

GRACE NOTES

June/July 2016

A Publication of Grace Presbyterian Church

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Tom Callahan
callahat@hotmail.com

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sacreager2801@comcast.net

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woodshakers13@gmail.com

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Whitewater Valley Presbytery's Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to General Assembly June 18-25, 2016 in Portland, Oregon

Congratulations to Grace German, member of Grace P.C., elected to serve as the YAAD for this year's General Assembly!

Each YAAD is assigned to serve on a committee of the General Assembly. In Committee meetings, YAADs have both voice and vote on all the overtures being made to the General Assembly. When Committee business is complete, the reports and any recommendations go to the Plenary. When the business goes to a floor vote in plenary, the YAADs have voice on the floor and then cast an advisory vote prior to the commissioners voting. The same is true of all the advisory delegates to GA and there are several categories, in addition to the YAAD: there are: the T-SADs (theological student advisory delegate), and Ecumenical advisory delegates. All advisory delegates have voice and vote in committee and voice on the floor of the plenary. They each cast advisory votes, by category, prior to the commissioners casting their votes. All voting in plenary is done electronically. The results are shown in bar graph on big screens so the commissioners will "be advised."

We soon will have bulletin Inserts prepared by The Presbyterian Outlook, describing the business coming before the General Assembly. After the General Assembly ends, we will then have bulletin inserts titled What Happened at the General Assembly. (Too often only the controversial votes are reported on in the news media and they may only tell one side of the issue.) The Presbyterian Outlook seeks to accurately report the news of the church.

I will be using one week of my Continuing Education time to attend the General Assembly as an Observer. I find the GA an interesting opportunity to see the larger church at work. The worship is outstanding, and the opportunity to see friends from across the denomination is wonderful. I was blessed to serve this presbytery as a commissioner in 1994, the year after I was ordained. It was eye opening as well as a truly "mountain-top experience."

Anyone wishing to follow the business of the General Assembly can log onto: www.pcusa.org and click on the "PC-Biz" logo to find more information before the GA begins, and to livestream the opening worship service and plenary meetings during the assembly. General Assembly is a wonderful time to see Robert's Rules of Order in action and learn more about our national denomination.

Rev. Ann

Follow the General Assembly

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Online www.pcusa.org
(click on the GA logo)



Rev. Ann Pitman will be gone June 13-28 to attend General Assembly and will take some vacation days to visit her cousin while in Oregon. Please note our pulpit supply for worship services:

- ♦ Sunday, June 19, 2016—Pat Morrison
- ♦ Sunday, June 26, 2016—Dr. Ben Gates, Campus Ministry of IIT and IPFW.



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Look for our logo!



The choir will be on hiatus for the summer through Labor Day. Of course we will still be able to hear beautiful music played by our pianist, Sue Creager!

From Tom Callahan, Interim Choir Director:

Thank you to everyone who offered encouragement and praise while I've been conducting! I'd like to encourage anyone who's thought about singing with us to join us next year. There's no pressure, and we can always use more voices, and there's no commitment to sing every Sunday!

From Rev. Ann:

Thank You to everyone who turned in a favorite hymn for the Sunday, May 29th HYMN SING. We had 54 people turn in slips. There were a number of hymn duplicates. I have recorded all of the favorites for future reference. I also plan to pick at least one a week to use during the summer in place of the choir anthem. IF anyone did not turn in a favorite hymn, it is not too late to let me know for future reference. Of course that also means that your continued attendance during the summer will be important since I don't know whose favorite hymn is which!

May 2016 Session Highlights

- ◆ Furniture has been ordered for a conversational corner for the Upper Room
- ◆ Lighting in the sanctuary will be updated as soon as we receive the light bulbs.
- ◆ Bids have been received for replacing the windows in the Upper Room and Offices. Property will evaluate the bids to make a recommendation to Session.
- ◆ Session approved the updated Job description for our pianist
- ◆ June 13 both Kelly and Pastor Ann will be out of the office. Pat Morrison will be available in the office to answer the phone.

