

APRIL 2023

Volume 4, Issue 4

Amazing Grace

Grace United Methodist Church, 55 Albright Drive

It is April!!! Can you believe it? What are some of the things we like about April? April showers bring May flowers. April 1st is "April fools" day, and April 15th is Tax Day, and of course Major League Baseball is in full swing (Nothing like hitting with a good pun!) Don't worry I have more "on deck" but you don't have to ball about them...Okay, I promise I am done. As you know Grace Church has undergone a strenuous but necessary process to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. An endeavor we believe is faithful to God and God's plan for who we are as a community, for our witness and role in sharing the Gospel in Hanover and beyond. In order to complete the process required by the Susquehanna Annual Conference of the UMC Grace has had to pay out over 130,000.00 dollars. As you may realize we are a small church and that is also reflective of our financial capacity as well. Myself, and the leadership of Grace Church believe that God has always and will continue to meet our needs to do the vital, vibrant ministry and mission work to which we are called.

Malachi 3:10 says "bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. 'Test me in this says the LORD Almighty,' and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." (NIV). God is very clear in the scripture that He is not to be tested save in one area—the arena of giving. The Bible promises that we cannot out give God.

Grace Church, this is our promise as well. Teaching about the importance of tithing and the worshipful act of faith that it is, is never something that I have shied away from. For Christians tithing is more than generosity. It is a worshipful act of obedience done in faith that God is who He says he is and will do what He says he will do. We see the scripture in the Old Testament Genesis 14:20, Abraham blessed the LORD because of the LORD's provision of victory with an offering of 10 percent of what Abraham had gained.

For Evangelical Christians, a tithe—and I like the way Dave Ramsey says it "a tithe is the baseline giving of Christian to the church, off the top". As Christians, we believe God is owner of all that we have and provides for us all that we need. Each week we have an opportunity to exercise our faith through a time offering and tithes. Church, I am asking on behalf of the legacy of Grace Church that has been present in Hanover since the late 1800s for you to practice not only tithing but disruptional generosity so that we may continue to have the means to do the important work God has for us. A tithe is the gift that God asks of us. Disruptional generosity goes above this worshipful work where we honor God extravagantly with giving above and beyond the tithe. I am asking that you prayerfully consider your ability to tithe in full and if possible to go above and beyond to a level generosity that is not only God honoring but also, God glorifying. God has given us so much can we not give as well? If this is you, I ask as your pastor—is this not the time? If not now, when? Perhaps you can give through your will, your investment interests, perhaps a piece of property can be sold, or an extra car? There many ways to give through our finances. If you believe Grace Church is worthy of your gifts—please do so. I pray God bless you and that He open up the storehouses for you so that you may also see the abundance of God.

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Honorary Member by Ron Yingling



Meet Charlotte. Charlotte Yingling is the April 2023 honorary member of the month. Charlotte married Clyde Yingling in 1946. Clyde and his family were members of Grace EUB Church (name before became Grace United Methodist) on Spring and Locust Street in Hanover for at least two generations before Clyde's generation. Clyde's uncle Rev. William E. Yingling, now deceased, was formerly a pastor at Grace EUB. Charlotte joined Grace EUB Church in 1947 after Clyde finished his service in

the U.S. Army. Clyde, employed as a papermaker, and Charlotte were married 60 years until his passing in 2006.

Charlotte is 94 years young and was always family oriented. She had 3 brothers and 6 sisters all of whom are with the Lord. Charlotte and Clyde had 2 children, Ron (pictured) and Diann, both of whom are members of Grace United Methodist Church. In addition, she has 4 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, and 3 great-great grandchildren.

04-03 Melia Garrett

Kathleen Jones

04-09 Ed Davis

04-10 Denise Warner

04-13 Karla Kramer

04-16 Kayla Dehoff

04-20 Jacob Parker

04-21 Paisley Parker

04-22 Ray Johns

04-24 Anna Mae Terry

Neil Myers

04-26 Abigail Leonard

04-27 Rhonda Clark

04-29 John Nickey

If you have someone that you would like to have featured as our honorary member, please send an article along with a picture to be featured in a future newsletter.

