dear Grace Family,

Our choir has been on a brief vacation this summer and as with many vacations, we got together with "our family" and had a picnic. About 20 of us met at the home of Dick and Tina Weaver. We had great food, lots of laughs and shared some wonderful fellowship time. I have started looking at the year ahead and as usual to prepare, I have spent a lot of time listening to Christmas music – isn't that what everyone does in July? We will be singing some new fun pieces and also some of our old favorites. I hope that we will sing your favorites too! Our practices resume the Thursday after Labor Day and we will be back as part of the Worship Service that next Sunday. Our practices are open to all, we would love to have you join us! Enjoy the rest of your summer and take a moment to sing a Christmas Carol or two for me!

In Christ, Debi

Presbyterianism 101



The Book of Order – G-3.02 The Session – G-3.0303 Meetings

The session shall hold stated meetings at least quarterly. The moderator shall call a special meeting when he or she deems necessary or when requested in writing by any two members of the session. The business to be transacted at special meetings shall be limited to items specifically listed in the call for the meeting. There shall be reasonable notice given of all special meetings. The session shall also meet when directed by presbytery. Sessions shall provide by rule for a quorum for meetings; such quorum shall include the moderator and either a specific number of ruling elders or a specific percentage of those ruling elders in current service on the session.

The Book of Confessions -The Shorter Catechism

Q. 40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience? A. The rule which God at first revealed of man for his obedience was the moral law.

Q. 41 Where is the moral law summarily comprehended? A. The moral law is summarily comprehended in the Ten Commandments.

Q. 42. What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

A. The sum of the Ten Commandments is: to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves.

Up To Date with Committees & Groups



Thank you to everyone who helped with the garage sale that was held in June. Also, a big thank you goes to those who rented tables or donated items for the sale. We had such a variety of things that there was something for everyone. The proceeds will benefit the main kitchen fund.

♦ As a reminder, Sarah Circle will start up September 12th. We will continue the study Faith, Depending on God. And mark your calendars for Saturday, October 3rd as we are planning a 'kitchen surprise' cooking or baking event!

♦ The annual Christmas Indoor Garage Sale will be Saturday, November 14th. Donations are still being accepted and can be placed in the library.

PW Monthly Gatherings!

Come join our regular get togethers!

SARAH CIRCLE - The Presbyterian Women get together for lunch and a meeting at Grace to follow.
—We meet at Lee's Famous Recipe on West State for lunch at 11:30am and meet at Grace at 12:30pm

Next date: September 10

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: August 27 & Sept. 24

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: August 19 & Sept. 16

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



Grace hosted a 3B reunion in July for all those who have been trained in 3B. It was a great day to get new ideas, see what everyone else was doing, and learn some new routines. There is a 3B training scheduled for October in Indianapolis. If you would be interested in this or just want more information see Tammy Menkes.

3B will be starting Monday, August 31 at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

SESSION MEETING

- August—8/16/15 @ 12noon
- September—to be announced



- August—no meeting
- September—9/6/15 @ 12 noon



Worship Committee

- August—8/6/15—5:30pm
- September—9/17/15—5:30pm

OUR FRIENDS MEETING AT GRACE

- ♦ Art Classes
—Tuesdays at 9a & 1p
- ♦ Boy Scouts
—Tuesdays at 6:30p
- ♦ Cub Scouts
—Mondays at 7p
- ♦ Fort Wayne Church of Christ
—Sundays at 1:30p
—Wednesdays at 7p
- ♦ North Highlands Neighborhood Association
—2nd Tuesdays at 6:30p
- ♦ Women's AA Group
—Sundays at 6:30p


 First Presbyterian Church in Decatur
 will be celebrating their 175th
 anniversary on September 19-20. Everyone is invited to
 come enjoy the festivities!

Saturday's events will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a dedication,
 historical displays, live music, and refreshments. Sunday
 will begin with 10:30 a.m. worship and a celebrative service
 at 3:00 p.m. with former pastors and a combined choir.

First Presbyterian Church
 313 Mercer Avenue at Five Points
 Decatur, IN 46733
 260-724-7105

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
 9:00PM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
 10:00PM AND 3:30PM
 AT PRO BOWL WEST
BOWLING
 for Wellspring **2015**
 GET ALL THE DETAILS AT
WWW.WELLSPRINGBOWLATHON.COM



Community Events



Church Women United is planning for The Inter-Faith Luncheon, set for October 5, 2015 at Ceruti's.

The luncheon brings women together from many denominations to share their faith and enrich their spirituality through music and the Bible. More information on registration will be in Sunday bulletins prior to the event.

Mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend this annual fellowship gathering!



Also, let's start thinking about contributing to Bingo at Byron. Grace Presbyterian will be providing bingo and prizes to the residents on October 19, 2015. Watch the September Sunday bulletins for more information!

