



The Grace Church Visitor

Grace United Methodist Church
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NOVEMBER 2018

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Office Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Blessings of Autumn at Grace!

Pictures shared by Cathy Hermanson



The Visitor is a monthly publication of
Grace UMC, Story City.

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Grace = God's Riches At Christ's Expense

November Birthdays



Jeremy Hess	11-1
Natalie Tryon	11-3
Jim Wirth	11-4
Doug Doolittle	11-7
George Sellers	11-7
Marlene Doolittle	11-9
Owen Hubert	11-10
Chuck Matheason	11-12
Alec Mander	11-12
Parker Watts	11-12
Abby Cook	11-13
Sharla Mander	11-14
Savannah Jensen	11-19
Virginia Jewell	11-20
Dylan Kahl	11-20
Becky Barclay	11-23
David Loupee	11-24
Dave Doolittle	11-29
Eric Dowe	11-30

If we're missing a birthday please accept our apologies and let us know so we can update our records!

November Lectionary

November 4

1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139;
2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

November 11

1 Samuel 8:4-20; Psalm 138;
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

November 18

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Psalm 20 or 72;
2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34

November 25

1 Samuel 17:32-49; Psalm 9:9-20;
2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

Deadline for submitting Visitor information is the 20th of each month. Information for the weekly bulletin and *This Week at Grace* is due in the office by noon on Wednesdays.



From Our Pastor

November 2018

This is time of year when many churches take time to talk about money and stewardship. Although these are themes that we should return to time and time again throughout the year (the Bible has a lot to say about wealth and our attitude toward it), there are a couple of reasons why we emphasize stewardship in the fall. One reason is that, as we approach the holidays, we are especially aware of things like gratitude and giving. The other reason is more pragmatic—we are close to the end of our financial year and the church is closing the books on one year and planning for another.



As I looked through some of my resources about stewardship, I came across some material from The Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas—one of our largest and fastest-growing congregations. Their pastor, Adam Hamilton, often encourages others to make us of his material (and, until recently, his director of generosity was someone close to me—Clayton Smith):

The apostle Paul encourages generosity at all times. "Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity" (2 Corinthians 8:2). To practice stewardship means to serve as the manager of someone else's property, finances, or other affairs. "It is a way of life that recognizes that everything we have is God's and we are simply managing those resources while here on earth. The Bible is filled with examples of grateful response to God's generous gifts. The Bible also teaches about our personal responsibility to share with others and warns against selfishness and the misuse of God's economic resource."

The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, urged early Methodists to "Earn all you can and save all you can, so that you can give all you can." Modeling modest living and sacrificial giving, he made sure his "classes" collected weekly offerings for the poor.

"Today, we United Methodists join others to help all of God's children...whenever and wherever we can—just as Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes when the crowd grew hungry. Through our congregation, we are the heart, spirit, and hands of God's outreaching love." Life grows here through the joy of stewardship and generosity.

Your Servant for Christ's Sake,
Jonathan

Baptism



Barric Lee McCann, son of Emily and Adam McCann was baptized at Grace Church on October 14th. Proud grandparents are Mark & Rose Flaspohler. Great-grandmother is Haroldean Gorman.

G.R.A.C.E. Teams

Mark & Cathy Hermanson, chair

David & Becky Barclay, Rod & Sue Bohner, Sara Dappen, David & Marlene Doolittle, Doug Doolittle, Shirley Frandson, Cathy & Greg Gerjets, Terry Gustason, Ray & Rhonda Hampton, Jim & Shelley Hassebrock, Matt & Amber Hoskins, Jenna Hoskins, George Janvrin, Jane Jackson/Fred Larson, Ginny Jewell, Brian & Casey Kahl, Dylan Kahl, David & Mary Loupee, Sharene Lykins, Chuck & Ruby Matheason, Norm & Cindy Spurlock, Tim & Kim Tryon, Rick & Grace Welke, Lon & Beckey Witthuhn

Thank You



Dear Grace family,

Many thanks for your thoughts and prayers before, during and after my recent abdominal surgery. I'm on the mend and hope to make it back to Sunday worship and Sunday school soon. A special thanks for the beautiful prayer shawl that reminded me of my many faithful friends at Grace. My gratitude also goes out to Pastor Jonathan for his phone calls and visits during my hospitalization. We are so grateful to be part of the Grace community.

Joan Barrett



Thank you so much for the beautiful lap robe which you crocheted for me. It is already showing its warmth in the chilly autumn air. Thanks again for including me in your thoughtful ministry.

