

# Grace Notes



## Grace United Methodist Church

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

• [www.GraceUnitedMethodist.org](http://www.GraceUnitedMethodist.org)

Volume 19, No. 7

July 2011



### July Worship Schedule

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**

*Third Sunday after Pentecost*

Rev. Amy preaching

**SUNDAY, JULY 10**

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Rev. Amy preaching

**SUNDAY, JULY 17**

*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

Rev. Amy preaching

**SUNDAY, JULY 24**

*Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

“If God is For Us”

Rev. Nancy Webb preaching

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**

*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Rev. Amy preaching

The Chancel Choir  
will sing during the month of July

Cribbery and Toddlers care

Children ages 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
should come to worship with their  
parents. They will be dismissed to  
class following the children’s time

We invite you to meet and greet  
one another at the Lemonade  
Fellowship after worship



Two weeks ago at Annual Conference, I had the privilege of hearing Dr. Emora Brannan preach. He had been invited to give the sermon at the Service of Remembrance, a worship service which honors those who have died in the past year as well as those retiring from active ministry. Although our paths have crossed previously, I had not heard Dr. Brannan preach. Since many of you know his gifts in this area far more than I do, you will not be surprised to hear me comment on his wry sense of humor and the wealth of wisdom conveyed in poetic turns of phrase. I doubt any other preacher could have coerced an Annual Conference congregation into singing the refrain of Kenny Rogers’ *The Gambler* in order to talk about the insights we gain as we look back upon our lives. Listening in the congregation, I felt privileged to catch even the smallest glimpse of the minister I am following, the leader you have been privileged to share in ministry

with for more than two decades.

The first few months after a new pastor’s arrival are always transition months. There are a large number of “first things,” whether it is the first Sunday, the first round of committee meetings, or the first funeral with the new minister. All of the ‘firsts’ tell the minister and the congregation that a major shift in this Body of Christ has occurred. You’ll be getting used to a new face in the pulpit on Sunday, just as I get used to a new sanctuary. You’ll be getting to know a little about my style of leadership, just as I start to put names and faces together. Particularly after a long tenure, a change in pastors is a big transition. I am grateful for the many ways you have already begun to welcome me and my family to Grace, and I look forward to hearing all of your thoughts about the church and its ministry, about the community in which we are situated, and what it feels like to say good-bye to Dr. Brannan and hello to me.

I thought I would take this first newsletter to say, very briefly, just a few things. I’ve structured the rest of these words into a question and answer form, hoping that I might touch on some questions you might have.

#### **Question One: Why Grace?**

I wasn’t expecting a new appointment this year, and nothing could have been farther from my mind when I received a call from our District Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Hunt. But as I thought and prayed that day after our conversation, I found myself sensing a call towards Grace UMC. Its location as a city church, its history of activism, and my perception that you were a rich blessed and blessing community of faith struck a chord in me. My

sense of being led towards Grace was strongly confirmed in the ‘meet the pastor’ meeting with your Staff Parish Relations Committee that following Saturday. Rarely have I sensed a room with such energy, warmth, welcome and desire to grow. I love being in ministry with those who lead interesting, challenging lives, who take seriously, amid all the other commitments that they have, their commitment to Christ. I sensed this was the kind of place Grace is, and that kind of passion says a lot about what kind of church you will be in the days ahead.

**Question Two: Can you tell us more about yourself and your family?**

I was born and raised in Orlando, FL. I sensed a call to ministry at a young age, in elementary school, and was truly raised in the church. My family attended a large, downtown United Methodist Congregation, where I first knew the kind of love, acceptance and remembrance that only a church can bring. I left Orlando to attend college in the Boston area and then to attend Duke Divinity School. After three years with the General Board of Global Ministries, I entered the Baltimore-Washington Conference when I accepted the associate minister’s position at Metropolitan Memorial, a large congregation in Washington, DC.

