

GRAPEVINE

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Zanesville, Ohio

April 2017

PASTOR'S PAGE

Life, Death and Resurrection

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

With winter coming to an end, signs of life spring forth, bursting with the promise of hope. The old has passed, behold, the new has come. Life. Death. Resurrection.

In what ways have you experienced Resurrection?

Some years ago, when I was preparing for ordination, I experienced Resurrection in an unexpected way. While my family and the church have always been nurturing, encouraging and supportive, I found myself sinking into the depths of discouragement and low self-confidence. By the time I prepared my paperwork for ordination, this low sense of self-worth came through loud and clear.

I had pretty much convinced myself that I had little value or worth. My low self-esteem and lack of self-confidence had taken over and needed to die. It had been a difficult year in life and ministry. I questioned myself and my call. I considered changing my current path. But then God provided a resurrection.

Somehow, through the muck and mire of low self-worth, God raised me to a new place. God used some church leaders to instill confidence and courage in this doubting young pastor. Because of a significant staff transition, as well as other leadership changes, I was given new responsibilities and began to fulfill what was expected.

My eyes were opened to the new thing God was doing within me. Within my new roles, responsibilities and relationships, I began to see myself in a new light. I had a fresh perspective. I sensed value and worth in ways I had not before. I experienced new life.

This self-revelation expressed itself in my ordination paperwork as well as interview. The old was gone; the new had come. Life. Death. Resurrection.

In experiencing Resurrection, some things had to die. I had to die to myself and my own sense of low self-confidence that had emerged in many times and ways throughout my life. (Occasionally, I find that it still rears its head, and needs to die.) Life. Death. Resurrection.

For followers of Christ, death is not final. Death is necessary before there can be Resurrection. We have hope of something greater as we transition from earthly life to eternal life. That is what Resurrection is all about.

In what ways have you experienced Resurrection?

In the hope and joy of Resurrection faith,

Pastor Mark

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. - Hymn of Promise - Natalie Sleeth, 1986

The OWLS will be meeting on Wednesday,

April 5, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

With Sympathy

- . . . to Vickye Lewis and family following the death of her mother, Iona Minton, of Lima on February 20.
- . . . to Mary Ruth Howell and family following the death of her brother, Lee Mock, of Mansfield on March 7.
- . . . to Alexandria, Marissa, & Johnathon Mock; Mary Ruth Mock, Debbie Howard, Jeff Mock, Bob Mock and families following the death of father, son and brother, Greg Mock, on March 18.
- . . . to Nancy Chow and family following the death of her brother, Stephen Campbell, of Ottawa on March 26.

KROGER PLUS CARD

Use your Kroger Plus Card and benefit Grace Church. The *Kroger Community Rewards* program is a great way to give back to the church.

This is a reminder that starting **April 1** it is time to **re-enroll** in the rewards program for the coming year. This procedure must be done online; the store is not allowed to enroll you.

Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com

select store location

select 're-enroll' if enrolled in the past; select 'enroll' if new to the program, follow the instructions

Grace Church organization number is **81252** to use in registering.

Vacation Bible School! Save the Date – This summer, Vacation Bible School will be held June 25-29. This year we will be at Grace Wesleyan Church. Stay tuned for more information!

Disciple Class – The Disciples' Class will be looking at the fact and reality that God loves us as we examine portions of Psalms, John and Romans, we will see that God is revealed as protector, preserver, healer, comforter, and Savior of the people. The Easter lesson shows how in the Resurrection, God's love is displayed as victory over death. Come join us as we share in these insightful, challenging sessions together – Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Children & Teens – continue to study the books and stories of the Bible.

Fifth Sunday –

We are beginning plans for our youth led service on April 30. Let Sarah or Pastor Mark know if you're available to help.

Bowling - Is anyone interested in bowling in May? Let Sarah know! We're always looking for new and exciting things to have fun and learn about God together! If you have any other fun ideas for our children and youth, please let us know.

Children of Grace - Families and children now have choices during our 10:30 service. Children can participate in the worship service while playing quietly with a family member or volunteer adult in our new **Grace Space**, play in the **nursery**, stay in the **pew** with their parents or older children may learn a special lesson in **Kid's Own Worship**.

