

GRACE NOTES

Dec. 2016/Jan. 2017

A Publication of
Grace
Presbyterian Church



1811 Fairhill Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
Phone: (260) 426-4712
Fax: (260) 426-4717
E-mail: graceoffice@gpcfw.org
Website: www.gpcfw.org

Staff

Interim Pastor
Rev. Ann Pitman
gracepastor@gpcfw.org

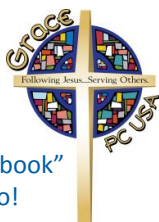
Choir Director
Tom Callahan
callahat@hotmail.com

Pianist/Organist
Sue Creager
sacreager2801@comcast.net

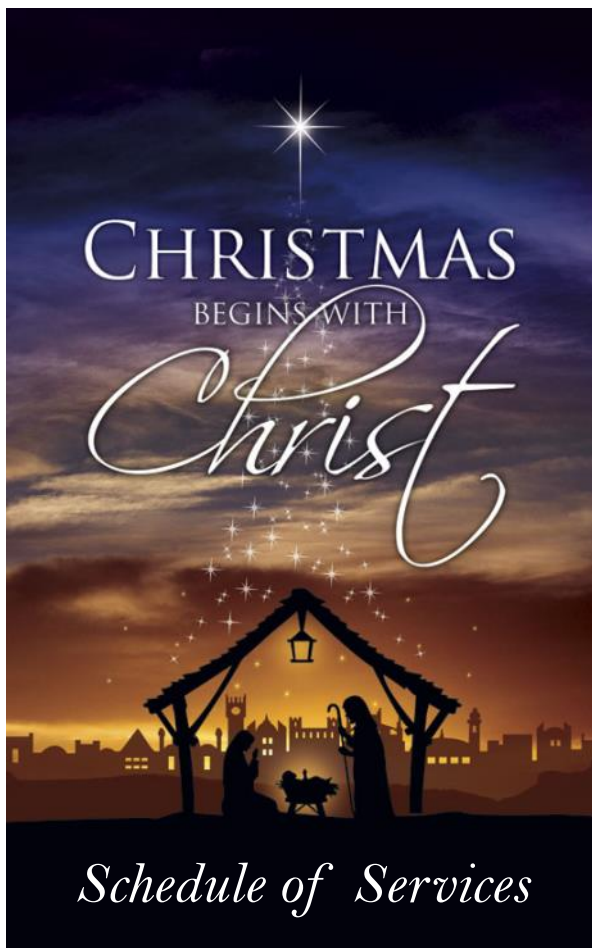
Treasurer
JoAnn Getts
nojogetts@juno.com

Secretary
Kelly Bellis
graceoffice@gpcfw.org

Custodians
Dennis Allen
woodshakers13@gmail.com
Tim Bauman
Batb1977@hotmail.com



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Look for our logo!



*Our Advent Theme:
Names of the Messiah*

Sunday, November 27, 2016

1st Sunday of Advent

Wonderful Counselor

10:30 am

Sunday, December 4, 2016

2nd Sunday of Advent

The Mighty God

10:30 am

Sunday, December 11, 2016

3rd Sunday of Advent

Everlasting Father

10:30 am

Sunday, December 18, 2016

4th Sunday of Advent

Prince of Peace

Christmas Pageant!