From Rev. Ann:

When I came across this article below I thought the words worthy of repeating in this election season. We all have opinions on issues facing our world and our nation. I do think it is vitally important to become educated about the issues so as to cast an informed vote, but I will never presume to know "who is right." I am praying that as we move through this election season, as well as this interim time in the life of Grace Presbyterian Church, we will all remember that *"Our greatest strengths arise from our diversity, our willingness to compromise, our God-given immense capacity to love and respect all people."*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." —Matthew 22:37-39

In a world where divisiveness and rancor rule, how do we model the great commandments of loving God and neighbor? How do we show the world that every person is made in God's image and every person is our neighbor?

Our greatest strengths arise from our diversity, our willingness to compromise, our God-given immense capacity to love and respect all people. Embrace the greatest commandment of our greatest teacher and Savior, and embrace a return to balance, understanding, and trust. Refuse to be polarized, stop repeating the harm we have witnessed or read about in our collective pasts and now, and uplift the good created in each of us.

Peace and blessings always,

Debra Hepler,
Executive Director
Ghost Ranch Education & Retreat Center



Up To Date with Committees & Groups

Committee Chairs at Grace

Christian Education	Tammy Menkes
Church Staff Relations.....	Pat Morrison
Co-Chair of Property Committee	Aaron Bowers
Co-Chair of Property Committee	Jon Wolf
Congregational Life	Nancy Current
Finance Committee	Stacey Monnier
Mission Committee	Todd German
Worship Committee	Jill Werling



MONTHLY GATHERINGS

SARAH CIRCLE - The Presbyterian Women get together for a circle meeting and Bible study at Grace. They will not meet this summer. (June, July, August.)

—Meets 2nd Thursday of each month

Next dates: Sept. 8 & Oct. 13

LUNCH BUNCH - Come have lunch at Glenbrook Mall Food Court on the last Thursday of the month at 12 noon. All women are invited! We meet on the last Thursday of each month.

Next dates: June 30 & July 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 9:00 a.m.

Next dates: June 15 & July 20

PW COMING EVENTS...

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Garage Sale with Neighborhood Sale

Sunday, October 9, 2016

PW Luncheon

Monday, October 24, 2016

Bingo at Byron Health Center

Sunday, November 6, 2016

Kitchen Surprise! – free will offering

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Cancer Pad Sewing & Lunch

Saturday, December 3, 2016

PW Christmas Party

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



Mission Committee will have the Bread for the World “Offering of Letters” available on June 5 after worship.

3B, Body, Brain, and Belief

The last day of 3B is June 23. Please enjoy your summer break. We will start up in the fall after Labor Day. A reminder to those attending class that you can continue the movements at home this summer!

SESSION MEETING

- June—no meeting
- July—Tuesday 7/12/16 @ 5:30pm
-



- June meeting—6/5/16 @ 12 noon
- July—no meeting

Mission Study Review Team

The Nominating Committee has put together a team of people for the Mission Study Review Team. They will be meeting every Tuesday until done.

The members are: Angie Barchak, Cathy German, Peggy Mahoney, Will Searer, Jeff Widmann



Next **Congregational Life** committee meeting will be Sunday, June 5, 2016. See you there!

Thank you to our volunteers for joining this group:

- John & Nancy Current
- Al & Sue Creager
- Diana Eller
- Norm & JoAnn Getts
- Tammy Menkes
- Connie Stucky



Pat Morrison recently attended two workshops presented by Center for Congregations. The first was titled **Reimagining Faith Formation for the 21st Century** by Rev. John Roberto. He addressed the 4 big challenges in the 21st Century: Diversity, Digital Technology, Religiosity and Religious Transmission.

Roberto also discussed Spiritual and Religious Diversity; Making Disciples and Forming Faith in the 21st Century; A New Faith Forming Ecosystem; Essential Practices for 21st Century Faith Formation; Online & Digitally-Enabled Faith Formation; Multiple Environments for Ministry and Faith Formation; and Designing a Faith Formation Network.