The Women's Group will finish our study of Max Lucado's book, He Chose the Nails during Lent . All women are welcome on Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the High School classroom (so we can watch the online videos)!

*Everything God does is purposeful. And since God is in each of us,
each of us has a purpose.*

[Iyanla Vanzant – life coach and relationship expert]



. **Grace is on Facebook!** Look for us for the page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/GraceUnitedMethodistZanesville>

Or our group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/419305344801902/> The group is closed, let us know you want to be invited and someone will. The group has documents like the bulletin and the Grapevine attached, so we didn't want it to be as public.

Please mark **June 16 – 17** on your calendar for our **Grace Church Garage Sale**. Our set up day will be Thursday, June 15. As you clean up for spring, look at the winter items you no longer need, remember to bag or box these things up and keep for our garage sale. Summer will be here before you know it! Thanks for your continued support. As you are aware, many hands make light work!

Worship Celebrations at Grace UMC

Season of Lent –

- Sunday, April 2 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m.** - Fifth Sunday in Lent.
Holy Communion. Scripture: John 11:1-45 “*Believe!*”
- Sunday, April 9 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m.** - Palm/Passion Sunday.
Liturgy of the Palms: Matthew 21:1-11
Passion Narrative: Matthew 26:14-75; 27:1-66

Season of Easter –

- Sunday, April 16 - 8:15am** - Easter Vigil. Service of Light. Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday, April 16 – 9:15 a.m.** - Easter Breakfast. Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday, April 16 - 10:30am** - Easter Sunday.
Celebrating the Resurrection. John 20:1-18
- Sunday, April 23 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m.** - 2nd Sunday of Easter.
Scripture: John 20:19-31.
- Sunday, April 30 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m.** - 3rd Sunday of Easter.
Two By Two Band and our young people will lead worship.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, April 2	First UMC	Rev. Steve Judson
Sent	857 Putnam Ave.	
Sunday, April 9	Rolling Plains UMC	Easter Cantata
	3350 Moxahala Park Rd.	
Thursday, April 13	Coburn UMC	Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m.	3618 Maple Ave.	'Living Last Supper'

Sunday Lenten Services begin at 6:00 p.m. Services include dramatic presentations so come and witness miracles and hear the teaching of Christ! Monetary offerings will support the children and youth ministry at *The LifeWell at W. Main*. You may bring socks and mittens to donate to The LifeWell Free Store and Shelter at First UMC.

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday – April 9

8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. — Worship celebrations will begin with Triumphal Entry and conclude with a dramatic reading of the Passion story.

6:00 p.m. — Community Lenten Service at Rolling Plains UMC – Cantata. A time of fellowship will follow.

Maundy Thursday – April 13

7:00 p.m. — We will join Coburn UMC as they host a Community Maundy Thursday Service. The service will revolve around a Living Last Supper where Jesus and the twelve disciples will reenact that first Maundy Thursday many years ago.

Good Friday – April 14

12:00-1:00 p.m. — Good Friday Service –
Immanuel Church – Fellowship Hall [105 S. 7th St.]

Easter Sunday – April 16

8:15 a.m. — Easter Vigil – Service of Light and Word
[Fellowship Hall]

We begin Resurrection Day in the darkness and will celebrate the Light and Hope of Christ through the Holy Word.

9:15 a.m. — Easter Breakfast [Fellowship Hall]

10:30 a.m. — Easter Worship Celebration [Sanctuary]

We will celebrate the Resurrection of Christ with hope-filled words and joy-filled music.

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank you for all the support and prayers during the past several years as well as since our mother, Shirley Gregg, passed away. We appreciated the choir members who sang to Mom before Christmas and the visits from Judy McAllister and Pastor Mark. Thank you to those who sent cards, came to the funeral home, and prepared the delicious lunch after her service. Your caring and concern has been comforting to us.
Wendy Cochran – Debbie Janakiefski & families

Thank you for taking time out of your day to help get resources I needed for college. You guys are the BEST. Without your support, I wouldn't be able to go to college. Thank you so much.
Jamera Goins

Dear Grace Friends,

Thank you for all your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, church conversations, and meals. My chemo treatments are going well. I will see you at church on most Sundays.
Anne Goodrich

We want to thank our Grace Family for the prayers, comforting words, cards, and support you gave us after Greg's death. The luncheon served by the ladies after the funeral was much appreciated and provided a place for our family to come together. Special thank you to Pastor Mark Chow for all his love and support.