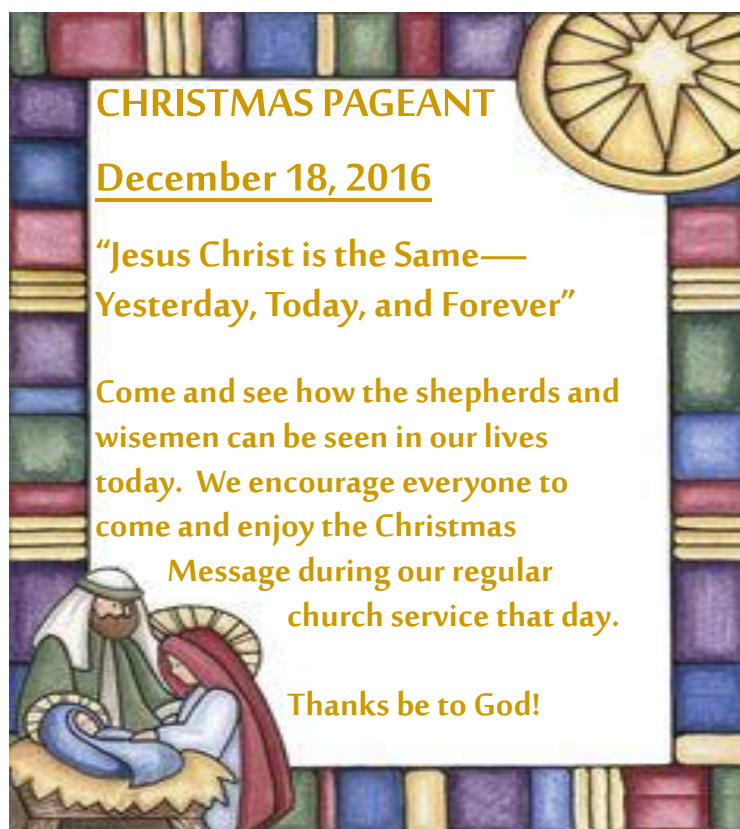
10:30 am

Saturday, December 24, 2016

**Christmas Eve Service
Communion & Candlelight
5:00 pm**

Sunday, December 25, 2016

**Informal
Christmas Day Service
10:30 am**



October Session Highlights

- **Session Approved:** Tom Callahan as our Music Director
- Renewed the Interim Pastor Contract for Rev. Ann Pitman for an additional year, with all the same terms of call and termination clause as for 2016.
(The contract may be terminated by either the Session or Interim Pastor and concurrence of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry with a 30-day written notice.)
- The Legacy Fund Endowment Policy after two readings and a month to contemplate before the vote was taken to approve. More information will be coming to educate the congregation on this program.
- The Wedding Policy was updated and approved. This policy will be attached to our website for access by anyone wishing to be married at Grace Presbyterian Church.

2017 Newsletters

Beginning in 2017 we plan to discontinue sending printed newsletters out via the bulk postage system. Newsletters will be available electronically. Please let the office know if you would prefer having a printed copy. We will automatically print and mail to members on our home centered lists. Copies will then be printed for those who prefer a print copy. You may pick up your copy when you come to worship. Any not picked up will be mailed. This will eliminate the costs associated with mailing copies simply to meet the minimum required for using the bulk mailing permit.



2016-2017 Presbyterian Giving Catalog

On display in the Narthex, is a stand with copies of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog for your use. This catalog comes from the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the PC(USA).

Much like Heifer International, the giving catalog provides opportunities to make life changing gifts to honor friends who really don't need another gift. By purchasing an item from the Giving Catalog you can choose to provide everything from goats, to garden wells, to water filters for Flint, MI, to bags of seed, to educating individuals on cultivating community gardens, to emergency life packs, supplies for displaced students, beekeeping kits, and much, much more. If you don't want to purchase an entire garden well, you may purchase a "share" of a well, or a cow, etc.

Your generous gifts given through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog will directly impact the ministries supported by Special Offerings, and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please consider making use of this opportunity to help others even as you remember friends and family this holiday season!

Up To Date with Committees & Groups

ANNUAL REPORT

Attention Committee Chairs...

Please submit your Annual Report for 2016 to the church office by January 9, 2017. Thank-you!

Committee Chairs at Grace

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



MONTHLY GATHERINGS

Please check out the 2016 PW Letter inserted in this newsletter!

SARAH CIRCLE

They are studying "In His Eyes, Becoming The Woman God Made You To Be."

—They meet the 2nd Thursday of each month; 12:00pm Arby's West State for lunch; 1:00pm Circle Meeting at Grace

Next dates: Dec. 8 and Jan. 12

LUNCH BUNCH

Come have lunch with friends at Glenbrook Mall Food Court near J.C. Penneys!
All women are invited.



—They meet on the last Thursday of each month at 12 noon.

Next date: Dec. 29 and Jan. 26

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.



—They meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at Grace

Next dates: Dec. 21 and Jan. 18

PW EVENTS...

Saturday, December 3

PW Christmas Party and White Elephant Exchange 12-2 pm!

The Christmas sale made almost \$100 which isn't bad since we did not have any big ticket items or a ton of stuff. Thank you to all who contributed items for the sale. To those of you who worked set up or the day of the sale, thank you so much. This money will be added to the main kitchen fund for the remodeling of the kitchen.

