

Grace Notes

Gather to Christ • Grow as Disciples • Go to Serve

A Communications Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville

September 2019



United Methodist Women General Meeting

"NURTURING NATURE"

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Guest Speaker: Barb Kreski, horticulture therapist
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Grace UMC Fellowship Hall
Breakfast: Mary Circle

Contact Phyllis Pezot (ppezot@gmail.com) for more information.

New Parenting Group at Grace!

Are you looking for more connection with other families at Grace?

How about ideas and techniques for how to parent in this challenging environment?

Would it be nice to share the daily successes and struggles of raising kids with other parents of faith?

"Parenting with Grace" is an exciting new group at Grace Church designed to inform and connect parents and everyone who cares for children and teens. Guided by our faith, the group will host quarterly events with an invited guest speaker who will address specific topics of interest to our parenting community. These meetings will not only provide important information and a forum for conversation but will also help us share and celebrate our parenting experiences with one another.

In late July, a church-wide survey was sent out asking questions about what topics are of the most interest to parents at Grace. With help from the survey responses, "Parenting with Grace" is excited to announce that on Sunday, October 6, at 4 p.m. (after the Bears game) we will be hosting Mary Browning to talk about **Technology and Parenting**. Mary Browning is the Community Education/Crime Prevention Specialist from the Naperville Police Department and has spoken to Grace's confirmands and their parents in the past. She will have much to share for parents with kids of all ages who wrestle with the role of technology at home and school. At the event, you can expect to hear



about internet safety, how we find a balance for kids with technology, how parents can set good examples for their kids, and how our faith should help us reflect on the role of technology. Whether you're a parent of an infant or a teenager, there will be something for everyone to learn at this event. **Join us in Fellowship Hall at 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 6 for this inaugural event and what is sure to be an informative presentation and helpful conversation.**

"Parenting with Grace" has future plans in the works! The results of the church survey have provided a long list of possible topics including how to help our children make good friends, how to help our children grow in their faith, and how to promote and maintain good self-care for parents.

It is important to emphasize that the group needs your continual input! We want to host gatherings that parents want to attend, so we need your ideas.

Find us on Grace Connect at peopleofgrace.org/grace-connect in groups under "Parenting with Grace" and on Facebook under the "Parenting with Grace Group" to receive regular updates from the group.

Please RSVP to attend our October 6 event at peopleofgrace.org/parenting. We hope to see you there!

Childcare will be available for children 6 weeks to 5th grade in the Children's Center at Grace.

Contact Stefanie Abderhalden (stefanie.abderhalden@gmail.com), Bonnie Lewan (bvastola@yahoo.com), or Elizabeth Nicholson (fenicholson@gmail.com) for more information.



Choral Evensong

Experience the beauty of holiness in a fresh and ancient way.
Come as you are! Leave renewed!

A short music program precedes each service at 3:30.
Sung Evensong from 4:00—4:45
Reception follows in the Gathering Space

Hymns, psalms, choral music and scripture readings
Follows the ancient format from the Book of Common Prayer

Evensong Dates

(check the website or Facebook page for updates)

Sept 22, 2019	Nov 17, 2019
Feb 23, 2020	April 26, 2020

Plumblines 2019

By Nicky Zaccaria

I hadn't been on a plane since I was about two years old, so I was a little unsure, to say the least when I got on a plane headed to Washington, D.C. Not only was the plane a new experience, but I also had never been to D.C. and I knew no one in my nine-person group.

I recently had the opportunity of attending the 2019 Plumblines tour where two leaders took a handful of youth from separate Methodist churches to Washington, D.C. In D.C. they hosted seminars and had guest speakers that informed us about the topic of immigration from a faith perspective. The youth represented rural, urban, and suburban areas in northern Illinois, so, obviously, we all had a different take on the matter. We all agreed that immigration is a difficult topic to tackle, but we had different opinions on how to fix the matter.

