



October 20, 2017

Greetings friends,

The harvest season is back in full swing after a week out of the fields because of rain. I'm not a farmer, but I feel such a sense of accomplishment for my farming friends at this time of year. I enjoy watching the combines traversing the grain-laden fields and then transferring their bounty to waiting gravity wagons or semis. I likely have a romantic view of the process, but harvest is such a testimony to the marriage of God's bountiful goodness and man's ingenuity. In faith, our farmers plant their seeds in the spring and do all they can to shepherd the crops with timely spraying, effective drainage and water retention systems, and (I have no doubt) prayer. But ultimately, as with all things, God is in control and He is good. During the weeks of harvest, late at night, when the distractions found in the daylight hours are quieted, I listen to the powerful dryers at the Co-op and think, "It sounds like it's another bountiful year."

Wishing all our farming families a safe and productive harvest!

**This week at Grace** – Nate is back to share the morning message "7-23" this week! He will speak from the 1 Thessalonians 1:1-8 text. The Chancel Choir sings the beautifully inspirational anthem, *Here I Stand*. Claudia Pauk is our liturgist this week with Shirley Frandson and Chuck & Ruby Matheason serving as greeters. Jim & Shelley Hassebrock and George Janvrin will be acting as ushers. As always, worship begins at 9:15. Be sure to stay around and enjoy the delicious Baked French Toast brunch – free-will offering proceeds will benefit Roland-Story's Angel Tree. We invite you to join us for a wonderful morning of the Good Word, good food and good fellowship!

**NEEDED: Old WHITE sheets or table clothes** for the Sunday school Christmas program. We'll be cutting up the sheets (both fitted and flat are welcome) and fashioning them into angel costumes.

**The November/December *Upper Room*** devotionals are here and ready for pick-up in the narthex!

**JINGLES FOR JULIE** - During the month of October, you are invited to save your pocket change for our friend, Julie Jacobson. Please pick up a small kit including a calendar and small paper sack on a table in the narthex. The calendar is self-explanatory and takes just a bit of time each day. Simply follow the plan day-by-day, depositing your pocket change in the attached paper bag. When the calendar is completed, please bring your bag of change to the church and place it in the large brown bag also located on the table in the narthex. Our goal is to have all our smaller bags back before **Harvest Home Sunday, November 12th** so we may present your gifts to Julie at that worship service.

**The Finance Committee plans to submit the 2018 Budget** at the October Church Council Meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, rather than at the Charge Conference this year. This will allow us to adopt it as a *working budget* which can be amended at regular Council meetings. If we approve it at the Charge Conference it becomes an "official budget" which can only be altered through special called charge conference action. Finance Co-Chair, Tim Tryon, reports the 2018 budget of \$208,278 is less than a 1% overall increase from the 2017 budget. If you have questions or would like a detailed copy of the proposed budget, please contact Tim. **FUN FACT:** Did you know that ANY GRACE CHURCH MEMBER can attend ANY of our monthly Grace Church Council meetings? You can! Only members of the council may vote, but ANY MEMBER can attend, ask questions and participate in discussions.

All members of Grace are invited and encouraged to attend with voice and vote our annual church/charge conference to be held on Sunday, November 5, at the Boone United Methodist Church, 703 Arden Street, Boone.

The conference will begin at 2 pm and finish by 4:30 pm. This year's church charge conference is with our neighboring United Methodist Churches in the southern 3 counties of the North Central District. This is a special way to meet together for fellowship, prayer, and discernment of God's way together.

Our Fall All-Church Clean-Up Days are coming up on Friday and Saturday, November 10-11. Please note these days on your calendars and plan to be a part of the fun!

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer: Sara Dappen; Marjorie Gookin; Denny Michel; Sharene Lykins; Julie Jacobson; Sharon Matson; Norman Patti; Pam Hillis; Jeanne Hohnke; Ray Hults; George Sellers; Lois Johnson; Al Rau; Jordan Gertsen; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family in Africa mission

### News You Can Use

#### Sunday, October 22

- 9:15 AM Worship – Nate Warwick leads
- 10:15 AM Sunday Brunch – Baked French Toast
- 10:30 AM Sunday school

#### Monday, October 23

- 5:30 PM Finance
- 7:00 PM Council

#### Wednesday, October 25

- 7:00 PM Choir
- 8:00 PM Bells

#### Sunday, October 29

- 9:15 AM Worship – Children's Bells
- 10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 AM Sunday school

Faithfully,  
Cathy



**FRIDAY GRILL OUTS**  
at  
Tom & Stevie's Bistro  
at The Households of Bethany  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
11:00AM - 1:00PM

BUILD YOUR OWN FALL SALAD WITH  
YOUR CHOICE OF  
GRILLED CHICKEN OR SALMON

**\$7**