Church News

Congregational Care

Letters of Gratitude and Thanks

To all my Grace Church members, especially the ladies who send me occasional cards and thoughts with such nice messages, concerns and prayers for us. I do drop by once in a while to make donations and always have Kelly's beautiful smile to greet us. Pastor Todd has also greeted and prayed with us and this means so much to us. I have so much trouble sitting in church and my COPD continues to worsen since I continue to smoke. I'm afraid that one of the many sins I hold onto. I still believe God is with me and looks out for us. We are so grateful for what we have. There's not enough money in the world that would change where the Lord wants me. My life is already planned and I will continue to pray for all the less fortunate in this world. I pray too that Jesus stays with me on my walk. I believe I'll make it to heaven one day. Thanks, I'll continue to pray for you and I know, you all will keep us in your prayers.

God Bless, A Grace Church Member

Dear Barb and Members,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$100.00 to the mission of Olivia's House. We are forever grateful for support from members of the civic community who faithfully provide for our programs. Be assured that healing will occur for many grieving children as a result of your generosity! We look forward to continuing our work **together** to serve our community.

Blessings, K.C. Delp

Executive Director

THE WOMEN OF EASTER RETREAT

MAY 5TH & 6TH
FRIDAY 6-9
SATURDAY 8-3

THE WOMEN OF EASTER BY LIZ CURTIS
*Encounter the Savior with Mary of
Bethany, Mary of Nazareth and Mary
Magdalene*

Breakfast and Lunch provided
Worship and Hymn sing
Chair Massages Available
Registration fee \$30.00



HOSTED BY WOMEN OF GRACE
CONTACT SHEILA CARTER (SCARTER@MYGRACECHURCH.ORG)

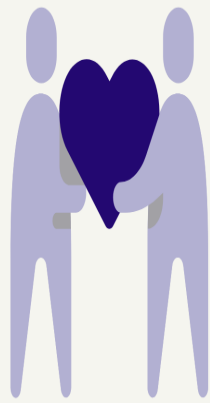


COMMUNITY
BIBLE STUDY

We're almost finished with our study of Daniel, and will finish the year with a 6 week study of Colossians. We will start this March 21...and anyone is welcome to join us and see what CBS is about! Will need to register by March 13 for materials.

Volunteer Luncheon

Everyone is cordially invited to our volunteer luncheon. We will celebrate our volunteers and invite you to join us by sharing your time and talents through Grace ministries.



Sunday, May 7th
@ 12:00pm

What to Expect

Current Volunteers

We would like to express our appreciation for all you do!

Grace Family

Come and enjoy a light lunch and learn about new ways you can serve. Many of our ministries have a display with information - see where you are called to serve at Grace Church!

Opportunities for Serving

- 1 Blood Drive
- 2 Children's Ministry
- 3 Congregational Care
- 4 Hospitality
- 5 PAL/Ruth's Harvest
- 6 Little Dresses for Africa
- 7 Red Bird
- 8 Grace Kitchen
- 9 Prayer Squares
- 10 Prayer Chain
- 11 Music Ministry
- 12 Audio/Visual
- 13 Events



CONNECTING WITH COUNCIL

Chair: Linda Mixer

Members: Denny Blum, Ron Carter, Pastor Todd Christine, Karen Coons, Ed Davis, Duane Myers, Amanda Myers, Amber Quance, Brian Jenkins, Anna Mae Terry, Jim Winbourne

- Preschool will not be holding a summer camp this year.
- The Events committee will be holding a Volunteer Luncheon on May 7th at 12pm.
- The Little Dresses for Africa has mailed 45 dresses.
- We received a Letter welcoming Grace Church Hanover into the Global Methodist Church.
- The disaffiliation vote at the Susquehanna Annual Conference will be held on May 17th, 2023 at a special session.
- Payment obligations for Disaffiliation due March 31, 2023 is \$148,385.33
- A TV and Mount has been purchased for the Nursery so the volunteers can stream the service.

