

Grace Notes

Grace United Methodist Church

5407 North Charles Street., Baltimore, Maryland 21210 • 410-433-6650

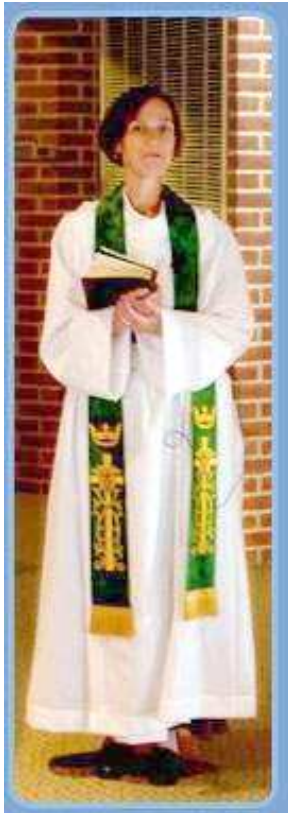


• www.GraceUnitedMethodist.org

Volume 19, No. 3

March 2011

Rev. Amy McCullough to become senior pastor at Grace



At the conclusion of the February 6 service of worship, Elaine Schaefer, chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, announced that the Rev. Amy Peed McCullough had been appointed by Bishop John Schol as the senior pastor for Grace United Methodist Church effective July 1, 2011. She will succeed Dr. Emora T. Brannan who will be retiring from Grace following a distinguished 20-year tenure at Grace.

Rev. McCullough has served in the Baltimore-Washington Conference since 1999 when she accepted an appointment as associate minister at Metropolitan United Methodist Church in Washington, DC. In her six years of ministry there, she was in charge of congregational ministries, served as the administrative pastor, and oversaw the church through two key periods of transition.

In 2005, Rev. McCullough moved with her family to Nashville, TN where she began a PhD program in Homiletics and Liturgics at Vanderbilt University. Her dissertation on contemporary female preachers is in its final stages, and she hopes to graduate this August.

In 2008, the McCullough family returned to Maryland where she has been serving as pastor of Glenelg UM Church in western Howard County. Here she led them through a transitional time following the retirement of a long-time pastor, helped secure their financial footing, and began to grow that church by reaching out to the surrounding community.

Rev. McCullough is a graduate of Wellesley College and the Duke Divinity School. Married to Chris McCullough, Campus Minister and Theology teacher at Archbishop Curley High School, they have two young children, Luke (5) and Suzanna (2). They are very excited to be coming to Grace.

Members of the Staff Parish Committee had provided the Bishop, D.S. Anthony Hunt and the Appointing Committee a profile of characteristics

deemed desirable in their consideration of a new pastor for Grace. The conference website announcement says that “her gifts in ministry include preaching, administrative leadership, pastoral care and a deep passion for urban ministries of social justice,” all qualities we were seeking.

The website announcement also included a brief description of our church, taken from the profile submitted for the appointment discussion. You might be interested in what was said: “Grace . . . is welcoming and family oriented. Strong in history and tradition, the worshipping congregation is multi-generational, and diverse in ethnicity and class, and has members from a wide range of zip codes. The church counts more than 1,000 members. There is an aging core of active members, but it has had a recent increase in younger families. Within a three-mile area of the church, there are several private lower and upper schools, as well as universities and colleges. Grace’s mission is to be responsive to God’s spirit, adventuresome in its discipleship, compassionate in all its actions and embracing in love of all God’s people. The church conference voted, in October 2010, to affiliate with the Reconciling Ministries Network. . . .”

We look forward to the arrival of Rev. Amy McCullough and her family and to her leadership and ministry with us beginning in July.



Why Grace?