♦ **Pat has made copies of a very informative handout from the workshop that will be available for anyone interested.**

The second workshop was also very interesting. **“5 Things Your Visitors are Thinking But Won’t Ask,”** with Jason Moore. Moore is a secret church goer, in that he is paid by churches to attend a regular service and tell them what works and what doesn’t. His 5 things included:

1. **Where am I suppose to go?**
2. **Who are these people?**
3. **When do we start?**
4. **What’s been happening up until now?**
5. **And I’m suppose to do what?**

He pointed out many things that the regular members take for granted, but visitors find very puzzling and ways to correct the problems.



Grace Presbyterian Church enjoyed Holy Humor Sunday, April 3, 2016.

This light-hearted worship service falls on the first Sunday after Easter every year. There was plenty of jokes, a funny rendition of "Pharoah, Pharoah" by the choir (pictured below), and a festive fellowship to end the day. Thank you to everyone who made this day fun!



Our Game Night was a great success! On Sunday, May 1st, approximately 35 people attended this event. They enjoyed the awesome Potato Bar and learned new games while having a great time together. Thank you to Tammy Menkes & Holly Bouthot for preparing the potato bar and to everyone for helping clean-up!

Watch for more fun events in the future!



YOUTH SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016

The Youth Sunday message was on Friendship. Harley Allen and Audra Widmann each gave a well planned and thought provoking message. All the kids participated in the planning of the service. I want to thank all the kids: Gabe, Meghan, Katelyn, Harley and Audra. It has been so much fun working with you this year. Have a great summer.

Tammy



Grace Kids' News
page will resume
print in this
newsletter
starting again
this fall.

Have a safe
Summer!

Our last day of Sunday school was May 22. Also, Christian Education Recognition was that day. All participants and leaders of the Sunday school classes, the Bible study groups, and the church wide book study were recognized. We thank those who participated and led each group. Also, thank you to the parents/grandparents who brought the children to Sunday School, those who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt, and anyone who supported us in any way. Sunday school will resume in the fall with a kick-off/tailgate party on September 11th. Details will be in the next newsletter.

Beautiful Flowers!



The Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale

on May 8th made a profit of almost \$125.00! This money will be going to the main kitchen fund to be used to help replace very outdated equipment.



Pictured above:

Tammy and Connie transporting flowers to the church for the sale. Thank you to all who went flower shopping to purchase the plants!



On Saturday, May 14, 2016, Grace had four walkers in Wellspring's fundraiser, the 1st Annual "Miles for Meals" 3 mile walk at Foster Park. Wellspring is one of our mission partners here at Grace.

Grace donated \$300.00 and all the proceeds will go to their local food bank here in Fort Wayne.

* Pictured above left to right:
Katie German, Cathy German,
Kelly Bellis, Brian Paul

THANK YOU WALKERS!

COMING SOON

TWO IMPORTANT EVENTS ARE COMING UP IN THE FALL THAT WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST.

Saturday, October 22 – we are co-hosting a one-day event with United Faith Presbyterian Church titled **"Healthy Small Churches"** with Dr. Dennis Bickers as the presenter. Members are encouraged to also attend this event. Registration information will be available soon. The registration fee will include Dr. Bickers' book with the same name, and lunch.

Volunteers will be needed:

- Prior to the event—set up tables and chairs in the Upper Room
- During the event—at each entrance to direct guests to the Upper Room for registration and presentation.
- At the registration table for sign in and to pick up the materials
- At the Upper Room kitchen to provide coffee, tea, juice, and snacks prior to the presentation
- Set up for lunch in the Fellowship Hall—lunch will be catered
- Desserts – cookies, pies, cakes, etc., made by members
- After the event—take down the tables and chairs, clean up Fellowship Hall, etc.

Wednesday, November 2 – we will be hosting, with help from United Faith, the fall meeting of the **Presbytery of Whitewater Valley**.