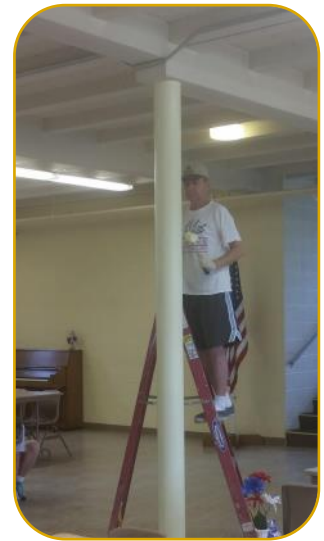
Please see Pat Morrison with any questions.

The poles are painted in the Gold Room and they look great!

Thank you to John Current for preparing the poles. Thank you to Nancy Current, Ezekiel & Micah Tsamwa, Holly Bouthot, and Jill & Bill Werling for taking a Saturday morning to paint.



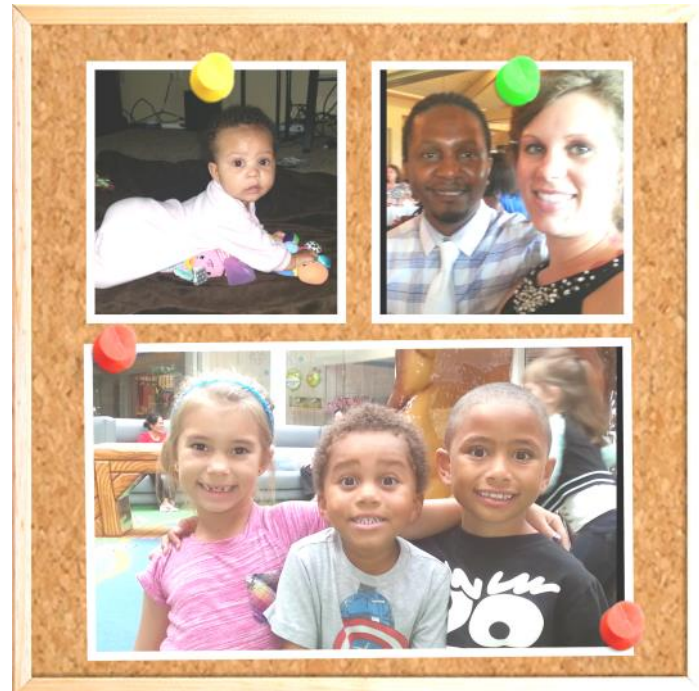
Newly Painted Pillars!



Welcome Ezekiel Tsamwa & Family!

Greetings, Grace Presbyterian Church! We would like you to give a nice, warm welcome to our newest member, Ezekiel Tsawma. He was born and raised in Blantyre, Malawi, Africa. He moved to the states a few years ago, and was living in South Bend, IN, attending a church there. Later, he moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana where he met his wife Misty. A few weeks ago he joined our congregation through affirmation of faith. Pictured with Ezekiel, here is his wife, Misty, his eldest daughter, Adriannah, and sons Micah and Josiyah, and their newest addition, Ezra who was born on March 3rd of this year!

We hope you extend a warm Grace welcome to Ezekiel and his family, and we are grateful for their gifts and presence in Grace's family!



MEMBER UPDATES



Received New Member:

- ◆ Ezekiel Tsamwa 6/28/15

2503 Jacobs Creek Run
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
574-904-8571

Phone Updates:

- ◆ Al Creager 260-466-7532
Sue Creager 260-466-7533

(no longer in service 747-0820)

- ◆ Laurie Howard 260-416-4788

(no longer in service 485-6550)

Address Update:

- ◆ Renee Lyons
5502 Old Dover Blvd., Apt. 1
Fort Wayne, IN 46835

In Memory:

- ◆ Norman Bauer—died 6/29/15

JUNE/JULY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE



June 7	64	July 5	60
June 14	50	July 12	54
June 21	62	July 19	61
June 28	no count taken	July 26	58



August 1, 1987	Dale & April Lehman
August 9, 2003	Matt & Teri Seitz
August 10	Tom & Autumn Callahan
August 21, 1976	Arnold & Mary Patten
September 3, 1984	Jeff & Betsy Kachmar
September 6, 1969	Dick & Tina Weaver
September 8, 2012	Ezekiel & Misty Tsamwa
September 12, 1998	Rev. Bob & Marjory Leas
September 25, 2010	Carl & Cherie Jacobs
September 28, 1996	Kevin & Jennifer Mahoney



In Touch with Our Home-Centered Members

Mildred Anderson #424-2457

2010 Emerson Ave.
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

Bob Guingrich #483-6929

818 Lincoln Court
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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

Carol Macy

Golden Years Homestead
8300 Maysville Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

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

Helen Ricker

Harbour Assisted Living
Send mail to:
c/o Janice Weber
612 Marston Ct.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

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

Barbara Springer

1936 Senior Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

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



August 01	Debi Thorpe
August 02	Ruth Foland
August 08	Charlotte Jacobs
August 09	Carol Fahrenbach
August 11	Michael Werling
August 12	Karen Horner
August 14	Leora Bartusch
August 19	Tammy Menkes
August 20	Frank Lehman
August 21	Jon Wolf
August 24	Bob Fahrenbach
August 27	Jan Gouker
August 28	Beth White
August 28	Tom Weber
August 29	Jackson Bean
August 30	Bill Werling
August 30	Nick Barchak
August 31	Connie Stucky
August 31	Donna Parrish

