

Grace Notes

Newsletter



GUMPRAYER: PRAYERTEAM@SPENCERGUMC.COM

AUGUST 2011



Vacation Bible School

August 7 - 11

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Lessons and Music will be taught by Faith Dewey from CEF. We are very excited to have this program and look forward to a great week of fun filled activities at Grace.

Please contact Kristin Schwenneker if you have any questions or would like help 712-363-2063 or email to kschwenneker@yahoo.com.

Ages: K-5th

Cost: \$5.00/per child/\$10.00 per family

We will be taking offering everyday to donate to CEF and canned items for the food pantry.

Can you help us? We need the following items for VBS:

ice pops
bottled water, preferably small ones
Kool-aid with sugar in canisters
juice boxes such as Capri sun
English muffins
pizza sauce
mozzarella cheese shredded
ketchup
mustard
loaves of bread
cheese slices
Instant chocolate pudding

Milk
gummy worms
Oreos or generic Oreos
baby carrots
celery sticks
Ranch Dressing
paper plates
paper bowls
napkins
cups
paper towels
Clorox wipes

CHUCK'S PADDLE AND PEN STROKES

A wife woke up one morning and said, "Honey, I just had a dream that you bought me a new gold necklace. What do you think it means?" "I don't know, but Valentine's Day is coming soon. Tuesday, you'll know," he replied.

A few nights later, she again woke up after having a dream. "This time, I dreamed you gave me a pearl necklace. What do you think it means?" "You'll know Tuesday," he replied.

The night before Valentine's Day, she again woke up telling him about her dream. "This time I dreamed that you brought me a diamond necklace. What do you think it means?" "Honey, be patient. You'll know tonight," he said.

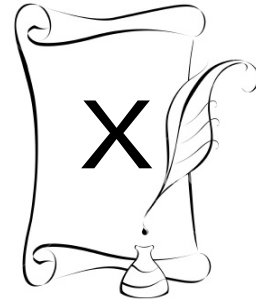
That evening, the husband came home with a package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it to find a book entitled, "The meaning of dreams."

Some dreams do come true. When I was a teenager I had a motorcycle for a couple of years then sold it. For the past forty four years I occasionally thought about a "bike" but had other priorities for the family. I did keep my motorcycle privilege every time I renewed my license, just in case.

A fellow pastor's wife bought a new bike recently and had one for sale. It's 25 years old but in great shape and cost me less than some of the two wheeled, non-motored bikes we own. Long story short, after forty four years I am riding again.

What are your dreams? What are your dreams for your church? Do you still have them? The best is yet to be.

Pastor Chuck



The youth group has started up again and it has been a lot of fun meeting and getting to know the youth who have been coming to youth group on Wednesday nights. I have had the chance to meet a few of the other youth, as well, but I know there are lots more youth in the church that I haven't gotten a chance to meet.

There is a tremendous need for adult volunteers for a variety of things with youth ministry. We need the adults in the congregation to pray for the youth and the youth ministry. Without prayer, no ministry can succeed. We need adults to be present at weekly youth group meetings and special events (such as the upcoming trips to Des Moines for the Casting Crowns concert and to South Dakota for the LifeLight music festival). We need adults to consider providing food for youth meetings; and we need adults who are willing to share what God has done in their lives. There is little that is more important for young people to hear than stories about how God has changed lives.

If you are willing to volunteer for any of these things, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Travis to let him know. You play a pivotal role in the success of ministry to youth, even if you do not have any children, or your children have grown up. Without adult support, a ministry with and to youth cannot succeed.

As always, if you know of any youth who would like to come to youth group, please tell them about Grace UMC youth groups that meets on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30pm. If, when school starts, or when numbers require it, we will split up the group into separate Jr. High and Sr. High youth groups, but for now, the Wednesday night meeting is for all youth from 6th to 12th grade.

Thank you for your support,
Pastor Travis Stevick



THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to Paul & Lucille Hansen, Carol Hansen, Jean Rowe, Kay Darnell and Ruby Peterson for the giving of your time to fold the Grace Notes Newsletter. Your ministry is greatly appreciated! We couldn't do it without you.
Grace Office Staff



**More dates for the...
2011 Grace Church
Directory**



We are now having signups for the NEW Grace United Methodist Church Directory. Pictures will be taken by Lifetouch.

Once again each family will get a FREE 8 X 10 photo.