Again we will need:

- Tables to be set up as requested by Presbytery
- Sound technician needed for the day, mics needs to be set up
- Greeters and parking lot attendants
- 2-3 people to assist at the registration tables from 8:30-10:30
- 1 volunteer to assist with late registration from 10:30-11:00

NOTE: Presbytery staff person will meet with volunteers at 8:30 a.m. for training.

- Morning refreshments
- Lunch – often catered, but open to church's preference
- Two child care workers needed if requested by attendees. (If no requests have been made two days prior to meeting, then we won't need to provide care.) Presbytery pays for the workers.
- Ushers will be needed for the offering during the worship service
- Communion is celebrated at all Presbytery meetings. Communion will need to be provided and set up for service by Intinction.

Again, members are encouraged to attend the meeting of Presbytery especially if you have never attended a presbytery meeting before.



In anticipation of these two events, Todd German will once again take orders for **Church shirts** with the Grace logo on them. Members and volunteers are encouraged to wear their shirts during these events so that anyone needing assistance will readily recognize us as those who can help them find their way around our building.

More information on the shirts will be announced soon.

MEMBER UPDATES



New Addresses:

♦ **Wes & Brittney Allen**
5251 Hartshire West Drive, #11
Bargersville, IN 46106
(Beginning June 10)

♦ **Tyler Bowers**
1680 Whitney Ct.
Columbus, IN 47203
812-314-1050

♦ **Maxine Ford**
New Apartment # 107 at Kingston Residence

♦ **Rachel German**
309 Reflections Way, Apt. 303
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

♦ **Steve & Allison Schneider**
435 Virginia Ave. #800
Indianapolis, IN 46203

In Memory:

♦ George Ripple: July 6, 1919—April 19, 2016



APRIL/MAY ATTENDANCE

April 2	52	May 1	84
April 10	76	May 8	74
April 17	70	May 15	72
April 24	64	May 22	78
		May 29 approx.	50



June 13, 1998 Dennis & Sharon Allen
June 17, 1989 Bob & Ann Bausser
June 19, 1976 Dave & Carol Courtney
June 27, 1981 Al & Sue Creager

July 8, 2006 Richard & Tamara Jenkins
July 12, 2003 Brian & Carrie Geist
July 29, 2006 Nick & Angie Barchak



In Touch with Our Home-Centered Members

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

Judy Bellis #387-9192
2405 Wells Street
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

Don Foland #493-9128
Georgetown Place
1717 Maplecrest Rd., Apt. 338
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Maxine Ford #747-1663
Kingston Residence
7515 Winchester Road, Apt. 107
Fort Wayne, IN 46819

Laura Fuller
13202 Vittano Ct.
Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Bob Guingrich #483-6929
818 Lincoln Court
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Frank Dee Lehman
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

Mary Patten #760-7691
Heritage Park Assisted Living
2002 Heritage Park Dr., Apt. 6
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Evelyn Pelz #482-4432
Park Place Senior Living
4411 Park Place Dr., Rm. 218
Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Helen Ricker
Harbour Assisted Living
3110 E. Coliseum Blvd.
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

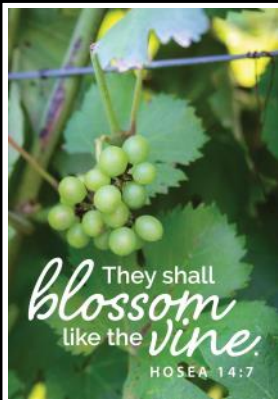


JUNE

June 06 Kara Polk
June 06 Renee Lyons
June 21 Samuel Barchak
June 27 Tyler Bowers
June 28 Bob Guingrich
June 28 Stacey Monnier
June 29 Caleb Ankney

JULY

July 01 Evelyn Brunnegraff
July 01 Avery Lyons
July 06 Dennis Allen
July 08 Albert Bragalone
July 08 Bob Gilbert
July 08 Brittney Allen
July 08 Jennifer Mahoney
July 10 Bonnie Geist
July 11 Laura Fuller
July 13 Carol Macy
July 13 Katelyn Monnier
July 17 Teri Seitz
July 19 Dave Courtney
July 22 Cindy Bowers
July 24 Delaney Seitz
July 29 Dan Ankney
July 29 Kelly Bellis



Joys to be celebrated!