Burt and I moved to Baltimore in the early 70's when we were early 20-somethings and settled in northern Baltimore City and later in Homeland. We were initially attracted to Grace by its beauty, its affiliation with United Methodism (the denomination in which I was raised), and because it was a neighborhood church (we could actually walk to it). We stayed at Grace for many of the reasons that others have described: outstanding messages delivered from the pulpit by a succession of very intelligent and compassionate pastors beginning with Dr. Norman Van Brunt and continuing through Dr. Brannan; a vibrant program with a strong emphasis on outreach and Christian education for all ages; glorious music; worship services that are very thoughtfully put together and always nourish the soul; and a congregation of wonderful people that we are blessed to know, worship with, and work with in service to God. At Grace, we met those that have become true and trusted friends.

Unlike the other answers to "Why Grace?" that I have read, we kept coming to Grace after our first visit because of the influence of a very special usher, Carroll Tulloss. Mr Tulloss was a wonderful "gentle-man". He made us feel that he was genuinely glad we had come, greeting us with a warm smile and kind words of welcome. Several years after we joined Grace, Mr. Tulloss and his wife, Estelle, moved closer to family and warmer temperatures, but he remains with us. We gave our son the middle name Carroll because we thought so highly of him.

Perhaps, the most basic answer I can give to the question, "Why Grace?", is that Grace church is a place where I can come to worship on Sunday mornings, feel that I have been with God, have a better idea how I should live and what I should do with my life, and leave confident that God will be there to help me along the way.

– *Linda English*



MARDI GRAS
in the
Wesleyan Spirit

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Don your island attire, your beads, and celebrate with us on this last Sunday before the start of Lent! Special music with the Catonsville High Steel Drum Band and the Chancel Choir
Jim Wharton, director
"Don't worry – be happy - Man!"

Praising the process

Dear Members and Friends of Grace Church,

As a member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, I would like to "second the motion" regarding Dr. Brannan's remarks following Mrs. Schaefer's announcement that Bishop Schol has appointed the Reverend Amy McCullough to be the new Senior Pastor at Grace Church beginning next July first.

In a word, Dr. Brannan was complimenting the committee for its fine and very thorough preparatory work.

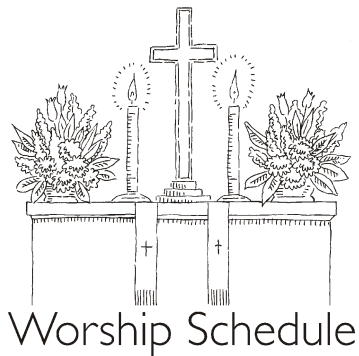
I would like especially to share with the congregation the names of several committee members who took on responsibilities above and beyond the requisite attendance at meetings and offering of ideas. Elaine Schaefer, as chair, did an outstanding job presiding at meetings, coordinating our thoughts, and filling out what sometimes appeared to be endless forms. With input from the entire SPRC, Lisa Greenhouse, Burt English, and Glenn Simmons drafted an excellent, detailed statement about Grace Church. This document served to inform the Bishop and his Cabinet of what Grace is all about at this time – its strengths, its weaknesses, and its needs. Other members of the group added valuable comments at both our many committee meetings and the meetings with our District Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Hunt.

Further compliments must be extended to the Bishop and his Cabinet themselves, for as was rightly pointed out at our gathering on February 5th when Dr. Hunt introduced the SPRC to the chosen candidate for Senior Pastor, our statements about Grace were clearly heard and taken to heart at the Conference level. The Rev. Amy McCullough, surely has a background that will enable her to continue the many fine traditions and programs we have at Grace as well as lead us forward to even more exciting ministries.

The Grace UMC congregation should be proud of and thankful for its fine lay leadership and that at the Conference level.

Sincerely, Ann Weller Dahl





Services in the month of March

EVERY SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Early Worship 10:00 a.m. Principal Worship Celebration

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Last Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration of the Lord

MARDI GRAS IN THE WESLEYAN SPIRIT

Music by the Choirs & the Catonsville High Steel Drum Band

directed by Jim Wharton

“Down in the Valley” - Dr. Brannan

Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 99 II Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 – ASH WEDNESDAY

Services of Holy Communion in the Chapel: 7:30 a.m. followed by light breakfast

12:00 noon

in the Sanctuary: 7:30 p.m.