Carl Hermanson

For Your Information



When there is a weather-related early out at Roland-Story schools, all church activities for that day will also be cancelled. Worship services will NOT be cancelled in the case of inclement weather. You get to decide if you want to be out and about in "iffy" weather.

November Volunteers

Sunday, November 4

Liturgist – Kurt Carlson
Greeters – Cindy Spurlock
Casey, Dylan, Emerson Kahl
Ushers – Tim & Kim Tryon
Rod & Sue Bohner



Sunday, November 11

Liturgist – George Janvrin
Greeters – Cindy Spurlock, Dave & Mary Loupee
Ushers – George Janvrin, Tim & Kim Tryon,
Doug Doolittle

Sunday, November 18

Liturgist – Terry Gustason
Greeters – Amber, Jenna, Isabel Hoskins
Ushers – Dave & Mary Loupee, Dave & Becky Barclay
Brunch Helpers
Milk - Amber
OJ - Amber
Muffins – Becky B, Beckey W, Sue B, Rhonda
Clean up – Dave Doolittle, Mark Hermanson

Sunday, November 25

Liturgist – Gloria Sampson
Greeters – Shirley Frandson, Terry Gustason
Ushers – Jim & Shelley Hassebrock
George Janvrin, Doug Doolittle



Bulletin and Newsletter folders – Sue Bohner as needed bulletin folder, Chuck & Ruby Matheason – newsletter folders on November 28th.

Address Changes



Here is Velda Frette's address as of October 30th:

Velda Frette
Edencrest at Legacy, Rm 302
2901 Cedar Street
Norwalk, IA 50211



Virginia Jewell moved off the farm and into town at the end of October. She now lives at:

Virginia Jewell
735 Timberland, Apt. 204
Story City, Iowa 50248

Ginny's new phone number will be 515-733-4754



Our Prayers

Julie Jacobson; Denny Michel; George Mackey; Sara Dappen; Velda Frette; George Sellers; Sally Donald (Judy A's sister); Joan Cooney; Lois Johnson; Jackie Royer (Sharla's friend); Cooper Leeman; Taylor family in Africa

Our Presence

Attendance Oct 7 – Oct 28:
Worship: 416 Total – 104 avg

Our Gifts

Offering – Sep 30 – Oct 28:
\$10,511.52

Our Service



Thank you to the following folks for all the help representing Grace at the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. Some helped pick up and unload supplies from the Food Bank and Hy-Vee on Friday, October 12. Others helped staff the food pantry on Saturday, October 13. Those who graciously lent a helping hand include: Linda Larson and Sue Bohner (Friday), Patsy Jensen, Linda McVicker, David & Mary Loupee, Priscilla Johnson, and Sue Bohner (Saturday).



Thank you to all of our lawn mowers who worked so hard to keep our yard looking trimmed and nice this year!

Our Witness



We appreciate our October liturgists Eric Dowe, George Janvrin, Terry Gustason, Claudia Pauk.



Thank you to the UMW members for gathering all the supplies and putting together the education kits for the Thanksgiving Ingathering. 100 kits were assembled and prepared for the event on November 3 at Asbury UMC in Webster City.

UMW News



The United Methodist Women of Grace UMC met Wed., October 10 with eleven members present. President Gloria opened the meeting with the group reading of the

Purpose and a prayer. An update on Velda Frette was given. Gloria provided a card for us to sign and send to Velda.

The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was also approved. Gloria shared correspondence from Slater Church inviting us to a chicken-noodle supper and a Holiday Fair at Ames First United Methodist Church both on October 20.

Old Business: Gloria reminded us that the Upper Room is on the back table in Narthex. She shared information about In-Gathering in Webster City on November 3rd. An announcement and blessing of the kits will be made during church on Oct. 28.

New Business: Crop Walk is Sunday, October 14. Nominating Committee presented the 2019 slate of officers: Gloria Sampson: President: Claudia Pauk; Vice-President: Terry Gustason; Secretary and Sharla Mander; Treasurer. Tep Reeder was added to Nominations Committee. On motion by Marilyn and second by Erma the 2019 Prayer Calendar and Program Book will be purchased. Motion passed. Reading program was discussed. Also the New World Outlook Magazine is out of print. Gloria mentioned that 2019 will be the 150 anniversary of WSCS. She took us down memory lane with some history of the Kentucky Supper. We will have similar reminders during meetings in 2019.

Our Scandinavian Days Committees for 2019 will be as follows: Potato Cake/Pie: Gloria Sampson and Claudia Pauk; Sandwich Line: Erma Schaeffer and Patsy Jensen; Bake Sale: Tep Reeder. Erma will check with Steph Fournier to see if she will also serve on Bake Sale committee.