Mary Ruth Mock and the family of Greg Mock

Dear Grace Family who provide and prepare meals following a funeral,

I think it is so wonderful that we provide this service at the church. I helped a few times in the past and I know what is involved. I also know that it is such a good feeling to help a family. Following Greg's service, the meal was so good and all the people remarked about the food and the comments made by Pastor Mark. Thanks to all!
Mary Ruth Howell

Dear Mark and Zanesville Grace,

Thank you for hosting the Foothills Spring Lay Ministry Training this past weekend. We appreciate the time and effort to meet the needs for the classrooms to be arranged, the signage, and, of course, the snacks and lunch. Please extend our personal 'thanks' to Judy for getting the food ready and helping locate items for communion.

Many thanks and Blessings – **Carrie Ator-James**

OUTREACH

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! to everyone who contributed to the food drive to benefit Christ's Pantry at Eastside Community Ministries to purchase food for the families they assist. The total received = \$6,395.

LIFEWELL FREE STORE donations —

The LifeWell Store needs many items. As you start your spring cleaning, please bring those gently used items to the church. Children's clothes are always needed!

CARR CENTER CAKE AUCTION — April 27-28

The Grace Church cake is #88 and will be auctioned off at 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 27. Tune in to WHIZ or go to the mall and bid on our cake and incentive! Let's help to make it a very successful 31st Anniversary for the Cake Auction!!

Spring into Health GRACE-fully

Ladies, please join us for a time of fun, fellowship, and health.

*Sunday, April 23 – from noon – 2:00 p.m. at
Grace United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.*

A light lunch will be served.

Friends are welcome.

Childcare will be provided.

*RSVP to Becky Woods by **April 17***

740-683-4529 or rwoods262@yahoo.com

Please include your name and those of your guests.

MANY THANKS

Thank you to our Hospitality Team for —

Providing space, hospitality and/or meals for various community and United Methodist groups (OWLS, Barbershop Chorus, family of Greg Mock

Grief Share, Foothills District Lay Servant Ministry Training, Foothills District Clergy Bible Study, Zanesville area U. M. Community Lenten Service)

Extending hospitality at the doors, elevator, and during worship (Lois Dearth, Tracy Miller, Diane Marks, Judy McAllister, Dana & Cindi Swope, Tracie Moss, Dan & Karen Vincent, Bob & Martha Lentz, Chase & Sarah Tippie, Rick & Cindy Lawyer, Joe & Susan Tyson, Judy McAllister, Heather Dolen, Doug & Carla Waltman, Frank & Amy Dosch, Debbie Collett, Pat Burkhardt, Carol Friel)

Tending to the audio/video/computer needs (Craig Hill, Cindi Swope, Sarah Burris, Debbie Collett)

Thank you to all who provided excellent leadership in worship last month!

Acolytes – Lucy Thorne, Cindi Swope, Lexi Oldfield, Carly Oldfield, Noelle Flarey)

Liturgists – Jack Thorne, Jessica Stonecypher

Readers – Christy Swope, Jack Thorne, Jessica Stonecypher, Nathan Zangmeister, Coty Brown

Children's Moment – Cindy Lawyer, Nathan Zangmeister

Musicians – Marcie Butterfield, Joyce Cooper, Tony Merry, Sarah Burris, Christy Swope, Mary Mason, Margaret Merry, Cynthia Tuck, Nathan Zangmeister, Carrie VanSickle

Communion Steward – Janet Hill

Communion Servers – Mary Mason, Tracy Miller, Carla Waltman, Linda Friel, Bev Dunworth, Susan Hendley, Janet Hill

Children's Ministry [Grace Space, KidsOwnWorship, Nursery] – Cassie Burris, Sarah Burris, Cindy Lawyer, Julie McAllister, Dana C. Swope, Valerie Bryan, Sarah Tippie.

HELP NEEDED!

The shelter at First UMC (857 Putnam Ave.) is in desperate need of overnight supervisors; the shelter closes at 9:00 a.m.

Can you help? Do you know anyone...even one day a week...two people as a team??

They are facing closing down on nights when no one is available to supervise. Occupancy for the shelter is 16.

Please pray for people to step forward to serve.