Dates Lifetouch will be here are:

- October 11:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 12:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 13:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 14:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 15:** 10:00 AM - 4:50 PM
- October 18:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 19:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM
- October 20:** 2:30 PM - 8:50 PM

To sign up for your photography appointment please go to www.spencergumc.com/links.php and click on the 2011 Directory Sign Ups. This is a simple step by step process.

We encourage you to sign up for the 2011 Grace Church Directory soon

Alli, Peter and I would like to thank SPRC for the wonderful reception they hosted on July 10th. It was a lovely time and it gave us an opportunity to meet a few more people. We look forward to meeting even more people and getting to know you all better as we continue in ministry together. We are so thankful for the food, plant, and balloon that we received.

Pastor Travis, Alli, and Peter Stevick

Thank you to the men of Grace Church who helped on a very hot and humid



Saturday, July 9th, at the Habitat for Humanity home being built in Everly. Those helping put on insulation board, Tyvek and windows were: Chuck Kellogg, Chris Stickler, Roger Ingledue, Bill Elliott, Jim Cullen, Marv Umbrell and Norm Olson. Thanks also to the many women who helped provide lunch for our workers as well as those from Bethany Lutheran. It was a great day to work together in fellowship.

Thank you to all the people of Grace for the calls, prayers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital.
God Bless all of you!
Don Maschino

2011 Grace Church Directory

Please note you do not need to come to your directory appointment more than 15 minutes ahead of time. We want to thank everyone who signed up so far. It will be wonderful to have all of our church family in this new directory.

*Enjoy this moment. . .
for this moment is
your life!*



"Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why"

By Senior Pastor Adam Hamilton

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection
Located in the Kansas City Area

This entire book was read and discussed at an Adult Sunday School class this past spring. This article summarizes some of the things learned during this study.

Pastor Hamilton compared reading this book like going to a family reunion. With many people gathering for summer family reunions, we feel you might be interested in hearing about some highlights from this book, "Christianity's Family Tree." This Sunday School class learned of the similarities of eight Christian denominations. A common thread found through this study is that "we share one Father, one Lord and Savior and one Holy Spirit—we are family."

- 1.) Orthodoxy
- 2.) Catholicism. Guest speakers, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Boever.
- 3.) Lutheranism
- 4.) Presbyterianism
- 5.) Anglicanism
- 6.) Baptists
- 7.) Pentecostalism
- 8.) Methodism.

Much discussion time was spent sharing personal church upbringing and experiences with visiting other churches.

We learned much about our own denomination that we are the "People of the Extreme Center." Our founder, John Wesley, was the fifteenth out of nineteen children; his father was a priest of the Church of England. Wesley became ordained but still desired a "more rigorous faith." He returned to study in Oxford where he met a group of college students whom he worshipped with and pursued acts of charity in the community. "Their methodical approach to the pursuit of holiness earned them the name 'Methodist' among their critics."

At 35, John Wesley had a "failed mission to America" and became more aware of his own lack of faith. In 1738, he returned to England where he had a profound conversion while listening to the words of Martin Luther. A friend, George Whitefield, asked John Wesley to preach in the fields, proclaiming the glad tidings of salvation. He initially declined, but in April of 1739, he finally agreed to preach outdoors and 3,000 people attended. John Wesley rode a total 250,000 miles by horseback through the British Isles, preaching and calling people to follow Jesus Christ.

"To this day United Methodists see themselves as people who bring together both a reasonable faith that is intellectually satisfying and a passionate and emotionally compelling faith that touches the heart."

During class time we discussed, "Why do I like being a Methodist?" Here are some of our responses:

- 1.) "Freedom of belief & practice. Available in most communities – feel at home wherever we are. Ecumenical." Anonymous.

2.) "The peace I feel. The memories of raising a family and most of my kids are still Methodists. All the opportunities to learn. Lots of music. Having the freedom to worship. Methodists are not radical." By Nancy Bell.

3.) "A church I can depend on being there. Congregations are accepting and friendly. A place for everyone. I like that we sing. We have committees within the church. We have social rules and Disciplines." By Lorraine Conley.

4.) "I love the extreme center concept of the Methodist Church. Pastor Adam Hamilton wrote it so well. We have been brought together to love one another and to be of service to each other here at Grace United Methodist Church. I love singing the hymns of John & Charles Wesley." By Jane Ingledue.

5.) "Makes me feel a part of God's family & that is goood." By Paul & Lucille Hansen.

6.) "Church is like family. Conservative approach to beliefs." By Leonard Koch.

7.) "I enjoy the small groups. The Methodist Church seems to have more of them than other denominations. I enjoy the fellowship. Especially enjoy the UMW, the emphasis in mission." Anonymous.