Each day's seminar held its fair share of information and held its importance, all while looking in the Bible for answers. We dove deeper into the topics that I had previous knowledge of and I discovered many others that I wasn't aware of.

While recognizing that everyone has different beliefs on immigration and the future of our country, I pray that politicians start treating this (as many other issues) with love and kindness. I pray to God that He guides us to be more welcoming and overall a better country.

Plumblines overall was an amazing experience, and I thank the church and the congregation for its endless support! I thank the Foundation in helping me to attend by providing financial support through The Building Up the Church fund. This fund was established through a bequest from long-time Grace member Dorothy Kline to be used for "leadership training that is about building up the church to the glory of God".

I invite anyone to talk to me about the trip and have discussions about all I learned!



Nicky Zaccaria (far left) and Plumblines Group

Let's Connect!

Please stop by the Connection Center starting Sunday, September 8, between services to learn more about Grace Connect. Missy Hoekstra-Hecht will be available to show you just how easy Grace Connect is to use. Grace Connect will be utilized more often at Grace Church for a number of opportunities including online giving, communication, signing up for classes, etc.

Saturday Night Service!

Join us on Saturdays at 5 p.m. for worship in the Activity Center! This meaningful worship service includes an acoustic blend of traditional and contemporary music led by Vickie Wagner, weekly Holy Communion, bi-weekly healing prayer and inspiring messages. An American Sign Language interpreter is also available. This service is a wonderful alternative or addition to your Sunday morning worship options and offers a peaceful benediction to your week!

Super Suds on Sunday!

Grace Youth Summer Missions Team is getting a jump start on fundraising for our 2019-2020 mission season with Super Suds on Sunday Car Wash. All are invited to bring your dirty cars to worship on Sunday, September 15. Park in the lower lot, and leave in a clean car after it has been washed by our youth (and adults) from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.!

For safety, the lower lot will be closed during the event. Handicap accessible parking will be available for those needing elevator access; just talk to the parking attendant. Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.



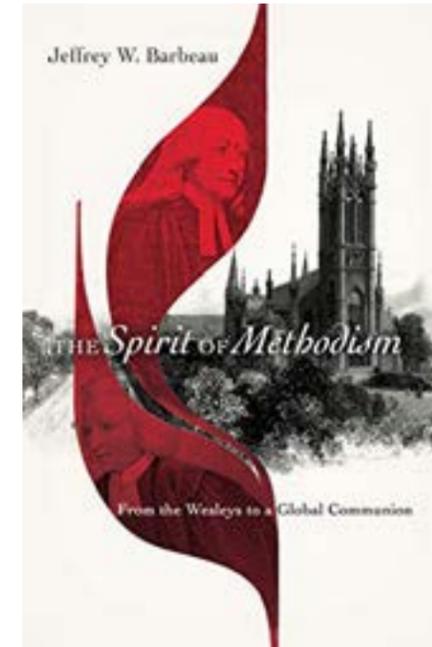
Adult Faith Formation Gathering!

All friends and family of Grace Church are invited to attend our next two church-wide faith formation conversations held on Sunday, September 1, and Sunday, September 8, in Fellowship Hall from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

On Sunday, September 1, join Pastor Bill Bryan as he explores the dynamic history and implications of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. What were the tensions that gave rise to this momentous breakup of the Western church? Who were the "reformers" and what did they want? How does this period of history relate to who we are as Methodists today? Pastor Bill will speak to these and other important questions, so please join us for this insightful look at our past.

Then, on Sunday, September 8, we will consider the origins and global expansion of the Wesleyan Methodist movement in the 18th and 19th centuries with Dr. Jeffrey Barbeau, a member of Grace Church and professor of theology at Wheaton College. Celebrating the publication of his latest book, *The Spirit of Methodism: From the Wesleys to a Global Communion*, Dr. Barbeau will explore "the ways we are connected to a global community of believers. This book is designed to help us all understand where we come from and how we are all connected." Join us for an overview of his work, an introduction to some of Methodism's amazing stories, and for a rich conversation about our faith. In preparation for this talk, you can find *The Spirit of Methodism* on Amazon but copies will also be available for purchase in Fellowship Hall.