Ashes available at all services following the order in *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

SUNDAY, MARCH 13 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

“Sometimes I Wish My Eyes Hadn’t Been Opened” - Rev. Webb

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

7:30 a.m. - Communion in Chapel, followed by light breakfast

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

ST. PATRICK’S MASS by Philip Green

Chancel, Youth, Alleluia Choirs with soloists and 26-member orchestra

Communion meditation: “Look Homeward, Angel” - Dr. Brannan

sermon text: Genesis 12:1 I Thessalonians 2:2b-12 Matthew 28:16-20

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

7:30 a.m. - Communion in Chapel, followed by light breakfast

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 - THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

“Paul’s Hermeneutical Discovery” - Dr. Brannan

Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-16

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

7:30 a.m. - Communion in Chapel, followed by light breakfast

Getting to know the Zimmermans, their work, and Nepal

On Sunday evening March 6 at 6 pm, we will gather at the church for a special program designed to get us acquainted with our new missionary family, the Zimmermans. Mark and Deirdre Zimmerman and their two sons, Zachary and Benjamin, live in Kathmandu, Nepal. Mark is a physician who went to Johns Hopkins University as an undergraduate. He has been working in Nepal for 20 years now. He currently works with a national program to train and support medical staff assigned to rural district hospitals throughout Nepal. Deirdre is a nutritionist and works as a part-time advisor to Nutrition Promotion and Consultancy Services in Nepal. Part of the program will be devoted to getting to know the Zimmermans better, and they will be sharing with us about their lives and work. In addition, John Ford, one of our long-term members who has a long and interesting connection to Nepal, will be sharing with us about his connection and his extensive knowledge of Nepalese culture and arts.

In addition to providing formal financial support to the Board of Global Ministries for the salaries of the Zimmermans, our Outreach Committee has also recently designated some funds to directly support Deirdre's work with Nutrition Promotion and Consultancy Services, whose aim is to address nutrition issues in the country.

Your Outreach Committee is so pleased to have the opportunity to help guide decisions about how we as a church express our commitment to the less fortunate of our world – both in Baltimore and beyond. Our program on March 6 will be an exciting opportunity for us to learn about this work in Nepal and these wonderful people that we as a church are now supporting.

– Henry Perry



RMN training event

Saturday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Woodside UM Church

8900 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring

“Believe Out Loud Together”

Learn how to share our stories in a way that grows the Reconciling Ministries Network movement; meet others passionate about full inclusion and working for social justice; learn how to elect friendly delegates from Annual Conference looking ahead to General Conference 2012.

\$10 registration fee includes lunch

Questions? E-Mail chett@bwarm.org

RSVP via e-mail: rmcdonald@foundryumc.org

Within the Family at Grace

BIRTH

Benjamin Henry Thomas Hillman
son of Steven and Sidney Painter Hillman
grandson of Steven and Kelly Painter

February 2, 2011

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Andrew Pflaum on earning his Eagle Scout rank



**Wednesday
Breakfasts**

Morning Lenten Services followed by a Continental breakfast will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 9. Services are held in the Chapel beginning at 7:30 a.m. each Wednesday in Lent until Holy Week when it will move to Maundy Thursday.

The breakfasts are held in the Anything Goes room and follow a continental style. There are a few open dates for which we are seeking hosts willing to prepare and guide the serving of this simple meal usually attended by 20-25 persons. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office or phone 410-433-6650 to offer to help.

The service and meal are scheduled so that you can attend and still be on time for your job or school.

The birth of Christ brought God to us, but it took the cross of Christ to bring us to God.

