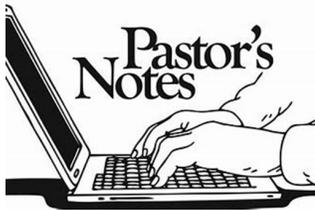


Glimpses of Grace



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be fearful and anxious, for I am with you every step of the way." - Joshua 1:9

Friends of Grace,

It is good that a season ends. Winter is over. Sure there are still a few days that are colder but we are now fully into the next season of Spring.

There are many that have not been to worship in person for over a year. They are coming back. Recently we have seen a few new faces each week we worship. It seems the seasons are changing, as it were.

If you have yet to come back to worship please know that we are still being cautious. We wear face masks and keep a good distance but we gather together to worship. It gives such a different sense of community, to be surrounded by others in the sanctuary.

It has certainly been a blessing to have gathered using Facebook live. I suppose we will continue to use it for a long time to come. It has allowed the good news of Jesus Christ to be heard by many of our church family and quite a few new friends.

We look forward to personally welcoming each one of you in the days ahead.

God is Good – All the Time!

Enjoying Grace with you,
Pastor Randy

Spotlight of Grace



We are happy to announce that we will be holding **Graceful STEPS** on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in June! We will need your help in various areas. Look inside on the Children's pages for more details.

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Church Family News



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From The Heart



My sincere thanks to all of you for the many acts of kindness extended to me during my illness and afterwards.

Thanks for the thoughts, prayers, cards, calls, visits and food. I know I would not have survived if I would not have had all of you.

I am on the mend and hope to resume a normal life soon.

Again, thanks and blessing to all,
Jan Landreth



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The Trustees will be having a Spring Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 15th at 10:00am. Donuts and drinks will be provided.

Please bring your gloves, rakes, and gardening tools with you. Hopefully the weather will cooperate but if not Saturday, May 22nd will be the rain date!

Please call the church office or any trustee if you have questions. All are welcome to join the fun!



Greetings from the Loft!

As the choir year draws to an end, I am thankful. Thankful for my faithful group. We were confident we could have a smaller choir and still be safe and so it was!

We were able to bring a Christmas Cantata to our congregation along with anthems and special music for the Holy Week. We didn't miss a beat!

We have just a few more Sundays to sing and then we will regroup for a patriotic medley on July 4th. And so, I anxiously look forward to this Fall when all members can rejoin the choir and perhaps add a few new voices. I am truly blessed to be their leader ♥!

Musical Blessings,
Tami Thompson



Trustees News

It is once again time for our annual Clean-Up Day at Grace. We will be meeting in the Narthex at 10am on Saturday, May 15th. Please bring your gloves, rakes, and other yard care tools that you may have.

Donuts and refreshments will be provided by the Trustees! This is a great way to show our love for God's house. And just another reminder that mowing may be too large of a project for some - but the job is made easier - if the litter is removed before mowing. Two grabber tools have been purchased and will be available for use. If the weather doesn't cooperate we will try again on Saturday, May 22nd.

So...if you would like to get some exercise while making our grounds look nice...just know that any help will be appreciated!

Thank you from the Trustees!



Missions News

Matthew 25 is again welcoming volunteers between 9:00am-4:00pm Monday through Friday and on Saturday from 9:00am-3:00pm.

Volunteers must pre-schedule two weeks in advance. You may schedule as an individual or as a member of your own household. Small groups of six people can also participate. These restrictions are in place to maintain social distancing.

To volunteer you can contact Shelly Clos by email at shelly@m25m.org or call Matthew 25 Ministries at 513-793-6256

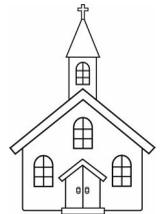
Serving Christ together,
Barb Tolley
513-207-8500
(for questions)

The Free Little Library is up and running near our church parking lot entrance. All are welcome to take or leave a book. We are in the process of putting labels in the books to show that Grace Church is happy to share this program with our community. We are promoting literacy, book sharing, and stewardship.

PLEASE remember that the first Sunday of each month is our time to contribute to missions.