Looking ahead: please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 3. Pastor Doug Bowden and Larry Hartman will share with us insights gathered from their fall group study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's life-changing book *Life Together*. Join us at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for what is sure to be an enlightening presentation and moving conversation.



Fireside Financial Chat

Fireside Financial Chat will be hosted by the United Methodist Women on Monday, September 23, featuring guest speaker, Charles Brown, at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Dessert and coffee will be served before the meeting. Mr. Charles R.P. Brown III is the CEO and Portfolio Manager of CB3 Financial Group, Inc. His presentation is entitled "The Markets and Your Money."

Note that Mr. Brown's scheduled talk in February was canceled because of inclement weather. We are grateful to have him as our guest in September. All are welcome to attend. Contact Phyllis Pepiot (ppepiot@gmail.com) for more information.

Bible Sunday Celebration!

Bible Sunday Celebration! All Kindergarten and 3rd Grade families are invited to register their child(ren) to receive a Bible on Sunday, September 22, in worship at 10:30 a.m. After receiving their Bibles, children will attend our Annual Bible Fair in Fellowship Hall for a time of getting to know their Bible through games, Bible navigation and, of course, fun snacks. Register your child(ren) at peopleofgrace.org/children-Bible. Deadline to register is Sunday, September 15. We look forward to seeing all Kindergarten and 3rd Grade students and their families! Contact Chamus Burnside-Savazzini (chamus@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

Over 50 Fellowship

Enjoy friendship, a delicious lunch, and a unique learning opportunity at the meeting of Over 50 Fellowship on Thursday, September 12. Our speaker will be Joe Jackson, the current Director of Administration, Finance, and Human Resources at Hesus House in Aurora. Working for Hesus House has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. His desire, along with what he describes as divine intervention, took him from the corporate world to Hesus House.

Sign up at the Welcome Desk by Monday, September 9, at noon. We will have lunch at noon and the program at 1 p.m. Lunch will cost \$10 in cash, payable at the door. If you sign up, we will prepare a meal for you. If you cannot attend, please make arrangements to pay and pick up your food at the Church kitchen. Contact Martha Sanders (bmarzink@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

Treble Tikes Pre-K Music Offering

By Lynn Leitzen, Director of Children's Music Ministry

We Guarantee You and Your Child Will Love It!

Classes begin Thursday, September 12, at 1 p.m.

Fun is just a click away! Class size is limited.

Register Now! peopleofgrace.org/registration

In this age of concerns over limiting kids' screen time, the Children's Music Ministry at Grace offers an amazing opportunity once a week that promises you and your child pure joy – no charger needed!

We sing. We jump. We dance. We imagine. We explore. We play and we pray. The class engages the Musikgarten Cycle of Seasons curriculum for pre-K children ages 3-5 (with a caregiver) and incorporates a faith-based view celebrating God's wonderful creation.

The current class offering, 1 p.m. on Thursdays, is conveniently timed to start at the end of Parent's Day Out, but all are welcome. An additional class offering will be opened if we exceed the ideal class size or have interest expressed for another day/time. If Thursdays are not an option for your family, please inquire if you are interested in another day of the week.

The fall class runs from September 12 through December 12 and is offered free as an extension of the Children's Music Ministry. Read below what others have written about the experience and register today to reserve your and your child's place at the Treble Tikes welcome rug!

Contact Lynn Leitzen (630-355-1748, Ext. 3249) or (lynn.leitzen@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.



We Guarantee You and Your Child Will Love It!

