

GRACE NEWS

June/July

2018

A Publication of Grace Presbyterian Church



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I watered my peppers this afternoon. This spring watering them became a time to shut the thinking part of my mind off for just a few minutes and focus solely on that simple task. I have loved growing seedlings into nice sized plants, finding a sunny home for them and watering them in their controlled environment.

I watered (most of) them in my office for the last time today. By the time you read this, I will have them planted to hopefully fare better than the first set that I planted. My time looking at them, rotating them to move with the sun, and having a large amount of control over their survival will end. I must let my control go so they can grow, produce fruit, and I can burn my tongue off with the harvest.

No one needs habaneros, ever, but I will grow them, anyway! This time of year brings letting go. Parents will watch their graduates fly towards college or careers. Teachers will watch their students fly off to summer sports and swimming pools. Churches watch families fly off to vacations and weekend getaways. And sometimes, summers bring the end of ministries in the church that may never resume.

Much like my peppers, sometimes we need to let go so great things can happen. Sometimes we let the baby bird leave the nest, sometimes we need to plant what we have started, sometimes we need to weed out what suffocates and prevents good fruits from growing. Sometimes we need to let go of what holds us back. I have heard a lot of great ideas of what we can start doing this year, things we can add. I, too, have a million great ideas of what we can add.

I have not heard what we can let go of. Letting go is hard and uncomfortable but letting go often opens up the opportunities that what you let go of blocked. Baby birds never fly if they never leave the nest, peppers and tomatoes die if you do not get rid of the weeds.

Do not throw out the baby with the bathwater, but we have time now to absolutely throw out the bathwater.

Peace,

- Pastor Rob

P.S.: MANY PEPPER PLANTS AVAILABLE! PLEASE TAKE THEM!



Thank You to everyone who provided breakfast, snacks and lunch desserts for the Presbytery Meeting. They were greatly appreciated.

Tammy Menkes

Thank You to all for supporting the PW Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale.

Tammy Menkes

Thank You to everyone who had anything to do with Youth Sunday, You were Great!

Tammy Menkes

I want to send a huge thank-you note to my Grace Family. As always you have been so faithful these past several weeks with prayers, cards, meals and phone calls. You have been a true blessing to Al and me. I have a ways to go before I can arm wrestle anyone, but I am 1000% better than what I was. Just like I can't arm wrestle yet, my playing isn't back to what it should be. I praise the Lord though that I have come as far as I have because at the beginning of this past week I couldn't even play a familiar hymn. But God is good all the time, and I know he slowed me down for some reason. Thanks again to everyone.

Sue Creager

Thank you to Tom Monnier for renting a roller and rolling the lawn.

John Current



Presbyterian Women

All women are invited to participate in any and all of these activities.

**Open Presbyterian Women Meeting
September 23. More details to follow.**

Sarah Circle

Will resume after Labor Day

Cancer Pad Sewing

Come and help with this great Mission.

July 18

We meet the third Wednesday of every month 9:00am-12:00pm. No special sewing skills are needed. Just a simple basting stitch.

Lunch Bunch

12 noon at Glenbrook Mall Food Court near JC Penny's. All women are invited.

June 28 & July 26

Legacy Committee

M O R E

These four letters make up one of the most powerful words in the English language. Very smart people stay up at night trying to figure out ways to convince us that we are (or ought to be) discontent, and that we would experience true satisfaction if we just had more.

Serving the ‘more monster’ can never satisfy our souls. Yet in the short run, saying no to “more” can be difficult, even frightening.

What does it take to tame the monster of more? What does it take to transform a heart from avarice to generosity? For most of us, it will not come simply by acquiring more knowledge, applying more willpower, or even by studying more Scripture, as important as those things are. The more monster is too strong. We need a way of training. We need a tangible and routine way to say, “Sorry money, you are not on the throne. You will not be the god of my life today.”

What we need, God has provided. It’s called *tithing*.

What just came to your mind as you read the word *tithing*? A mechanical obligation? A religious tax? A fund raising mechanism? An impossible requirement?

The literal meaning of the word *tithe* is “a tenth part”. People tend to use the word loosely today. They may speak of tithing \$10 a week when their income is \$50,000 per year. For the math-impaired among us, giving ten dollars a week would be tithing only if my income were \$5,200 a year. The Israelites were raised on the practice of tithing. To them, tithing clearly meant giving ten percent, not two percent or four percent.

Firstfruit giving was a concept that largely overlapped with tithing—and probably referred to the same gifts. But where tithing stressed the amount given, the giving of firstfruits emphasized a spiritual principle: God is the Giver of the harvest. For Israel this meant that the first and best tenth from their flocks and fields belonged to God. Every time they tithed they were declaring their trust in God—even when trusting God didn’t feel easy or natural.

Throughout the fluctuating history of Israel recorded in Scripture, as their hearts went, so went their giving. As their giving went, so went their hearts. What an effective way of taming the M O R E monster!

Adapted from *Giving: Unlocking the Heart of Good Stewardship* by John Ort

We are having a game night at Grace!

Date: June 2, 2018

Time: 6-8

Bring finger-food and games to share!
S'mores afterwards (weather permitting)!



Outdoor Service
&
Picnic Potluck
Sunday, July 22



Birthday Celebration

You are invited to share in the celebration of
Bob Guingrich's 101st Birthday!
Saturday, June 30th @ Grace
1pm-3pm



Presbyterian Women are hosting an indoor Garage Sale Saturday **June 9 from 8am-2pm**. Tables are available for \$5.00. Set up is Friday at 10am. Contact Tammy if you would like to participate. **There will also be a Bake Sale that day. Bake goods are needed.**

3B The last class is June 7. Classes will resume in the fall.

Grace Wellness Check

All members will be contacted by an Elder or a Deacon to do a Grace Wellness Check sometime in June. This will be done to let the members know you are important to Grace.



Nora, Giselle, Pastor Rob, and Todd
Wellspring's Miles for Meals 2018

Congratulations 2018 Graduates

Graduation Recognition is June 10.

Audra Widmann is graduating from North Side High School. She plans to go to Saint Francis and major in museum studies and minor in either history or marketing. Her plan is to go for a masters or doctorate in the field and her end goal is to potentially be a curator or a museum educator.



Grace German is graduating with a Bachelor's degree from Northwood University in Midland Michigan. She plans to continue her education and will receive her Master's degree in the spring of 2019. She has been on the basketball team all three years and will continue to play while pursuing her graduate degree.





June 6 Kara Polk
June 6 Renee Lyons
June 21 Samuel Barchak
June 27 Tyler Bowers
June 28 Bob Guingrich
June 28 Stacey Monnier
June 29 Caleb Ankney
July 01 Evelyn Brunnegraff
July 01 Avery Marshall
July 06 Dennis Allen
July 08 Albert Bragalone
July 08 Bob Gilbert
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

Church Attendance

April 1- 80
April 8- not recorded
April 15- 66
April 22- 57
April 29- 57
May 6- 62
May 13- not recorded
May 20- 52
May 27- 43

2018 Ohio Light Opera Tour

August 2-3

Reservations now being taken

Join First Presbyterian for a 2 day, 1 night stay in Wooster, Ohio. Included in the tour are tickets to *The Pajama Game* and *Candide*. Also included in the cost of the trip is free breakfast and dinner on Friday. The bus will leave from First Pres Thursday, August 2 at 12:30pm and return on Friday, August 3 at 9:30pm.

The cost of the trip is \$250 single occupancy and \$325 for double. Contact

Thom Hofrichter

260-426-7421 ext. 103



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