



January 10, 2019

Greetings friends,

Thank you to all who took part in taking down Christmas decorations last week. It looked like a good-sized group of happy workers!

Our family Christmas marked the end of our family's holiday season last weekend, too. Christmas came late to the Clayberg Clan, but 37 (out of a possible 43 – with 2 more “new recruits” due in 2019) gathered to celebrate. It was a great party as our oldest grandkids, ages 2-5 actually played together this year. It was a delight to watch them as they build relationships that (we hope) will last a lifetime. Of course, Aunt Cath/G'ma did everything she could to facilitate that by having lots of fun things to play with and to do. We want these kids to look forward to our gatherings and I, for one, am not above bribing them with fun little gifts to facilitate that. This year it was capes, masks and light up foam wands. The kids had a blast zooming around as super heroes for the afternoon.

There wasn't a part of the house that we didn't use on Saturday and my folks would have been so pleased by that. The kids even played outside on the deck for a while since it was fairly warm. Thank goodness everyone chips in with clean up and dishwashing at the end, so even though every space was used, it doesn't look like a cyclone hit after everyone leaves. It's a good thing too, because Mark and I are usually shot. We knock ourselves out to get everything ready for the gathering and have very little left in the energy tank after the party to deal with a big mess.

We may be physically exhausted after the festivities, but our hearts are full as we relive special moments of the day together.

Now the planning for our Easter get-together begins...

**This Week at Grace**, Pastor is using Mark 1:4-11 as inspiration for his message - “The Heavens Torn Apart”. The Touch of Grace Bell Choir will play, *Tell the Story*. Greeters on Sunday are Val Gregori and Dan & Marilyn Webster. Those serving as ushers include Chris & Kate Feil and Mike & Patsy Jensen. Our youth Sunday schoolers will usher wheelchair bound residents to worship at Bethany Life. George Janvrin 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!

**The Story City EDC is hosting a Trivia Night** on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:00) at the Story City Community Center. We'd like to get a team or two together to represent Grace Church. Team size is 8 players and tables are limited, so we'll want to get registered soon. This is a themed event with participants encouraged to come dressed as a favorite TV or movie character. Teams can coordinate and even decorate the table to fit their group theme. Let Jonathan know if you'd like to participate – there is a table fee of \$12.50 per person and we need a couple more people.

### ***Living Faithfully: The United Methodist Church and Human Sexuality***

Jonathan will cover the material three times each week beginning this Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour (10:30-11:30)**

**Wednesday afternoons from 5:30-6:30**

**Thursday evenings at 7:00-8:00**

It is a 4 to 5 week class. The Wednesday and Thursday sessions will meet in the Chapel. Participants may come to whichever session that suits their schedule each week. Additional Living Faithfully books will be available on the north table in the narthex hallway. A \$10 gift would be appreciated, but is not required.

**As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:**  
Beverly Tesdall (Brett & Laila's infant daughter); Arris Richardson; Caitlin McNamara Blaylock; Marlys Janvrin; Tracy Matson; Helen Caruth; Renee Menz; Sara Dappen; Velda Frette; George Sellers; Garry Gerjets; Joan Cooney; Lois Johnson; Pat Skowronski; Jackie Royer; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family in Africa

## News You Can Use

### **Sunday, January 13**

8:00 AM Trustees  
9:15 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 AM Sunday school – “Living Faithfully” study begins!

### **Monday, January 14**

5:30 PM SPRC  
7:00 PM Worship

### **Wednesday, January 16**

5:30 PM Living Faithfully  
7:00 PM Choir  
8:00 PM Bells

### **Thursday, January 17**

7:00 PM Living Faithfully

### **Sunday, January 20**

8:15 AM Missions  
9:15 AM Worship - choir  
10:15 AM Sunday Brunch  
10:30 AM Sunday school – “Living Faithfully” study!

Please “like” our Facebook page, [@storycitygrace](#) and receive regular updates on “what’s happening” at Grace Church! Our website, [www.grace-umc.com](http://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**