Marilyn presented a Mission Moment with some Native American/American Indian history. She gave us some facts from the book Massacre at Sand Creek where 70-200 Native Americans were killed. The dispute concerned land ownership differences and was led by a governor and the commanding officer who were Methodists. UMC are now taking small steps to atone for this. There are 141 Native American Churches in America with 22,000 Native Americans. She shared the work her daughter, Elaine, is doing with the Native American Veteran's Memorial that will be built in Washington DC.

Gloria's program with a reading from the Upper Room. It talked of mission work and our planting a green patch. We assembled school kits for the In-gathering. Shirley served as hostess and we sang Happy Birthday to her. Next meeting is November 14. Mission Moment: World Thank Offering-Claudia Pauk; Instillation of the 2019 officers, A overview of UMW year of missions and our year end giving. Hostess: Sharla Mander. Report submitted by Terry Gustason.



All Saints Sunday



On Sunday, November 4th we will be celebrating our saints with a candle-lighting ceremony, where we will name and honor the members who have died since last All Saints' Day. Family members will be invited to take part in this service of remembrance. We are remembering: *Al Rau, Patricia Wilson, Dorothy Appelgate, Randy Witthuhn, Donna Richardson Norcross.*

2018 Harvest Home



Please plan to participate in our Harvest Home Food Drive to benefit the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry which will be held the first two Sundays in November. We ask that you bring donations to church narthex area. Grace volunteers will transport our gifts to the food pantry after worship on Harvest Home Sunday, Nov. 11th.

Sunday Brunch



Our October Sunday Brunch was enjoyed by a crowd of 76 people. Sharla Mander, Cheryl Semler, Gini Michel, and G.R.A.C.E. Team E members hosted this month. Just over \$364.79 was raised for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry! Please join us November 18th when Sharla's team and members of Team C will serve egg bake and proceeds will go to Angel Tree at Roland-Story schools.

2018 Charge Conference



Five members of our church family traveled to Ames First UMC on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 30 to attend the annual Charge Conference. D.S. Carol Kress led the afternoon activities for representatives of the churches of the southern tier of the North Central District. Copies of our annual report are available upon request. Those representing our church family included: Pastor Jonathan Cooney, Terry Gustason, Cathy Hermanson, Ray Hults, Loretta Parker.

Thanksgiving Worship



Grace Church will participate in the community joint Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 21st. The worship service will be held beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran church. There will be a joint choir and our own Pastor Jonathan will offer the message.

Thanksgiving Ingathering



NOVEMBER 3rd, 2018
Asbury UMC
921 Des Moines St.; Webster City

Schedule of Events

8:00-10:30 a.m.

Registration, Check in kits,
Coffee & Rolls available

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Noon - Luncheon

Meals On Wheels



deliver a difference

Thank you to all who signed up to help deliver meals. Delivery of the food will be to the North Entrance at Grace each day right around 11:10. You have about an hour to make your deliveries and return with the trays and coolers so HSS can take and fill them for the next day. As in the past, there will be no meals delivered on Thanksgiving or the Friday after (which this year is the 22nd and 23rd). Our thanks to Claudia and our faithful volunteers for serving our community and Grace Church in this caring way. Please find a copy of the volunteer calendar in a separate attachment for this newsletter

Decorating Grace for Christmas



We will decorate our church home for Christmas on Sunday, November 25th this year. You're invited to help with the "hanging the greens" at the church after worship that day. We'll be setting up Nativity scenes, hanging garland, and assembling and decorating the big sanctuary tree. Come, join in the fun and help prepare the sanctuary and other areas of our church in anticipation and celebration of the Christ Child's birth!



Angel Tree



Christmas Wish lists for local kids will be available to members of the congregation on Sunday, November 18th. Please purchase the requested gifts and then wrap them up for delivery. *Please remember as you wrap your gifts to attach the wish slip to the package so it can be delivered to the intended child.* **Gifts are due at Immanuel Church by Monday morning, December 10th**. Thank you for helping to make a child's Christmas wishes come true!

2019 Stewardship



From the Finance Committee: A letter with a pledge card was mailed in late October.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your level of financial giving for 2019. Your giving estimate helps as we plan for the coming year. Pledge cards will be collected and dedicated at our worship service on Sunday, November 18th. Thank you for your continued support of Grace Church.

Fall Clean-Up



Gather up your rakes and other tools and come help get our outdoor and our indoor areas ready for winter. Fall clean up days are **Friday, November 9th**

from 4 – 6 pm and **Saturday, November 10th** from 9 – Noon. (Rain dates are set for a week later on the 16th and 17th.) All are welcome to lend a hand!