My granddaughter (Kaitlyn) and I attended many of the sessions that were offered last year. Kaitlyn enjoyed the sessions very much and really looked forward to attending "her music class." It was a great introduction to music. Each session was well organized and thought out. Although the sessions were 45 minutes long the kids of various ages remained engaged. The program included hands-on activities, opportunities to experiment with musical instruments, rhythm experiences, and movement to music. All attending were encouraged to participate including the moms and me (the only grandparent). Both the adults and children developed relationships. Some families remained afterward to play on the church playground. Thanks for taking the time to organize and present the program. I hope you continue to offer Treble Tikes.
-Steve Peters, Kaitlyn's Grandpa

"Treble Tikes is a hidden gem. Not only is it a free class, but the content & laughter that emanate from the room confirm that it is kid & parent-approved! Lynn's energy with the kids is contagious and they learn to love music if they don't already. The best part is that Lynn allows the kids to be themselves and express their creative energy through music! Highly recommend!" - Emily B.

"My son learned to sing in class. It made him so proud & gave him a confidence boost. Additionally, he made close friends & still is enjoying these relationships. I also enjoyed being with him each week. It was a great bonding time." -Susan B.

A Simple Way to Support Grace Church: Life Insurance

By Scott Oats, Chairman of the Grace UMC Foundation

Do you have a life insurance policy that you no longer need for financial security? Your policy might be the simplest way to provide a truly meaningful gift to Grace United Methodist Church.

Juanita and Don Burney left a life insurance gift to Grace UMC Foundation. Don was the Church treasurer for many years and understood the financial needs of the Church extending beyond the annual operating budget. The Burney Endowment is unrestricted and the income from their gift will be used by Grace Church to continue and/or expand future ministries.

Here are three examples of ways you can make a life insurance gift:

- **Name Grace UMC Foundation as a beneficiary.** This gift is as simple as updating your beneficiary designation form with the policyholder. You can designate the Foundation as the primary beneficiary for a percentage or specific amount. Or, you can make the Foundation the contingent beneficiary so that the Foundation will receive the balance of your policy only if your primary beneficiary doesn't survive you.
- **Make an outright gift of an existing policy.** You can name the Foundation as owner and beneficiary of an existing policy. You may qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction when you itemize on your taxes. If you continue to pay premiums on the policy, each payment may be tax-deductible as a charitable gift when you itemize, but please check with your tax advisor.
- **Make an outright gift of a new policy.** You can take out a new policy and name Grace UMC Foundation as the owner and the beneficiary of the insurance contract. This method may be particularly attractive for our younger Church members. Whether you make one single premium payment for the policy or pay annual premiums, each payment may be tax-deductible as a charitable gift when you itemize on your taxes, but please check with your tax advisor.

Contact Scott Oats, Chairman of the Grace UMC Foundation (soats@sbcglobal.net) for information

Fall Festival 2019

All are invited to join us on the lower parking lot for our Fall Festival, Sunday, October 27, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Fall Festival features activities for all ages: bounce house, tricycle hay bale maze, lunch, cookie decorating, Belgian horse-drawn hayride, petting zoo, and more!

Tickets for the event will be on sale at the Welcome Desk beginning October 6. Same-day tickets are available, though advanced purchase is preferred.

Trunk-or-Treat Vehicles and Volunteers are needed! Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) to express interest or for more information!



Mark Your Calendar! Crop Hunger Walk 2019

Join us on Sunday, October 20, for the 50th Crop Hunger Walk. The Crop Hunger Walk has been stepping up to end hunger since 1969, making it one of the earliest walks in the nation. Over the years, the emphasis has changed from collecting actual crops gleaned from the fields to raising funds to get at the root causes of hunger.

Examples of projects include supplying seeds for community gardens; providing chickens and a shared incubator for a group of families, or goats as a source of milk and income; or building an elevated hand pump for year-round access to clean, safe water. Register at crophungerwalk.org and invite others to support your passion to end hunger. The walk will take place after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Not able to make it to the Walk? You can still raise funds online. Watch for further details and possible lunch plans after our only service that day at 10:30 because of the ½ Marathon. Contact Phyllis Pepiot (ppepiot@gmail.com) for more information.