To the people who showed up on October 15th for the cleaning of the kitchen — thank you, thank you, thank you. An entire morning was spent on the one refrigerator and stove top, plus we did get several other jobs done.

TIME	Name _____
	Address _____
	Amount _____
For online your treasure is, there will your heart be also Matthew 6:21	

From the Treasurer....

2017 Offering envelopes will be available on Sunday, December 11, 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.

December 31 is the deadline for any money to be credited toward the 2016 budget.

Reminder: If you have not paid your Per Capita for 2016 of \$37.70, it is due December 31.



The Church Women

United 2016 Christmas Party is December 9th at Forest Park United Methodist Church, 2100 Kentucky Avenue at 10:00 a.m.

This is a wonderful time of fun, visiting, and of course the Executive Board will provide refreshments. Please come and bring a friend.

We are collecting gifts for the Associated Churches "Baby's Closet" that day. Some of the items on the wish list are; crib sheets, rattles, baby wash, baby shampoo, bottles, onesies, diapers, etc.



Poinsettia's were ordered for Christmas in honor or memory of a loved one.

They will be listed in the bulletins during December. If you purchased a plant, please feel free to take one home after worship on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services to enjoy with your family.



What are you doing at 10:30 am on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday?

3B is happening in the Upper Room! This easy to do movement (exercise) class has made a difference in how we move and feel. Plus the fellowship is great. Come and give it a try. For more information, call Tammy at 483-4856.

HEALTHY SMALL CHURCH

On October 22nd, Grace and United Faith Presbyterian Churches co-hosted a one-day workshop presented by Dr. Dennis Bickers titled The Healthy Small Church. The \$20 Registration fee covered one copy of the book he wrote with the same title and lunch. Dennis, as he prefers to be called, was a bi-vocational pastor for 20 years in a small church in southern Indiana. It was wonderful to hear a small church pastor speaking to members and pastors of small churches. His presentation, filled with humor and truth, lifted up the importance of the small membership church and the involvement of the members. He reminded us that approximately two-thirds of all churches in the United States average 100 people or fewer on Sundays. More than 100,000 churches average 50 people or fewer in their Sunday morning attendance. Thank you to everyone who worked to make this event such a success.



WHITEWATER VALLEY PRESBYTERY MEETING



Grace and United Faith Presbyterian Churches co-hosted the November Presbytery meeting. Highlights of the meeting:

Election of the new vice-moderator of Presbytery Rev. Youngsoo An. Rev. An is the first Asian pastor to serve in this capacity in Whitewater Valley.

An All Saint's Day Worship Service, planned and conducted by the Fort Wayne Pastors: Rev. Jeff Lehn, Rev. Youngsoo An, Rev. Laura Sherwood, Rev. Kathleen O'Connell, and Rev. Ann Pitman. Worship included an interactive meditation by Rev. Kathleen O'Connell titled "Table Stories," installation of our newly elected Moderator

John Paulson, CRE, and Vice-Moderator Rev. Youngsoo An by former moderator Ginny Sheets, and EP, Rev. Alan Thames; the reading of the 2015 Necrology Report which was preceded by a prayer written by Rev. Arianne Lehn; communion, and lighting of candles in memory of those who no longer gather at our Tables, but are present in our hearts. An offering designated for the Christmas Joy Offering was received during worship which totaled \$884. Prelude and Postlude were played by Bob Bausser on the bagpipes. Day of Caring Success stories were shared. Attendees of "The Healthy Small Church" workshop shared some of their learnings from the day and then invited those present to consider how the learnings might apply to their congregations. Presbytery meetings are adjourned with the use of the Halverson Benediction which states:

You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is sending you.

Wherever you are, God has put you there.

God has a purpose in your being there.

Christ who indwells you has something he wants to do through you, where you are.

Believe this and go in His Spirit's grace and love and power.

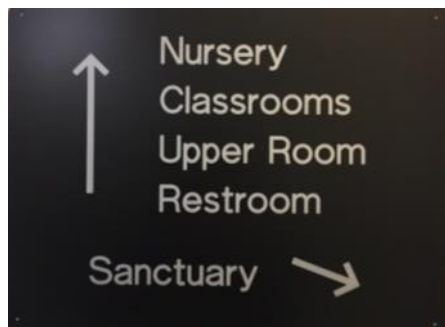
(Dr. Richard C. Halverson was the Chaplain to the U.S. Senate from 1981-1994)

NEW SIGNS AT GRACE!



