



July 20, 2017

Greetings friends,

Can you believe it was 48 years ago today that Neil Armstrong first stepped foot on the lunar surface? I was 10 years old and had no concept of the technological and engineering leaps that were being made to realize that dream. As I recall, I knew about Tang – the drink of astronauts. Ha! I'm sure I was aware of more, but Tang does stand out. We were on vacation and I remember gathering around the black and white TV in our motel room to watch the First Walk. It was an exciting time.

I'd like to highlight a few more of the amazing people we have here at Grace! We are blessed with a host of talented, dependable, humble servants of God.

Last Friday found Duane Matson and Hubert Bicklehaupt wrestling with getting two of the south side window wells pulled out. These two men serve on the Trustees board and have been faithful, tireless workers as they perform the many and varied duties involved with service on that committee. Both have been busy during their terms with many projects at both the parsonage and the church. (See the picture montage of their latest project in the upcoming August Grace Visitor).

Kevin and Candi Holm is another couple who work tirelessly for Grace in a variety of ways. Kevin has served with dedication as a hard-working trustee and is currently serving on the SPRC. Candi is one of our "go-to" people on financial matters at the church. She has steadfastly served in one capacity or another on the Finance committee for years. Right now she is our auditor. Both Kevin and Candi are among the first to respond when a call for volunteers is put out.

Doug Doolittle's generosity of resources, time and effort is counted upon heavily at Grace. He has been donating the pork for the sandwich line since it was added to the Pie Social several years ago. Doug is an enthusiastic member of the chancel choir and can always be counted to help set up tables and haul cases for the bell choir rehearsals.

George Sellers has a heart of gold. For years he took care of the tape ministry for Grace, copying tapes and getting them out to our shut-ins. His activities have been somewhat curtailed due to health concerns, but even so, he's faithfully here most Sundays and very conscientiously represented Grace at the Bethany Life Annual meeting in April. George tries to make a difference whenever he can.

Shirley Frandson is another of our multi-project volunteers at Grace. She always steps up to lend her talented, capable hands to church concerns and special efforts. Shirley is especially active with the quilters and the UMW and kindly takes her turn on her Grace Team with a genuine smile and a warm handshake.

God bless all our brothers and sisters at Grace UMC.

This week at Grace – Pastor Fred's message this week is inspired by Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. We're pleased to welcome Alan & Paula Sampson and Brad & Suzi Stellmaker as they share the song, "I Stand in Awe" as our special music. Hubert and Raejean Bicklehaupt and Jim and Alyce Wirth will be our ushers this week. As always, worship begins at 9:15. We invite you to join us!

The Roland-Story School Supply Drive is underway. Grace Church has been invited to assemble kits for 16 school children this year, Supply lists can be found in the narthex. Kits are due back at the church by August 8th.

Our All-Church potluck picnic is coming up on Sunday, August 6th! An email was sent out last Tuesday with an electronic sign-up sheet for what you plan to bring. If you don't have email and plan to attend, you may let the office know your plans.

As a part of our worship service that morning, we'll be recognizing the special efforts the Congregational Development Team put forth on all of our behalf since the fall of 2015! Their dedication and hard work and determination to listen to and represent all our voices in their work has been appreciated and we want to celebrate their completion of the Congregational Study and the Action Plan our committees have already begun to implement. This potluck is part of our celebration.

The potluck is being coordinated by members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) and volunteers. We hope you'll come together with us to enjoy delicious food, wonderful conversation and an opportunity to say "thanks" to some special fellow members of Grace.

If you'd like a copy of the Congregational Study and the completed Action Plan that will guide our work going forward, please let the office know. The raw data from the surveys we did in the spring is also available upon request. We'd be happy to send you electronic copies or to print out hard copies for you.

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer: Claudia Pauk; Chuck Jewell; Denny Michel; Marjorie Gookin; Pam Hillis; Julie Jacobson; Leota Berg; Vivian Whitmore; Jeanne Hohneke; Ray Hults; George Sellers; Lois Johnson; Al Rau; Jordan Gertsen; Rich Iverson (friend of Kurt Carlson); Cooper Leeman

News You Can Use

Sunday, July 23

9:15 AM Worship

Monday, July 24

5:30 PM Finance

7:00 PM Council

Sunday, July 23

9:15 AM Worship

Faithfully,
Cathy

