

# **bgvGRAPEVINE**

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Zanesville, Ohio

March 2019

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## **PASTOR'S PAGE**

### **Taking Sides**

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

As a young child, I remember my parents telling me to be loving and kind to all people. *"Don't take sides. Just be friends with everyone."* So, whenever my friends would get into arguments or after-school fights, I had to resist cheering for one over the other. I couldn't show partiality. I tried to be kind to everyone.

As an adult, it can be tricky to walk the same tightrope, not leaning too far on one side or the other.

The Methodist Movement (presently United Methodist Church) has been known for being the "middle way" for over two hundred years. The second largest Christian denomination has boasted a wide umbrella, including space for a wide range of theological positions. The beauty of the Church I call 'home' is that there is room for everyone at the Table, regardless of one's doctrine. That is not to say that 'anything goes' in this church, although some might debate that. But, with regard to basic Christian doctrine, there is room for a wide range of perspectives and viewpoints.

The small town churches where my Dad served were pretty conservative, politically as well as, theologically. The authority of Scripture and the importance of one's personal faith in Christ was vital. When I took some religion courses in college, I was practically blown away by one of the religion professors, who I thought was an atheist by the things he taught. He didn't seem to believe in, or encourage us to believe in, the authority of God's Word. Needless to say, I had difficulty in his classes.

In Seminary, there was heavy emphasis on personal spiritual disciplines. I became very disciplined, maybe even rigid, in my spiritual growth practices. Then, an opportunity availed itself to me. I had an internship in campus ministry at the University of California at Berkeley. I went from a small town in Kentucky to Berkeley CA! Imagine the culture shock! My eyes were opened to a whole new world. I had grown up in small towns that

were mostly conservative, and here I was, living in one of the more liberal areas of the country.

My whole life was impacted. My beliefs and perspectives were challenged. My theology was stretched. I met folks who were deeply devoted to God and making a difference for people. They were really just like me, except we expressed our faith in slightly different ways. I had grown up focusing more on my personal faith. I met folks that focused more on living their faith, and seeking to right the wrongs and injustices of the world.

At the end of that internship, I gained a broader worldview and theological understanding, as well as new friends, who had a deeper appreciation of their personal faith. We helped each other.

Recently, the United Methodist Church faced a major crossroad on the issue of human sexuality, and specifically, same-gender marriage and ordination of LGBT persons. After beginning a special session of the General Conference with prayer and worship, the debate and discussion began. In the words of our beloved Bishop, Gregory V. Palmer: "The attention to prayer and worship has been inspiring and helpful. There have been bright moments and there have been dim moments. There have been words and speeches that have soared with poetic Spirit-inspired oratory. There have been words and speeches that have done harm to people, especially our LGBTQ sisters and brothers."

While we won't know the full impact of the General Conference decisions for a while, there was for a moment, a spirit of unity. Ultimately, the delegates had to make choices. And, in the end, it seemed there was pain and sadness, confusion and anger for just about everyone. There were no real winners.

But, the good news, friends, is that we are not alone. God is with us and calls us to love all people.

**Pastor Mark**

The OWLS will be meeting on Wednesday,

March 6, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10.  
Move your clocks ahead one hour!**

## IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### Address Change

### Birth

A son, William James, was born on February 4 and adopted by Zach & Mary Robinson. Grandparents are Todd & Julie Sands.

### With Sympathy

- . . . to family and friends of Doris Wilcher (age 95) following her death on January 28. Her husband (Rev. G. William Wilcher) was pastor at Grace from 1956-60.
- . . . to Joan Mortimer and family following the death of her brother, Charles Deeds, of Dover, OH on February 21.

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### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Friday, **March 1** – 1:00 p.m. at Salvation Army [Putnam Ave.]  
*Come — Everything Is Ready*

**FRIENDLY CALLERS** — Would you like to be a caller? I need some more and if you can do it, you would get a list for a week with all the information you would need about every 12-15 weeks to make the calls. THANK YOU!! to all the current callers that our members hear from for their birthdays and anniversaries. Questions? Call Judy McAllister —  
740-452-3525

**Grief Share** is a seminar and support group at Grace Church for people who are grieving the death of someone close to them. The Grief Share series began on Monday, **February 25**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. This is a 13-week series; however, each week is independent so you may come any week and not miss information. For more information and/or to register, please contact the church office at 740-452-9317.

### **Walk With A Pastor —**

Looking for an opportunity to enhance your spiritual walk as well as to get some physical exercise? Walk with a Pastor (and others) each month on the **fourth Saturday!** Come and be inspired with God's Word and fellowship with other members of the Family of God!

"Walk With a Pastor" is designed to help us become more fit and active while learning about wellness. Set for the fourth Saturday of the month, "Walk With a Pastor" will feature an area Pastor who will share a brief devotional thought, followed by a time of walking and talking with the Pastor and other community members. On **Saturday, March 23rd**, Rev. Justin Williams [Coburn UMC] will be the Lead Pastor. We will meet and walk at the Colony Square Mall at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 9:30 a.m.