The "**Little White Church**" that you see as you enter the Sanctuary is a symbol of the vitally important work that our church does for missions. When you donate each month your gift goes to support:

- ◆ Graceful S.T.E.P.S.
- ◆ Mission trips
- ◆ Backpacks for the Homeless
- ◆ Youth projects
- ◆ Thanksgiving baskets
- ◆ **and more**



Worship News

Hello from the Worship Committee,

We look forward in the month of May to several celebrations and remembrances. On Thursday, May 6th is our National Day of Prayer. That is followed on Sunday, May 9th by Mother's Day, when we remember or celebrate our Mothers.

Then Sunday, May 23rd is the Day of Pentecost. We end the month with Memorial Day on Monday, May 31st. The day we remember and appreciate our men and women who have given their lives in service to this "STILL" great nation. We salute them all!

In Christ's love,
Jeff Shaw

Grace's Financial Update

Annual budget needed		\$242,723.00
General funds monthly needs		\$20,226.91
March Income	(Gen Funds)	\$23,249.63
March Expenses	(Gen Funds)	\$18,694.59
YTD Income	(Gen Funds)	\$71,465.21
YTD Expenses	(Gen Funds)	\$50,492.25
YTD Income over/short		+\$20,972.96



Thanks for using your Kroger Rewards card to donate to our church!

Apportionments:		
	Ohio River Valley District Paid YTD	\$892.74
	West Ohio Conference Paid YTD	\$7,078.00
Checking account for bills 3/31/2021		\$76,834.54

Respectfully submitted,

Al Lipscomb, Finance Chair
Kari Shaw, Grace Treasurer

Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of your crops."

Ways of giving may not work for you as it once did. Grace has several ways to tithe that may be more helpful for your giving.

- ◆ You may still mail or bring in a check/cash during church office hours.
- ◆ Another way is to call your bank/credit union or set up an online billpay that goes directly from them to Grace. Grace's information for setup is: routing/ABA #244077323 and our address is 1200 Main Street, Hamilton, OH 45013.
- ◆ We also now can accept PayPal giving! There are many Grace United Methodist churches on PayPal, so once you've hit 'SEND' then type: gumctreasurer@fuse.net to tithe directly to YOUR Grace!

ALL of these ways will securely tie your name with giving records for your year-end statement (PayPal is uploaded 1-time per month, for the prior month, to our records). If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church treasurer Kari Shaw at 513-284-9671 or email directly to gumctreasurer@fuse.net for assistance.

Peace Be With You!

Grace Kids' News



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9, 2021. It's a wonderful day to honor the person in our life who shows us unconditional love. The one who is always there to nurture, support and guide us each step of the way.

Here at Grace, we are so appreciative of those who bring their children to church to learn of the love and teachings of Christ. It's a great time to give hugs, share special moments, and give thanks to our Moms for all they do for us. Also to reflect on the blessings we have received from our heavenly mothers as well.

Blessings,
Jan Grimm



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GRACEFUL STEPS AND VBS

We are anxiously looking forward to our fifth year of Graceful S.T.E.P.S. Our theme will be Hop Aboard the Reading Express! Letters and invitations are being sent to our previous students and given to teachers at Highland Elementary. We hope to target Kindergarten and First Grade children to give them a good foundation. With Covid, there has been lapses in learning and we feel this is a critical year to reach out to them.

Graceful Steps will be held on June 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, and 24. It will run from 10:00am to 12:30pm each of those days. A morning snack and lunch will be provided. We are now in the process of finding volunteers to help in all areas. We will need mentors, aids, and kitchen helpers. If you would enjoy taking part in this worthwhile endeavor, we would appreciate your assistance. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex or you can contact Jan Grimm (330-559-3507) or Melanie Stearns (937-408-8688).

Plans for VBS are ongoing and decisions will be made shortly. We will keep you updated on the progress.

Blessings,
Jan Grimm

HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY

TO THE

Best

MOM

**MANY WOMEN DO NOBLE THINGS,
BUT YOU SURPASS THEM ALL.
PROVERBS 31:29**

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