St. Patrick



Saint Patrick's Mass

Sunday, March 20 10:00 a.m

The musical setting for our communion liturgy
by Philip Green

Chancel, Youth and Alleluia Choirs with Soloists and 26-member orchestra

Everyone will feel at least a wee-bit Irish on this Top-o-the-Sunday morning

Wear your green!!! Invite your friends!!!

The Editor's Eye

No 'lame duck' time for us

Excitement is building following the announcement of our "senior pastor elect," and we anticipate her arrival in July.

However, for Dr. Brannan and his family, the intervening months that some might label as "lame duck" surely will not be ones of inactivity or packing up. While each of the inspired and joy-filled services and events might technically be a "last time" for them, for us they should be a time for doing our very best, as our gift, not only to the Brannans, but to ourselves, our church, and mostly in thanks to God. For as members and friends of Grace, we can do no less, can we!

We've just celebrated "The Brannan Years" with a fun-filled AIDS Benefit Variety Show, a smiling tribute and recognition of the varied talents they have shared with us. Still ahead in a very crowded calendar is the return of the Catonsville High School Steel Drum Band for another Mardi Gras welcoming to Lent and the whole Lenten season of services, studies, meals, with Palm Sunday, "The Seven Last Words" on Good Friday and the glorious services of Easter, which will carry us through these important events in the liturgical year. The St. Patrick's Mass, Bible study, staff meetings, dozens of council and committee meetings, the services of Mother's Day, Father's Day, the end of the Church School year celebration, the Country Fair and Gala – whew! There will hardly be time to catch your breath with all that is planned for the months ahead, and this list does not pretend to be all-inclusive!

Before we look too far forward to the future, let us look back in appreciation and gratitude for nearly two decades of memories, inspiration, leadership, and pastoral love, and savor the present – the remaining months of Emora and Nancy's ministry among us.



If you are not already receiving the weekly E-Notes in your inbox each Thursday, please log on to the Grace website and enter your e-mail address to be included on the list. You can also submit your e-mail via the Ritual of

Friendship or send it to kitty.allen@verizon.net - we'll be happy to take care of it for you. Service information and brief reminders of events for that week are included in this electronic message.

Bring a
Friend to
Church



U. Methodists in Congress

Republican gains in the 2010 election produced a dramatic shift in the party affiliations of United Methodists serving in Congress, the *United Methodist News Service* reports.

United Methodist Republican legislators outnumber United Methodist Democrats two to one, or 32 to 16, in the 112th Congress. Democrats had a slight edge of 27 to 26 in the outgoing Congress.

Overall, five fewer United Methodists serve in the new Congress. In the Senate, United Methodists increased from nine to 11. However, they declined from 44 to 37 in the House.

Marylanders in the 2nd District are represented by United Methodist Rep. Dutch Ruppertsberger (D).



GEDCO breaks green ground

Last month Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake, City Council President Jack Young, state delegates, numerous community leaders, and former Baltimore Colts attended the GEDCO groundbreaking for Maryland's first "green house" residences for older adults to be located at Stadium Place. As a founding member of GEDCO, Grace was represented at the groundbreaking by Kristen McGuire who laid a foundation stone at the site of the new building. (Kristen is chair of Grace's Outreach Council.)

The new residences provide an alternative to traditional nursing care and will be home to 49 older adults who need skilled nursing or short-term rehabilitation. Each residence will house 12 people, each of whom has a private bedroom and bathroom connected to a shared kitchen, living room and dining room.

The groundbreaking was the culmination of nearly 20 years of effort to create a space that will provide innovative long-term care for older adults in Baltimore City. The project will be named for Harry and Jeanette Weinberg whose foundation is contributing just over \$2 million for the \$12 million project located on the grounds of the old Memorial Stadium in Waverly.

A thank you for food

Thank you for the recent donation of 9 bags of food to our CARES program.

Your generosity is appreciated and helps us respond to over 6,000 annual visits through our emergency services center, where we provide food, advocacy and emergency financial assistance with utility bills, eviction prevention and prescriptions.