Sept. 01	Meara Geist
Sept. 03	Bruce Barnett
Sept. 04	Mary Patten
Sept. 05	Maureen Rogers
Sept. 07	Brian Geist
Sept. 07	Doug Haller
Sept. 07	Judi Eckler-Queen
Sept. 08	Rachel German
Sept. 08	Lauren Widmann
Sept. 12	Dot Gilbert
Sept. 12	Dick Weaver
Sept. 14	Anne Courtney
Sept. 16	Linda Haller
Sept. 16	Rev. Chris Kirwan
Sept. 16	Audra Widmann
Sept. 18	Laurie Howard
Sept. 19	Alyssa Kirwan
Sept. 19	Kevin Mahoney
Sept. 20	Landon Seitz
Sept. 21	Mila Wolf
Sept. 22	Allison Schneider
Sept. 23	Cheryl Fahrenbach
Sept. 24	Don Stoiche
Sept. 25	Tom Callahan
Sept. 25	Brian Zimmerman
Sept. 27	Todd German



In July, 7 bags of food, personal items, and cleaning supplies were taken to Wellspring for the food pantry. Plus, 2 bags of clothes were taken to the Wellspring Shoppe. Thank you to the members of Grace for your continued support of this very worthwhile mission project.

Mission Committee

I want to thank Dennis Allen for helping me with my wood project.

Tammy Menkes

Thank you to all who went on the Shishewana trip on what undoubtedly was one of the worst weather days of the year. And a big thanks especially to John Current for driving. We had a good time.

Tammy Menkes

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their prayers, cards and kind words after the loss of my father. Even though he never met any of you face to face, he knew you through the newsletter. My father looked forward to every newsletter and often would take it to his neighbors to keep them up-to-date on the happenings at Grace. Thank you for your love and support, it helped me as we celebrated my Dad's wonderful life!

In Christ, Debi Thorpe

I want to sincerely thank everyone that made this year's Back-To-School event possible! Thank you to those that generously donated supplies and funds. Thank you to those that volunteered the day of the event to make sure everything ran as smoothly as possible, and thank you to those that helped set up and organize it. There were tons of people that received supplies and had fun participating in the games and receiving refreshments. Thank you so much for giving Grace a good name in the community!

Pastor Chris

Sunday Youth Class

Sunday school will soon be starting on September 13th. The Youth Class is open to all students in middle/high school. It is going to be an exciting year as we focus on "What it means to be a Christian and a Presbyterian?".

We will continue to add to our Remembrance boxes where we keep projects that help us remember the meaning and purpose of the lessons.

Hope to see you there!
Tammy Menkes, Teacher



PICK UP A COUPON TODAY AT GRACE TOWARD A NEW PAIR OF SHOES AT FRED TOENGES.

GRAB YOUR COUPON IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AND HAVE IT MAILED.

Wellspring
Shophe

Wellspring Shoppe is accepting the following donations:

- Men's/boys: jeans, sweatpants, shorts, tennis shoes
- Men's/Women's: size 2X and larger
- Blankets, sheets, towels, and pillows

Please see Tammy if you have any of these items to donate.

May and July Session Highlights

- ◆ Session approved to lease a new copy machine from Office Concepts as our current one is on its last legs.
- ◆ Session agreed to reseal and stripe the parking lot in the near future, as it needs to be done every couple of years and it has been about 5 since the last time it was done.
- ◆ Session encouraged the property committee to keep seeking quotes on replacing the windows in the upper room of the church (the old sanctuary).
- ◆ The session approved to host another neutral pulpit opportunity for our fellow Presbyterian Church in Bluffton, which will take place on Sunday, August 9th.



Grace Presbyterian Church
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Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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Children/Youth Sunday School Classes!

Classes resume September 13th

Kindergarten-12th grade classes:

9:00-10:00 am

Bible lessons, games, crafts, music!



♦ Toddler/Preschool classes: 9:30-10:00 am

We offer a Toddler/Preschool class to those between the ages of 1 and 4! Come join Ms. Holly as she teaches the children stories about the Bible and Jesus! Usually, there is a picture or two depicting a scene from the Bible and fun crafts that the children partake in.

♦ Kindergarten – 5th Grade: 9:00-10:00 am

These classes are taught by Mrs. Cathy, and she is one of the kids' favorite teachers! There is almost so much stuff that goes on in this classroom that it would be better to list what they don't do! But, they bake, sing and listen to music, play games, make crafts, oh, and learn about God and the Bible too! Essentially, they just have fun while learning about Jesus.

♦ 6th Grade – 12th Grade: 9:00-10:00 am

The youth group is led by Ms. Tammy and they dive a little deeper in the study of the Bible and Jesus than the younger children. A lot of the learning is led by Ms. Tammy and centered around discussion and self-discernment and learning how the world and God both function together. Once-in-awhile Pastor Chris will stop in to lead a class or two also.

⇒ Towards the end of the Sunday School hour, every person from every class gathers together in the upper room at the church to learn, sing, and practice fun Bible songs, which are, once again, led by Mrs. Cathy.

We hope you will join us!!