Attention Seniors

High School Seniors who have been accepted into an institution of higher education, and are a member of Grace Church Hanover, are eligible to apply for a scholarship award.

Application's are due by: June 4th.

Please contact the church office for an application form.



Honorary member cont.

Charlotte's mobility is limited, but her spirit is strong. She spends much time in her recliner chair today. She spends days doing crossword puzzles and other workbooks, and enjoys TV game shows. She was an excellent cook, and desserts were treasured at family reunions. Most of her cooking today is via use of the microwave oven. Some of her favorite foods are salads, chicken, Cheerios, and no sugar desserts – particularly Sugar Free Krunchy Klondike Bars (one a day).

Charlotte's father passed away when she was an infant, and she has no recollection of him (but will see him in heaven in Ron's opinion). Charlotte's Grandfather (her mom's dad) took Charlotte to Sunday School and Church, and was important in planting a seed of lifelong faith in God and Jesus Christ.

She misses attending church services and fellowship with the congregation. She loves many hymns, but particularly Silent Night, which was one of her husband's favorites. She reads her Bible each day, Upper Room, and prays. A favorite verse – John 3:15 – "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth shall in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life".

Grocery Cards

Grace Church has Grocery Gift Cards from Giant and Weis ranging in denominations from \$10.00 to \$100.00. Kelly will be selling these Grocery Cards at the Hospitality Desk the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month starting in April. Grace Church receives 5% of the proceeds from the sale of the cards and this money will go into the Campus Improvement Account.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- Vacation Bible School Planning has begun! Please see Autumn if you would like to be included in planning an awesome VBS this summer!
- This years VBS will be from July 17th—21st.



Dinner: We start off the evenings giving the students a chance to hang out and expend some energy before we gather for supper. Dinner was spaghetti and meatballs with a salad.

Activity: The evening's lesson was about "Empathy". For the activity, students were given the opportunity to practice "Active Listening". A student was randomly selected to read a news article out loud. Two other students were randomly selected to make as much noise as possible. The rest of the students needed to try to listen and pay attention to the student reading the news article so that they could answer questions at the end of the activity about the news article. Some debrief questions of the activity:

- For the reader: How did it feel trying to read the information while there was a loud side conversation happening?
- For the audience: How hard was it to hear the details and focus on the story?

For the noise makers: How much of the story did you hear?

Lesson: The lesson started with a quick explanation of Lent and the goal of removing things that distract us from God. We then moved into empathy. Some key points were:

- We develop and practice empathy with others to make connections (Rom 12:15)
- Our relationship with Jesus will help us form relationships and connections with those around us

We are not meant to be alone

Next Steps: Students were encouraged to practice active listening and share experiences with others at home. An example given was to ask your parents what makes them happy and point out how happy they sound when they talk about it. Parents can incorporate and cultivate active listening skills with their children during one-on-one time or during dinner time conversations.

Easter

April 2nd

Palm Sunday
Easter Cantata
11:00am

April 6th

Living Last Supper Drama
7:00pm

April 7th

Good Friday Service
7:00pm

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service
6:30am

Please bring your lawn chair

Breakfast will be provided immediately following

Anckorage Service @9:00am

Traditional Service @11:00am

Help Us Fight Hunger

Join Bethlehem and Greenmount Churches

on April 22nd from 1-3PM

at Jefferson Fire Hall

31 Berlin Street Codorus PA



Volunteers are needed to help us make 10,000 meal packages to feed people all over the globe and we need you!

Want to help at the event? Want to donate?

Register on Facebook under Bethlehem church of Jefferson and click on the link for the event

or call 717-744-5057

We Can Make a Difference !!