8.) "Methodists are respectful of other Christian denominations and are willing to work together. We all share the same goals. Our services are open to members of other denominations and many of our members come from a wide variety background of denominations. The Methodist Church stands for good principles." By Lou Reed.

9.) "Ecumenical. Inclusive. Nonjudgmental. Social works. Faith by grace." By Cyndi O'Hara.

The last chapter pictures a tree with hundreds of branches which represent Christian denominations. "Gazing at the tree, we are reminded that all the branches share the same roots and trunk. Our roots are Judaism. Our trunk is Jesus Christ. Permeating the entire tree is the Holy Spirit, which feeds the leaves and allows the tree to grow." What an awesome point of view.

Thank you to Larry & Donna Johnson, Mavis & John Olson, Lou & Mary Lou Reed, Sandy & Lenny Heerd for organizing this study.

Continue to keep Grace United Methodist Church, Pastor Chuck and Pastor Travis in your prayers this summer! Enjoy your family reunions!

Evangelism News...

The *Small Groups and Services Booklet* is now online at www.spencergumc.com for your easy access with the latest updates. The Evangelism Committee is happy to report progress in developing new small groups at GUMC. Our most recent small group has been Dorothy DeGroot's *Computer Class for Beginners*. **Three more new small groups** will include *Discussions in Theology* with Pastor Travis, *A Pheasant Hunting Expedition to South Dakota* with Pastor Chuck, and a *Christian Book Club* with Patty Jones.

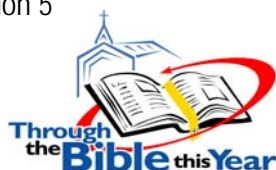


Are YOU interested in being involved in a small group that hasn't been developed yet? Contact any of the Evangelism Team Members for support and to have your group contact name be put in our *Small Groups and Services Booklet*. Evangelism also has set aside funds to purchase devotional books for small groups. Let us know if your small group needs funding for devotional materials.

Evangelism Committee members: Patty Jones, 262-2195, Paula Harris, 262-8421, Mavis Olson, 264-0620 Chris & Nancy Stickler, 262-2494, Sandy Heerd (Chairperson) 338-4384.

August Bible Readings

1. Isaiah 65,66; Psalm 62; John 3
2. 2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33, John 4
3. Nahum 1-3; John 5
4. 2 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 34; John 6
5. 2 Kings 23; 2 Chronicles 35; John 7
6. Habakkuk 1-3; John 8
7. Ephesians 1-3; John 9
8. Jeremiah 1,2; John 10
9. Jeremiah 3,4; John 11
10. Jeremiah 5,6; John 12
11. Jeremiah 7-9; John 13
12. Jeremiah 10-12; John 14
13. Jeremiah 13-15; John 15
14. Jeremiah 16,17; Psalm 96; John 16
15. Jeremiah 18-20; Psalm 93; John 17
16. 2 Kings 24; Jeremiah 22; Psalm 112; John 18
17. Jeremiah 23,25; John 19
18. Jeremiah 26,35,36; John 20
19. Jeremiah 45-47; Psalm 105; John 21
20. Jeremiah 48,49; Psalm 67; 1 John 1
21. Jeremiah 21,24,27; Psalm 118; 1 John 2
22. Jeremiah 28-30; 1 John 3
23. Jeremiah 31,32; 1 John 4
24. Jeremiah 33,34; Psalm 74; 1 John 5
25. Jeremiah 37-39; Psalm 79; 2 John
26. Jeremiah 50,51; 3 John
27. Jeremiah 52; Revelation 1; Psalm 143,144
28. Ezekiel 1-3; Revelation 2
29. Ezekiel 4-7; Revelation 3
30. Ezekiel 8-11; Revelation 4
31. Ezekiel 12-14; Revelation 5



Sunday Opportunities



8:45 AM– Coffee fellowship
9:30 AM– Worship Service
10:30 AM– Coffee fellowship time

We welcome all to join us for Worship and Sunday School.

United Methodist Women



August is our Circle Outings month. We want to remind everyone about our UMW Spiritual Bazaar that will be held on Friday, October 7. We encourage all women to mark this date in your calendar and join us. You do not need to be a member of Grace Church to attend this ministry event.

10:00 to 10:30 AM– Coffee
10:30 to 12:00 PM– Program
12:00 PM—Luncheon

Watch for more detail to follow.