### **EASTER LILIES**

The Easter lilies will be ordered through the church office. The cost is \$11.50 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, **March 24**. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my lily the next week.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Disciple Class** – This adult class is doing an in-depth study of the book of Romans, written by Paul to the believers in Rome, giving them a concrete theological foundation on which to construct their faith, and to live and serve God effectively. You already have the study book, the Bible. You are welcome to come join our discussions as we look to Paul's directions to the early believers.

**Children & Teens** – are studying the books and stories of the Bible.

**Preschoolers** – are learning about God's world around them by helping take care of all of God's creatures, including themselves!

**Coloring** — In the back of the sanctuary or on the table as you enter the Fellowship Hall, are some coloring pages. They are not just for kids! Studies have shown that coloring can help you concentrate or even help to relieve stress. Feel free to take a sheet, some colored pencils and a clipboard [for the sanctuary] and color away.

Let us know – if you have any fun ideas for our children and youth! We're always looking for new and exciting things to have fun and learn about God together!



**Grace is on Facebook!** Like the "page" at:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceUnitedMethodistZanesville>

Or our group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/419305344801902/> The group is closed so ask to be included..

Grace also has a website — [www.graceumcz.org](http://www.graceumcz.org). On the website you will find announcements, the bulletins, the *Grapevine*, and more.

**Thursday Bible Study Group** – **March 21** will start a new study called *Six Hours One Friday*. It is taught by Max Lucado. We will journey to the Cross and examine with fresh eyes the meaning and significance of Christ's death and resurrection. This is an online study so feel free to sign up. There are online materials you can check out; if you need to miss a week, you can catch up online. It is for 5 weeks. To sign up for the emails: <https://www.faithgateway.com/obs>. This study will be open to anyone – male or female!! Hope to see you there!

## Adventure in Rome Summer 2019

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Kick off/introduction: April 14, 2019: Let's Break Bread Together -- enjoy lunch together following the 10:30 service.

Sunday afternoon adventure

July 14, 2019

12:00-4:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, August 9-10

Lock In

Join us in Rome to learn about Paul and his adventures in this great city as he spreads the word about Christ to His new followers!

This year, Grace is sponsoring these events!  
More information and details to come!



## Worship Celebrations at Grace UMC

### Transfiguration Sunday

**Sunday, March 3 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m.** — Sacrament of Baptism.  
 Sacrament of Holy Communion. Scripture: Luke 9:28-43  
*“Shine the Light”*

Season of Lent – Worship Series **“With All Your Heart”** (Discipleship Ministries)

*During the 40 days of Lent, we will be called to return to God with all our hearts, through prayer, reflection, and fasting.*

**Sunday, March 10 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** - First Sunday in Lent. Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8-13 *“God’s Generous Heart”*

**Sunday, March 17 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** - Second Sunday in Lent. Scripture: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1 *“Imitating”*

**Sunday, March 24 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** - Third Sunday in Lent. Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-9; I Corinthians 10:1-13 *“Repenting”*

**Sunday, March 31 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** – Fourth Sunday in Lent. Scripture: Joshua 5:1-9; II Corinthians 5:16-21 *“Coming Together”*

**Sunday, April 7 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** – Fifth Sunday in Lent. Sacrament of Holy Communion. Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4-14 *“Making a New Thing”*

**Sunday, April 14 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** – Palm/Passion Sunday. Scripture: Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 50:4-9; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:1-56

Season of Easter – Worship Series **“Living”**

**Sunday, April 21 – 8:15 a.m.** - Easter Vigil. Service of Light. Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, April 21 – 10:30 a.m.** - Easter Sunday. Scripture: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; I Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18 *“Believing”*

**Sunday, April 28 – 8:15 a.m. / 10:30 a.m.** – Scripture: John:20:19-31 *“Trusting”*

### Lenten Worship Services 2019

#### **ENCOUNTERING JESUS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Pastor</u>
March 6 <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Coburn UMC 3618 Maple Ave.	Ash Wednesday - Rev. Mark Chow
March 10	Central Trinity UMC 62 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Rev. Justin Williams Coburn UMC
March 17	Grace UMC 516 Shinnick St.	Rev. Joy Wigal First / Faith UMC
March 24	First UMC 857 Putnam Ave..	Rev. Mark Chow Grace UMC
March 31	Coburn UMC 3618 Maple Ave.	Rev. Steve Judson Central Trinity UMC
April 7	Faith UMC 1616 Blue Ave.	Rev. Matt Blau Gratiot UMC
April 14	Rolling Plains UMC 3350 Moxahala Park Road	Easter Cantata
April 18 <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Grace UMC 516 Shinnick St..	Maundy Thursday – Communion

*We hope you enjoy this year’s messages given by our Pastors on first person encounters with Jesus.*

**All services begin at 6:00 p.m.** with a time of fellowship to follow. Offerings will be directed to support *The LifeWell Community Center* and *The Free Store and Shelter at First UMC*. You are also invited to bring socks and mittens to donate for these ministries as well.