If you have not noticed, we now have large (12") numbers at each of the entrances to Grace's building. They begin with the Ramp entrance which is #1 and work clockwise around the building: #2 is the Scout entrance, #3 is the Tower entrance, #4 is the Office entrance, #5 is the West parking lot entrance across from the Manse, and #6 is the Huffman Street entrance. This follows the preferred method for the Fire department. So, in the event of an emergency you can now give the door number to assist EMT or police in knowing where to enter. This will also be a major help when the pastor is meeting someone in the evening to know where to tell them to come for the meeting.

INTERIOR DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE



You will also notice new interior directional signage. We had hoped to have them sooner, but we did get them – just in time – for the presbytery meeting. They were taped up temporarily (due to still having wet paint!) for the presbytery meeting. They were then permanently attached after the meeting. These directional signs should assist new people coming into the building.

Along with the directional signage, we now have uniform signage above all the doors of the building; Classrooms (now numbered 1-3), Nursery, Upper Room, Conference Room, etc..

Halloween WITH GRACE



Bob & Denise Hatfield in costume!



Audra Widmann helping with the Halloween Games.

Halloween with Grace

was a success! We had a little over 420 kids come through the church to play games and collect candy. Thank you to all the many people who helped whether you donated candy, trinkets, money, helped set up, helped with games, or handed out candy. No job was more important than the next. It is because we all worked together for the greater good that we were successful. Thanks for ALL of your help!

Denise Hatfield

MEMBER UPDATES



If you have any changes to your contact information, be sure to give them to the office.

Thank you!



In Touch with Our Home-Centered Members



Please feel free to call the church office if any pastoral care is needed from your Shepherds or Pastor.

260-426-4712

Elders

Class of 2016
Dennis Allen
Norm Getts
Tammy Menkes

Class of 2017
Laurie Howard
Stacey Monnier
Bill Werling

Class of 2018
Todd German
Pat Morrison
Jim Wolfe

Deacons

Class of 2016
Harley Allen
Dan Ankney
Holly Bouthot
Diana Eller

Class of 2017
Al Creager
John Current
Nancy Current

Class of 2018
Cindy Bowers
Karen Doehrman

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

Judy Bellis #387-9192
1221 E. California Rd.,
Apt. 115
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Albert & Glenda Bragalone
Albert is at home...
8720 Medicine Bow Run
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Glenda is at Kingston Care Ctr.
1010 W. Washington Ctr. Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

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

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

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

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



December 27, 2014	Steve & Allison Schneider
January 17, 1959	Don & Dee Stoiche
January 18, 1947	Albert & Glenda Bragalone
January 21, 1949	Gene & Vivian Allen



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

October 2	65	November 6	69
October 9	60	November 13	69
October 16	52		
October 23	no count	<u>After newsletter print</u>	
October 30	65	November 20	
		November 27	



Submit Birthdays to the church office!

DECEMBER

Dec. 01	Pat Morrison
Dec. 01	Evelyn Pelz
Dec. 01	Misty Tsamwa
Dec. 03	Katie German
Dec. 11	Madge Zion
Dec. 12	Rev. Bob Leas
Dec. 17	Jean Swigart
Dec. 17	Ezekiel Tsamwa
Dec. 18	Sharon Allen
Dec. 19	Holly Bouthot
Dec. 20	Jeff Kachmar
Dec. 20	Adriannah Tsamwa
Dec. 21	Jeff Widmann
Dec. 23	Don Clark
Dec. 27	Betsy Kachmar
Dec. 28	Rick Werling
Dec. 29	Jill Werling

JANUARY

Jan. 02	Al Creager
Jan. 05	Ken Rogers
Jan. 06	Rev. Ann Pitman
Jan. 07	Linda Knepple
Jan. 10	Dorman Keller
Jan. 13	Carol Courtney
Jan. 16	Alice Bauman
Jan. 17	Cathy German
Jan. 20	Abel Ankney
Jan. 22	Dick Young
Jan. 23	Vivian Allen
Jan. 23	Tim Bauman
Jan. 23	Bill Zion
Jan. 26	Carrie Geist