Please keep Grace United Methodist Church in your prayers. Please pray for the Lord to guide the leaders of Grace in the direction we need to go to glorify His Holy name. For the Holy Spirit to flow through this congregation and allow us to touch those who are beyond our walls. For this congregation to come together in prayer and seek the Lord's guidance in everything we do.

Thank you for your prayers!

Grace United Methodist Church
Administrative Council
June 28, 2011- 5:00 PM

Mission Statement:

Grace United Methodist Church is a fellowship of believers committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. As we are empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will witness to the Christian message of salvation and minister to the needs of Grace Church and the larger community.

Attendance: Judith Olson, Chris Stickler, Pastor Chuck Kellogg, Pastor Travis Stevick, Roger Ingledue, Dennis DeWitt, Sandy Heerd, Carla Swank, Kay Darnell

Welcome: Judith Olson called the meeting to order with a welcome for Pastor Travis Stevick. For the benefit of Pastor Stevick, Judith requested that each person respond to roll call by identifying his or her committee or position. **Opening Prayer** was offered by Pastor Chuck Kellogg.

Approval of Minutes/Roll Call

Motion by Roger Ingledue; seconded by Chris Stickler. Carried.

Business Action Items

- a. Request for transfer of funds: \$100 - \$150 from line item Foundation Interest and \$2,000 from allocation for mural to be transferred to Education to cover expenses from the June 26, 2011 Inflatables Event. This will be a one-time-only transfer; all future requests must be approved by Ad. Council in advance of the event. Motion by Carla Swank; seconded by Chris Stickler. Carried.
- b. Motion to discontinue Catch the Spirit broadcasts (see item [c] under Other Business Items). *The Administrative Council moves that the Catch the Spirit broadcasts be discontinued as of July 1, 2011.* Motion by Chris Stickler; seconded by Sandy Heerd. Carried.
(Note: On Thursday, June 30th, it was decided that Catch the Spirit would continue; audiotapes of the pastors' sermons will be used).

Other Business Items

- a. Foundation Disbursement Report (items paid since May 2011)
2010/2011 (2009 & 2010 Interest approved for disbursement in 2010 & 2011)
 - **Missions Allocations**
Cherish Center Donations.....\$1,840.00
 - **Capital Improvement Allocations**
West Lane Electric Upgrade.....\$ 975.00
 - **Outreach & Emerging Ministry**
Worship (mini movies).....\$ 114.98
The Table (food).....\$ 105.64
Seasonal Banners.....\$ 41.45
Wedding Banners.....\$ 393.85
GASP Supplies.....\$ 33.45
 - **Educational Opportunities**
GracErsiz Supplies.....\$ 622.90
No Apologies Donation.....\$1,000.00
Year End Party.....\$ 143.06
Celebration Sunday.....\$ 49.69
Jr. & Sr. Youth Group (Youth Food).....\$ 163.07

- b. Church Pictorial Directory Report – Sandy Heerdt -- Sign-ups for appointments began on Sunday, June 26th. Sandy Heerdt and Harriet Berger registered about 40 appointments at this first session. Photography will be done August 2nd – 6th, Tuesday – Saturday. Arrangements can be made to accommodate nursing home residents and the homebound.
- c. Catch the Spirit. Dennis DeWitt reported that this broadcast is reaching a lot of people and that he, himself, has prepared 41 sessions. Dennis requested a firm decision as to the future of this outreach. Where is it going? What time is best? If it is discontinued, what will replace it as a Christian outreach? What can we do that is better? It was suggested that committee chairs discuss this with their committee members and bring ideas to the next Ad. Council meeting. After lengthy discussion it was decided to discontinue Catch the Spirit (see Business Action Item [b] above).

Roger Ingledue requested a moment to lead the group in prayer before continuing with the meeting.

Committee/Staff Reports

Education – Kristin Schwenneker – Vacation Bible School will be held August 7th – 11th.

Missions – Bill Elliott (submitted) – The committee met June 7th at 5:30 p.m. for last minute Flagfest food stand preparations. The Flagfest food stand raised \$566.50. We had very generous donors of items used for the meal, volunteers for the sale, and the most perfect weather. Attendance was down since events at the Clay County Courthouse were moved to a different location in town. Money raised from this will be donated for Iowa Flood Relief (to be requested through normal finance committee procedure). Meals on Wheels by GUMC are being distributed in June. We are very fortunate to have June this year. The delivery of meals is a service, which these people rely on. Many are not capable of getting out for a balanced meal. Their next scheduled meeting will be August 5th.