2019 Committees & Officers



You should have received the roster of our 2019 Committee members and officers of the church with the Stewardship letter in late October. Thank you to the Leadership Development team for their hard work. And thank you to all who said

“yes” when asked to serve! Also, special thanks to all who will be completing their committee service at the end of 2018. Your faithfulness and commitment have helped to put us in a good place in furthering our wishes, our missions and our plans for our church family going forward.

YOU...NEW...EASY...FREE Powerful Marketing Words

ENDOW...LEGACY...FUTURE...PERPETUITY



Powerful Investment Words You'll Find on the

New ENDOW GRACE Website

<http://www.grace-umc.com/endow/>

You'll learn how to be part of the **Legacy** of Grace United Methodist Church. You'll see how you can invest in Grace's **Future**. You'll discover how to support Grace in **Perpetuity**.

After all, the best use of life is to invest in something which will outlast life.

Caregiver Support Group

Bethany Life Communities are making plans to offer a support group for caregivers of those suffering with dementia. The first session is set for Tuesday, November 27th from 4:00-5:30 in the afternoon in the Bethany Life Chapel. If you have a loved one who is suffering with dementia or Alzheimer's, please give this group a try.



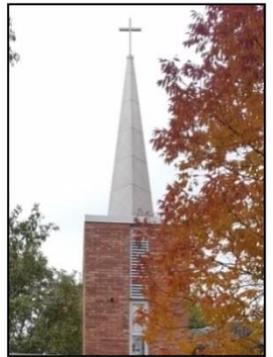
Soup Lunch with Games

You're invited to enjoy some good fun and fellowship with your fellow Grace Church folk as we gather to share a meal on **Sunday, November 11th** following our worship service and **Sunday school classes (at ~ 11:30 a.m.)** The organizing committee is providing soups (chicken tortilla, chili and potato), beverages and tableware. You bring a salad or dessert to share and a good appetite. Following the meal we'll play a group game or two (with prizes) and then you're invited to play favorite table/board games that you bring from home. Everyone is sure to have a good time in this beautiful season of harvest!

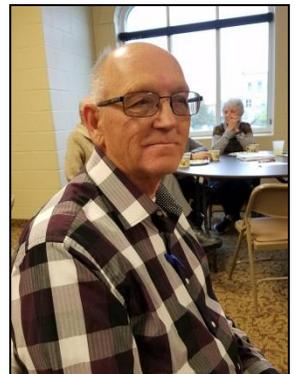


October Pictures of Grace

Pictures shared by Loretta Parker, Amber Hoskins, Sharla Mander, Cathy Hermanson

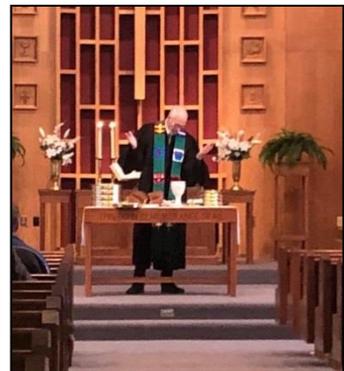


Shades of Autumn at Grace



Some Children's Choir members

Charge Conference Attendees



Suited up and ready!

Liturgist Eric

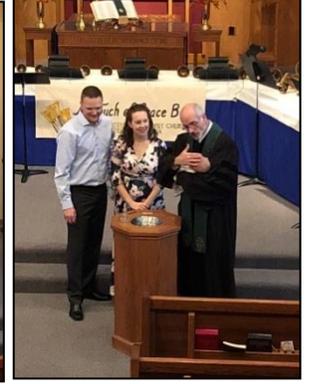
Communion



Ingathering School Kits assembled



Liturgist George



Barric's Baptism



Children's Choir Harvest Party



Liturgist Terry



Staff Recognition



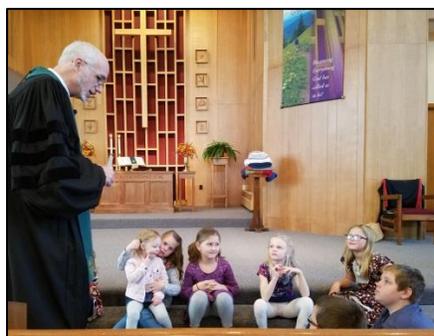
Gideons visit



Little Girl Bell Ringers



Stewardship Talk



Children's Time



Some members of Children's Bells



Grace United Methodist Church Council

Unofficial Minutes October 23, 2018 meeting

Present: Loretta Parker (Chair), Becky Barclay (Finance), Pastor Jonathan, Denise Carlson (SPRC). David Barclay (Trustees), Terry Gustason (Treasurer/CDT), Cheryl Semler (Worship), Cathy Hermanson (Communications/rec. secretary)

Loretta offered a prayer and opened the meeting.