IN EVERYTHING Give Thanks

1 Thes. 5:18

- Thank You to everyone who assisted in hosting The Healthy Small Church conference in October and the Whitewater Valley Presbytery Meeting in November. If I started naming names, I would no doubt leave someone out. I cannot begin to tell you how much all you did was appreciated by those in attendance. Two of the clergy at the Presbytery meeting were also my colleagues in other presbyteries where I have served. Both made it a point to come up and thank me for the wonderful hospitality of “my” members – giving me credit way beyond my due. Because a pastor’s membership resides with the Presbytery, and not in the local congregation they serve, the Presbytery meeting is the gathering of “our” worshipping community. Being able to gather and worship in such a beautiful, well maintained facility and being greeted by such welcoming hosts makes our time together even more special. Thank you everyone!

Rev. Ann

- Thank you to all who gave to the Peacemaking Offering. Total collected was \$455 of which 75% went to Presbytery and 25% stayed in our peacemaking fund.

JoAnn Getts, Treasurer

- Thank you to John Current and Dennis Allen for putting the over door signs up when they arrived.

Rev. Ann

- Thank you to everyone who helped with the Presbytery Day on Nov. 2nd. Between United Faith and Grace we had approximately 25 people who participated in some way.

Tammy Menkes

- Thank you to the Property Committee especially John Current, Jon Wolf, and Dennis Allen for all their work in getting rid of the unwelcome “guests” in the Manse. It has been quite a process, but I think it is all taken care of now! I greatly appreciate all you have done.

Rev. Ann

- Thank you to Tim Bauman for working the soundboard and to Bob Bausser for playing the bagpipes for the Presbytery meeting.

Rev. Ann

- Thank you to Connie Stucky, Isy Bosse, Linda Haller, Tammy Menkes, and Rev. Ann for helping sew cancer pads and/or joining the fellowship salad luncheon on November 5th. Twenty pads were delivered to Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana.

Evelyn Brunnegraff

- Thank you for hosting the Presbytery meeting November 2nd. All the volunteers were very helpful. May God continue to bless your growth.

*Caroli Wolfe, Commissioner
Anderson, First P.C.*



Thank you to the many people who have helped with worship at Grace this last year. You have been such a blessing to me.

Pastor Ann – thanks especially for getting to know all of the little quirks that make us Grace

Sue Creager – thanks for the beautiful music you provide

Worship Committee – Holly Bouthot, Tom Callahan, Anne Courtney, Dot Gilbert, Pat Morrison, Pamela Shannon, Bill Werling and Deb Zimmerman

Lay Leaders – Becky Barnett, Cindy Bowers, John Current, Nancy Current, Cathy German, Todd German, Dot Gilbert, Tom Monnier, Pamela Shannon, and Jim Wolfe

Announcers – Dot Gilbert, Betsy Kachmar, Tammy Menkes, Tom Monnier, and Bill Werling

Candle Lighters – the Ankney family, the Kevin Mahoney family, the Monnier family, the Barchak family, the Youth and the fill-ins when they were needed.

Candle Fillers – Jeff and Lauren Widmann

Sound – Brian Zimmerman

And last, but not least – the Choir – Anne Courtney, Laurie Howard, Nancy Current, Kathy Graney, Michelle Richhart, Pamela Shannon, Holly Bouthot, Bill Werling, Tom Callahan, Jon Wolf and Lauren Widmann

If you would like to join us in this wonderful ministry, please talk to any one of us.

Jill Werling
Worship Chair



Dear Grace Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your generous contribution to Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity through your \$648.50 gift. Without investors like you, we would not be able to continue providing hardworking families with safe, secure and affordable homeownership. We hope the greatest benefit of your investment is the feeling you get by knowing you have personally helped a family achieve the American dream.

Again, thank you so much for your support, which is making a lasting impact on hardworking families and the children they are raising in this safe and stable community.

In His service,

Justin Berger
CEO



Grace Presbyterian Church
1811 Fairhill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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PW CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 3RD
12 NOON



ALL THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE
INVITED TO COME FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!



WE WILL ENJOY A
POTLUCK AND
WHITE ELEPHANT
GIFT EXCHANGE.