SPRC – Chris Stickler – The committee met Monday, June 20th; the focus was to make sure the West Lane parsonage was ready for the Stevick family to move in. A reception for Travis, Alli, and Peter Stevick will be held Sunday, July 10th after the worship service.

UMW – Kay Darnell reporting for Mavis Olson – The next meeting will be July 7th: 9:30 a.m. business meeting to plan Spiritual Bazaar and the Dedication of Ingathering kits; 11:00 a.m. program (Memorial Service for United Methodist Women who passed away during the last year); and 12:00 p.m. potluck lunch.

Finance – Carla Swank – Printed handouts of Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual YTD and of Bank/Liability Balances as of June 28, 2011 were distributed. There was no apportionment payment in May. To date our apportionment payments have been equal to or above the regional average for churches of similar size.

Evangelism – Sandy Heerdt – A new computer class for beginners will be taught by Dorothy DeGroot. The small group booklet will be updated in the fall. A suggestion was made that any changes to the booklet be included in the newsletter and on the website. A donation has been made to the Spencer Dream Center. There are several new small groups being considered.

Lay Leader – Roger Ingledue – Roger expressed excitement at the arrival of Pastor Travis Stevick and his family. Roger was able to attend the Finance meeting. His focus as Lay Leader is to understand and recognize the needs of the congregation.

Pastor Chuck Kellogg – Pastor Chuck expressed his appreciation for having an associate to help with some of the duties of the clergy.

Pastor Travis Stevick – The introductory meeting on June 26th was attended by 3 adults and 2 youth. Upcoming events include a lock-in on July 18-19 for grades 6-12; Iowa State Fair on Aug. 11th for the concert by Casting Crowns; Labor Day weekend for Life Flight in Sioux Falls. Travis will be meeting Wednesday, June 29th, 6-8 p.m. with Jr. & Sr. Youth to get their feedback. After the reception on July 10th, there will be a meeting with parents and any other adults interested in the youth activities. Plans are being made for a day trip to Mapleton for clean up. Travis plans to establish multi-media contacts with the youth.

Other Items – Judith Olson supplied updated copies of committees and of members of the Ad. Council. Judith also distributed copies of the **2011 Goals**, the Church Remittance Statement, a summary of the 2011 Annual Conference and a Conference update.

Motion to adjourn made by Sandy Heerd; seconded by Chris Stickler. Carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 p.m.

Next meeting – July 26, 2011 – 5:00 P.M.

Closing prayer – Roger Ingledue

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Darnell, Secretary



If you think this summer has been hot... can you imagine what eternity in hell would be like?

Mission Minutes...

Flagfest food stand raised \$566.50. We had very generous donations of items used for the meal, volunteers for the sale, and the most perfect weather. Money raised from this will be donated for Iowa Flood Relief. (we haven't come up with the agency or group as of yet.) Thank you to all who took the time to help with this annual fundraiser. Meals on Wheels has been going well. Thank you to all that signed up and volunteered your time for people who really can't get out for a well balanced meal. Many are not capable of making a full course meal for one or two people.

St. Luke Roundup- August 14th and October 16th are two dates that are open for Grace to offer 3 or 4 volunteers to assist residents to their chapel from 9:15 to 10:30. If you would like to volunteer for this please contact Bill Elliott at 240-0930 or elliott@webbwireless.net.



Tuesdays & Thursdays
@ 7:15 PM
Narthex area

We will workout together, be supportive of each other and come closer as sisters in Christ.

All sizes welcome!

For more information please contact :
Kristin Schwenneker
or Carla Swank

Find us on Facebook.com



GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PHONE (712)262-5970 - FAX (712)262-0344
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 AM- NURSERY AVAILABLE

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.SPENCERGUMC.COM

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Rev. Chuck Kellogg- Sr. Pastor
chuck.kellogg@spencergumc.com
Rev. Travis Stevick- Associate Pastor
tstevick@spencergumc.com

Return Service Requested

Custodian: Bob Dirks
Assistant Custodian: Mary Nepl
Administrative Secretary: Kay Clancy
Secretary: Linda Bress
Organist: Gretchen Hagedorn
Pianist: Teresa Ortman
Choir Director: Nancy Patrick
Joyful Ringers Director: Judi Calhoon
Administrative Council: Judith Olson
Treasurer: Claudia Neary



 GUMC Education & GracErsizE

G.A.S.P.
(Grace After School Program)

Wednesdays 3:45 PM to 5 PM
More information to follow.

**This is for youth 1st grade
through 5th grade.**

FREE!!