Cheryl/Becky moved the September minutes be accepted. Motion passed.

Finance: Becky submitted the 2019 budget for Grace Church, noting it was reduced by \$2,000 from the 2018 budget. She reported that while we are spending less than the budget for this year, because week to week giving is down, we are actually struggling with cash flow on a regular basis. We bring enough in to pay bills, but not to keep up with apportionments. Stewardship "season" begins October 28th and runs through November 18th. A Stewardship letter and pledge card for 2019 giving was sent out to the congregation on Oct. 22nd and Becky will speak to the congregation at worship on October 28. Cathy/Terry moved the report be allowed. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor thanked Terry Gustason for leading the worship service for Laity Sunday on October 21st. Jonathan reported on his activities: attended the RSHS Fall Concert and was impressed with the choirs and the percentage of RS students that participate in music. He participated in the Hunger Fight along with Denise Carlson, Tep Reeder and Mike, Patsy & Savannah Jensen. Jonathan attended the Charge Conference at First UMC in Ames and appreciated those who attended with him. He is impressed that RS school administrators meet with the Ministerial Association each year. He is pleased the administration re-pledged to honor Wed nights and Sunday mornings as reserved for Church/Family. And further, will only schedule school activities after 1 p.m. on Sundays with special permission. Barric Lee McCann was baptized. Jonathan will attend the "Praying Forward" October 27th session in Webster City with the Bishop and other interested clergy and lay people. On Sunday afternoon October 28 through Wednesday, October 31 he will travel to Nebraska for a retirement issues conference for Continuing Ed credit. On November 3rd he will help deliver 100 school kits to the Ingathering in Webster City. Jonathan will deliver the message at the Community Thanksgiving worship service on Wednesday, November 21. He is proud that several Grace Church choir members will be singing in the joint choir. He became a member of the SC Kiwanis. Jonathan noted he will be taking another small vacation from Nov. 28-Dec. 1 (won't miss the Sunday service here). Pastor informed us that the Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: Ministry Areas

Worship: Cheryl reported the committee's confusion in understanding the new financial report they received for October. Becky will check on that with Abacus. Cheryl noted Stewardship services will run from October 28th to November 18th.

Christian Education: Cathy reported rehearsals for the Sunday school Christmas program (written by Erma Schaeffer) have begun.

Missions: next meeting rescheduled for November 4th.

UMW: Terry reported 100 school kits were assembled at their October meeting and that Pastor Jonathan will bless them at the October 28th worship service. The UMW November meeting will include the installation of officers for 2019 and they will distribute money raised in 2018 to their mission concerns.

Committee Reports: Administrative Area

SPRC: Denise reported the SPRC will meet for the last time this year in November. Their December meeting is cancelled!

Trustees/Memorial Committee: Dave reported the boiler trouble was just an air lock that needed to be cleaned out. The steeple is still scheduled for replacement this fall. The electrical work at the parsonage has been completed. A grant for new chairs for Fellowship Hall has been completed and submitted. The Trustees are in the planning stages for remodeling the parsonage kitchen – first time since 1952 when it was built!

Memorial Committee: Cathy reported the letters to bereaved families inviting them to participate in the All Saint's Sunday worship service will be sent on October 25th.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting: Monday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hermanson, Recording Secretary





PEACE OF MIND GIFT ANNUITY – CASE STUDY



Many years ago, Clara bought a home. Since she was very pleased with the home, she decided to buy stock in the company that built it. Over the years, the stock has increased in value many times.

Clara: I have enjoyed my home and I thought if I like my home, other people would like theirs. Because I was a happy homeowner, I purchased shares of stock in this homebuilder. It was a good investment.

While the stock has gone up in value several times, I am now tired of guessing the market. In the last few years, the stock has gone up and down in value. I think it would be much better to have a good fixed return and not worry about the stock markets.

Clara called her favorite charity and discovered that she could receive a return of almost 6.4%, based upon her age. This fixed payment was in addition to a large income tax deduction. Clara decided to transfer \$10,000 of appreciated stock to our organization.

Clara: I am delighted with my gift annuity. I receive 6.4% and saved over \$1,500 in income taxes. This plan has been great. Best of all, I no longer have to watch the markets go up and down. I now have peace of mind.

Grace's Endowment Committee encourages you to consider the various ways your giving can help to **Endow Grace**, preserving the future of our Church.

Please contact the church office at 515-733-4712 or office@grace-umc.com or visit our website at <http://www.grace-umc.com/endow/>.



