



February 14, 2019

Greetings friends,

Happy Valentine's Day!

Mark and I keep V-Day pretty low key. He usually says "Be Mine," I reply, "Always" and then we have something really exotic (often his favorite tuna casserole or meatloaf) for supper. Oh yes, we set that romance bar high at our house! Our forty-plus years of marriage aren't just happening by accident you know.

It wasn't always this way. We used to play the game (cards, flowers/gifts, perhaps a movie) pretty well. But now that he works in town rather than Des Moines and is available for lunch out most days, it seems silly to engineer a date at a busy restaurant when we'd both just be more comfortable relaxing together at home. We're happy and appreciate each other on a daily basis; so again, a date on a calendar doesn't hold much sway.

Oh, some may label us old fuddy-dufs, but a fancy meal, flowers, candy and candlelight while certainly lovely, won't change that condition! We are who we are. We embrace our mutual duddiness and are thankful to be walking life's path together – simple tuna casserole suppers and all!

This Week at Grace, Pastor is using Luke 6:17-26 as inspiration for his message "The Life of a Servant: Blessings and Woes". Members of the Roland-Story chorus will be part of our worship service as they provide special music. Greeters this week are Raejean & Hubert Bickelhaupt and Caleb Michel. Gini Michel and Stephanie Fournier will usher. *Terry Gustason will serve as our liturgist this week.* Worship begins at 9:15 with Coffee Fellowship following at 10:15. Sunday school classes meet at 10:30. Please join us!

A called General Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet in St. Louis Saturday, February 23, through Thursday, February 26. At this conference we will receive the report from the *Commission on a Way Forward* (CWF). The CWF committee was tasked with investigating the current wording regarding human sexuality in our Book of Discipline and whether there is a way to live faithfully while maintaining the unity of the church. Please be in prayer for this (potentially) historic conference. Visit our denomination's website (UMC.org) or the United Methodist News Service.

Next Sunday, February 24th is a Brunch Sunday. This month egg bake and muffins are on the menu. Our February mission focus and the recipients of our free-will offering for the meal is the *Heifer Project*.

We're looking for volunteers to help serve at the **Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry** on **Saturday, March 2nd**. Please let Denise Carlson or Cathy Hermanson know if you are available to help that morning.

Story City local, Chris Crutchfield was recently diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer and is facing a battle ahead. Come and support this family by joining us for a SPAGHETTI DINNER - FREE WILL DONATION welcome!

Date: FEBRUARY 22nd

Time: 5-8pm

Location: CAROUSEL LANES, 215 W. Broad Street

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:
Dale & Lynn Henricks family; Kermit Miskell; Vince Hassebrock (Jim's dad); Emmerson Kahl; Lois Johnson; Beverly Tesdall (Brett & Laila's infant daughter); Tracy Matson; George Sellers; Garry Gerjets; Joan Cooney; Pat Skowronski; Jackie Royer; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family in Africa

News You Can Use

Sunday, February 17

9:15 AM Worship – RSHS Choir sings during service

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM Sunday school

Wednesday, February 20

5:00 PM Kids' Bells

7:00 PM Choir

8:00 PM Bells

Sunday, February 24

9:15 AM Worship – Children's Choir

10:15 AM Brunch – egg bake with muffins, proceeds to Heifer Project

10:30 AM Sunday school

Please "like" our Facebook page, [@storycitygrace](#) and receive regular updates on "what's happening" at Grace Church! Our website, www.grace-umc.com is full of information and pictures about the life and activities of our Grace Church family. Please check it out!

**Faithfully,
Cathy**