## 2019 FOOD DRIVE

Grace United Methodist Church has had a long tradition of supporting the work of Eastside Community Ministry and the emergency food pantry they operate. We are continuing that support with our annual **Food Drive**. As in the past few years, Eastside has asked that we donate the money. They will then use their buying network to secure the best value for the dollars donated. This is a wonderful way for our Grace family to share with families in Muskingum County who are in need of basic nourishment. As of February 27, we have received \$6,460.

***It is not too late to donate to this cause!***

## OUTREACH

During the month of March, the Outreach Committee will be collecting items for Transitions – our local shelter for battered women. We are asking the Grace Church family to help with this project. There will be laundry baskets in the back of the church and in Fellowship Hall to collect these items. Suggested items they are in need of include – Purex detergent – Downy softener – Chlorox bleach and wipes – Awesome cleaner – toilet bowl cleaner – Q-tips – all paper items [toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, napkins, baggies] – dish and bath towels – twin and full sheet sets – sweat shirts, pants, leggings (can be gently used).

If you don't have time or energy to shop, we will accept cash donations to purchase items.

We thank you in advance for your support!!

## THANK YOU

Thank you for my many, many birthday cards. I have received 92. It's wonderful to have so many friends. I received cards from Maine to New Mexico. Thanks also for friends who sent flowers. May God bless all of you!

**Anne Goodrich**

*On February 3, the following individuals were received into the membership of Grace U. M. C.*

## **GETTING TO KNOW YOU. . .**

### Pamela Lee Looker

1348 Lewis Dr., Zanesville, OH 43701 — 740-641-7231

Pam is a retired teacher's aide. Her interests are genealogy and quilting. Born in Bucyrus, OH; she has also lived in Wyandot and Crawford counties (OH) and San Diego, CA and North Carolina before coming to the Zanesville area. Married to Bob, she is the mother of Dan and Robert. She joins us from New Guilford UMC, Warsaw, OH.

### Jaynellen Berkheimer Sharp

1819 Newark Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701 — 740-453-1309

Jaynellen is retired from The Crude Oil Company. Her interests are horses, nieces, nephews, family, and being outside. She was born in Zanesville and raised in Chandersville, OH. She is married to Fountain. She joins us from Chandlersville, UMC.

### Paul Swingle

809 Dryden Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701 — 740-454-8486

Paul enjoys retirement and playing euchre. He was born and raised in Blue Rock, OH. He joins us from Philo UMC, Philo, OH.

### Charles (Chuck) & Mary Beth Tippie

3901 Sundown Dr., Zanesville, OH 43701 — 740-297-4323

Chuck is employed as an International Rep. with IBEW. His interests include golf and sports. He was born in Athens, OH; lived in Muskingum County most of his life.

Mary Beth enjoys retirement as well as traveling, animals, and movies. She was born and raised in Zanesville.

Chuck and Mary Beth have a daughter, Heather, a son, Chase, and two grandsons, Miles and Nash.

They join us by Affirmation of Faith.

***Many Thanks!***

Thank you to our Hospitality Team for:

Providing space, hospitality and/or meals for various community groups [Barbershop Chorus, Grief Share, St. Thomas Catholic Church Homeless Outreach Ministry, Club Jesus, Follies].

Extending hospitality at the doors, elevator and during worship [Dana & Cindi Swope, Cindy Lawyer, Dan & Karen Vincent, Tracie Moss, Doug & Carla Waltman, Judy McAllister, John & Diane Marks, Dana C. Swope, Tom & Susan Holdren, Heather Dolen, Coty Brown].

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!

Acolyte (Cindi Swope, Carley Oldfield)

Liturgist (Gabe Dolen)

Lay Leader (Cindy Lawyer, Todd Sands)

Children's Moment (Cindy Lawyer, Sarah Burris, Tom Swan)

Musicians (Marcie Butterfield, Joyce Cooper, Tony Merry, Sarah

Burris, Christy Swope, Mary Mason, Tom Swan, Dorothy Cronk)

Communion Stewards (Janet Hill, Cindy Lawyer, Pam Kuntz, Sarah Burris, Carla & Doug Waltman, and Wendy Cochran)

Communion Servers (Mary Mason, Maryanna Fenton, Janet Hill, Bill & Becky Woods, John Marks)

Children's Ministry [Grace Space, Kids Own Worship, Nursery] (Sarah

Burris, Allison Palmer, Cindy Lawyer, Julie McAllister, Sarah Tippie,

Cassie Burris, Jennifer McCune, Laura James, Amelia Lepi)

Christian Witness: Jamie Trout [Eastside Comm. Min.]

Guest Preachers: Rev. Bill Cronk, Dr. Dennis Miller