Contact First UMC for more information – 740-452-7117.

DID YOU KNOW? Apportionments 201

Last month we discussed at length about what apportionments (also known as Connectional Giving) are all about.

This month I wanted to break this down as far as a per household amount and how that compares with our actual giving.

The total for our Conference and District apportionments is slightly over \$50,000 per year. We have 256 households/giving units. That works out to \$195 per year, per household just for our apportionments.

This is not a request for pledges or a discussion on tithing, but at its bare-bones, each one of us needs to be contributing our fair share of \$195 per year and that's before we pay the light bill, salaries, or any programs.

We have 97 households that didn't contribute anything at all in 2016 and another 47 that were less than \$200 for the year. That means that over fifty percent of our member households are not contributing even enough for our apportionments and more than one-third aren't contributing anything at all.

We need everyone to evaluate your own personal giving. If everyone would increase their giving ever so slightly we would be able to do so much more.

Frank Dosch – Finance Chairman

2017 VIETNAM MISSION TRIP

The Foothills – Shawnee Valley Mission Team will be traveling to Vietnam, March 29-April 11! What started fourteen years ago with two UM missionaries responding to a call to share the light of Christ with the people of Vietnam has become a rapidly growing movement consisting of over 300 house churches and nearly 18,000 members. This motorbike and van trip will tour northern Vietnam. They will meet with UM congregations and deliver motorbikes to pastors. They will visit cultural and geographical sites and remember the sacrifices of American soldiers during the war. There will be eleven team members making this trip including D. S. Dennis Miller, Rev. Richard Purvis [Dresden]. Please pray for this trip, the country and the team members. Check on the West Ohio Conference website for a prayer guide for the trip.

PUTNAM GARDENS
Growing Food
Building Community
Living Well

Dear Grace Church Family,

As a United Methodist deacon with a focus in environmental justice with the marginalized, my work as Urban Agriculture Specialist at Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District is my ministry. In fact, the Bishop and cabinet have appointed me to my position, thereby affirming my work in the world and the church's commitment to issues of environment, food security and community development. Every day I have the opportunity to go into the world to do the work of Christ just like you! I have a relatively regular job, working for the government on behalf of the church. My work in the community is simply a snapshot of the ministry of faithful United Methodist laity around the world.

Currently, I am working with many other community members and leaders to develop five community gardens in Muskingum County. Restoration Park is the project closest geographically to Grace UMC [between Muskingum Ave. and the Muskingum River]. The park was developed years ago by a couple seeking to restore the site as a city park. The land belongs to the city and is now overseen by the Putnam Business Association and Muskingum Valley Community Development, LLC. I approached them in October about the potential of developing a community garden on their site. At that time, they were pursuing the assistance of a local landscape architect to design the space. Recently, the architect revealed his design to us with a community garden included. We had anticipated space for 18 raised beds but have been given enough space to include 32 raised beds in the garden!

In order to develop each community garden site, we are seeking funding from grants and local community organizations. As such, we are asking Grace UMC members to consider sponsoring a raised garden plot. Each 4' x 8' raised bed costs \$55 to construct and will last about ten years. This price is due to the generosity of Lowe's, whose management has agreed to offer us 50% off everything we purchase from their store and a local donor who is providing half of the soil required to fill the beds at Restoration Park. Once the site is up and running, area residents will have the opportunity to reserve a bed at no cost to them to raise their own fresh, healthy food during the growing season!

Checks can be made to Grace UMC and indicate 'Garden' on the memo line.

My ministry is based on the Genesis 2:15 passage when it says, "*The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it.*" Scripture is clear about God's care for the creation. It is our job to share with God in co-creating a future for our planet and our community that expresses God's love for all. I ask for your prayers as I continue my work in our community. Thank you for your love and support throughout my ministry journey. I am blessed to call you my church family.

Joyfully in Christ – **Rev. Jessica Stonecypher**

EASTER LILIES

The Easter lilies will be ordered through the church office. The cost is \$10.00 each. If you wish to order a lily / lilies, please complete this form and return to the church by placing in the offering plate or mailing. The deadline for placing orders with payment is Sunday, **April 9**. You are encouraged to pick up your lily following the 10:30 a.m. Easter service.

_____ number of lilies _____ amount enclosed

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____