- Katelyn Monnier tried out for the 2016-2017 Maple Creek Middle School Show Choir and was chosen for the group!
- Brittney Allen is graduating from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business with a Bachelor in Accounting. She is starting a new job at London Witte Group, CPA firm in Indianapolis.
- Amanda Neumann graduated from IPFW with a Bachelor in English/Minor in Women's Studies.
- Sage Renee Evans, Pat Morrison's granddaughter, graduated from Garrett High School and will attend Ball State University in the fall.
- Rachel German successfully defended her dissertation. One year of Internship to go and she will be "Dr." German!

Congratulations and Good Luck to all these girls and may God bless you with his guidance!



- Thank you so much to Laurie Howard for helping to decorate the bulletin boards this spring. Beautiful work!

Kelly Bellis

- Thank you to the Property Committee for power washing the entrances on Saturday, May 21. They look great!

Nancy Current

- The Road Trip to Shipshewana was great: great weather, great shopping, great companions, and of course great food. There were 14 people who went on the trip. Thank you to John for driving!

- Thanks to the generous donations from the members of Grace we delivered just over 70 pounds of "Fishes & Loaves" to the Associated Churches Food Bank! Way to go, Grace!!

• From Frank Zirille at Wellspring:

"Wellspring Interfaith Social Services is very appreciative of the contribution of \$678.68 by Grace Presbyterian Church. As you directed \$324.42 will go to support our direct service programs and \$354.26 is designated for our 2016 Summer Day Camp Program.....Thanks for your confidence in us and your support."

• From Elizabeth Little at Presbyterian World Mission:

"I'm writing on behalf of Presbyterian World Mission to express our appreciation to you, your pastor, session, and congregation for your gracious and faithful support of our mission co-workers. On March 23, 2016, we received your gift of \$250.00 for Missionary Support. With your support and their service, we are changing the world for the sake of the gospel."

- Thank you to Pat Morrison for serving as clerk while I was on vacation.

John Current

- My Grace Family,
Thank you so much for the beautiful praying angel figurine I received during Youth Sunday on May 22. It's a great reminder of how faith can carry us through life, especially over hurdles like college! Wes and I are excited to start our new journey together as we are led to new beginnings in Bargersville, IN. Again, thanks for the prayers and thoughts that have always been such a foundation of encouragement from my church family.

With Love, Brittney Allen

- Thank you to the elders for being willing to change the session meeting date, as it allowed me to visit with my son on Sunday while he was in town.

Rev. Ann Pitman

- Thank you to the Property Committee for all your hard work...



* Dennis Allen and Aaron Bowers upgraded the door locks on the new ramp entrance.

* John Current and Jim Wolfe have done extensive research in developing a plan to upgrade the lighting in the sanctuary with help from Dennis Allen.

* Todd German, Aaron Bowers, and Jon Wolfe power washed the exterior of Grace.

* Dennis Allen, Ken Mahoney, John Current, and others completed construction of the new storage area in the Upper Room. They did a great job!

Give
thanks
to the Lord,
for he is
good;
his love
endures
forever.



Grace Presbyterian Church
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Come to North Highlands neighborhood
Saturday, June 11th

Grace's Annual Garage Sale in conjunction with North Highlands Neighborhood yard sales will be on Saturday June 11th. The PW sale will be in Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m.—2 p.m. The neighborhood sale will run Friday and Saturday.

PW has tables for rent for \$5.00 for your own sale items and you keep the money you make.



Set up for the sale is Thursday, June 9th so items can be brought to church before that date. See Tammy for reserving a table or more information. The proceeds of the PW sale will benefit the main kitchen fund.