Thank you for being a part of our story of hope. Together we are making a difference!

Gratefully yours,

Mitchell Posner, GEDCO Exec. Dir.

"The rich man is not one who is in possession of much, but one who gives much." - St. John Chrysostom

Heartiest birthday greetings to the following of our Church family celebrating in March:

- 1 Mark Irwin
- 2 Nancy Brannan, William T. Eickelberg, Cordelia Gilbert, Rena Pennington
- 3 Peyton Elburn, Susan Hodges
- 4 Elizabeth Ottinger, Philip Shebel
- 5 Tyson Sapre, Douglas Schmidt
- 6 Erin Redline
- 7 Laura Keenan, Abbi Wicklein-Bayne
- 8 Amanda Arnold, Kimberly Barnes, Kate D. Brannan, Devin Mack
- 9 Reinhard Nottrodt
- 10 Norma Faby, Ruth Schnering, Jan R. Scott
- 11 Janyne Althaus, William Klein, David Leitzel, Joshua Leitzel
- 12 Stephen Achuff, Teri Bickham, Joanie Stetz
- 13 Melissa Warren
- 14 Christopher Miller, Peggy Ruppertsberger, Shannon Schmidt
- 15 Jennifer Buettner, Adrienne Gonzales, Donald Sacks, John Tydings
- 16 Charlie Achuff, Teena Murray, Sarah Reppert, Thom Rinker, Lily Weiskittel
- 17 Jim Hackley, Meghan Mullan, W. A. Niermann, Jr., Ann Reppert, Mason Wilhide
- 20 Kenneth Hebden, Linda Latreille, Lynn Reichhelm, James Sanders, Diana Silk, M. Edward Skinner, III, Rebecca Skinner
- 21 Donald Benfer, Patricia Fulton, Frances Northington, Margaret Schilder
- 22 Linda Cameron, Steven R. James, Todd Martin
- 23 Kate Bennett, John Clotworthy, Rebecca Madsen
- 24 Margaret Hanley
- 25 McCabe Millon
- 26 Charlie Moylan, Jenna Marie Roth
- 27 Abigail Benfer, Christopher Covington, Eric Peacher, Walter Stuart, Jeffrey S. Underland
- 28 Lawrence Brown, Bruce Eicher, Marcia Gleckler, Thomas Hicks, Maggie Inskip
- 29 Elizabeth Bartholme, Maxwell Boye, Cory Schreier, Ben Woelper
- 30 Jackie Gordon, Alexis Melin, Lee Riley III, Charles Saylor, Karel-Anne Valentine
- 31 Peggy Rodgers, Karen Schaefer



Join in the discussion of *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore on Monday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. when the Grace Book Club meets in the church parlor. All are welcome.

Grace United Methodist Church
5407 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21210-2024

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This issue mailed February 28th
DATED MATERIAL
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GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor	Emora T. Brannan, Ph.D
Associate Pastor	Nancy J. Webb
Minister of Pastoral Care	Patti M. Fenske
Visitation Pastor, emeritus	William E. Polk, Jr.
Director of Music/Organist	Bruce R. Eicher
Associate Organist	David C. Brock
Director, Children's Choirs	Kathryn Arnold
Director, Youth Choir	Robert Cantrell
Director, Handbells of Grace Quartet	John Kessell
	Alice Mack, soprano; Kathryn Arnold, contralto
	Steven James, tenor; Robert Cantrell, bass
	Andrew Trofatter, associate tenor
	David Beachler, Nancy Brannan
Youth Directors	Christina Rushing
Administrative Assistant	Lois Klein
Church and Business Secretary	Lynn Beachler
General Treasurer	Barbara Blair
Preschool Director	Judd Watkins, Carolyn Sandler
Custodial Staff	Peggy Tyler, <i>emerita</i>

Grace Notes

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