My husband Chris and I met in 2001, married in 2003 and are the parents of two young children. Chris is a practicing Catholic, whose work is typically in the areas of ministry and education in the Catholic community. Our son Luke is 5 1/5. Luke loves all kinds of reptiles, most sports and would spend every day at the pool if we would let him. Suzanna is 2 ½ going on 12. She loves to keep up with her brother, reading books, the color purple and has been known to suggest that Jesus lives under her bed. Luke will start kindergarten at Roland Park Elementary School in the fall. I am thrilled that Suzanna will walk across the parking lot to go to preschool at Grace.

**Question Three: What should we call you?**

Please call me Amy. If you’d rather call me Rev. Amy or have your children call me Rev. McCullough, that is fine. I will answer to just about anything, but I prefer my first name.

**Question Four: When and where can we find you?**

In general, I will be at the church Tuesdays through Fridays, with Monday as my day away from the office. Please feel free to stop by, and know that I would love to greet you in person. My family will be moving into the parsonage in early August, and so for the month of July I’ll be traveling back and forth from our home in Catonsville. The best phone numbers to reach me at outside of office hours are my home, 410-719-8838 and my cell, 410-615-4446. I’ll have a separate email account at the church, which will be set up and announced soon.

I can’t tell you how excited I am to be coming to Grace. I look forward to meeting you in worship, in the church office and in the focus groups Staff Parish will be organizing in the months ahead. In these weeks of summer, may you be richly blessed with the knowledge of the grace of God at work in your life and our life together.

Grace and Peace,  
Amy

## REFLECTIONS

### **On the 227<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference - “Connect as One” – by your lay members**

I attended the 227<sup>th</sup> United Methodist Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference on May 26-28 as a lay leader for Grace along with Kitty Allen and Jean Smith and more than 1,200 other members. The theme was *Connect as One* and we are called to do that through radical hospitality, sharing the love of God with non- and nominally religious people we come in contact with as we spread the gospel. “Today’s Call to Action is as urgent as God’s call to Abraham, Mordecai’s call to Ester, Jeremiah’s call to the exiled Israelites, Jesus’ call to his disciples and John Wesley’s call to a new society called Methodists. The call is the same in every instance: I need you for such a time as this,” said Bishop Schol. “By embracing God’s plan for us, we can help our congregations choose to press on into the communities around us – toward those who are spiritually hungry,” he said. During the conference we:

1. Saw the ordination and commissioning of 26 Deacons and Elders;
2. Passed an \$18.5 M budget
3. Collected \$79,910 for disaster relief and homeless ministries; and
4. Elected 38 delegates for General and Jurisdictional conferences

We heard from a number of inspirational speakers including our own Dr. Brannan who addressed family and friends at the Service of Remembrance. “Thank you for giving us your loved ones to serve the church, to do a heap of livin’ so God’s church could be our home,” he said. We also heard from the Rev. Alfreda Wiggins, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Marian Wright Edelman, and Betty Katiyo, lay leader from Zimbabwe. Betty Katiyo along with Kennedy Nhondoro sang “Amazing Grace” in their native Shona. The light of Christ really shone from their faces in a way I have rarely seen. Marian Wright Edelman from the Children’s Defense Fund used the story of Noah’s Ark.

“Lesson one, don’t miss the boat. The United States is going to miss the boat to lead and compete in our globalizing world, because we are not preparing a majority of our children for the future. Noah’s lesson two, we are all in the same boat, which is the central message of today’s positive and inclusive gathering. Many Americans may not think they have any self-interest in assuring a fair playing field for other people’s children, especially poor and minority children. But black, Hispanic and other minority children will be a majority of our child population in 2023. Lesson three, plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark. Tomorrow is today, and children have only one childhood. They need to be healthy now. Lesson four, remember that the ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic was built by professionals... Lesson five, build your future, build our children’s future and our nation’s future on high ground. Let’s leave our nation and world better than we found it, more just, more hopeful, more peaceful, more productive, and more unified.”

Bishop Schol directs United Methodists, “In the midst of our diversity, we press on toward the goal that is before us. Today, we call you to action.”

– *Pam Cheek*

What a privilege to meet with 1200 United Methodist Church members for three days. It was an amazingly diversified group. At the conclusion of the session Bishop Schol alerted the elected representatives to General and Jurisdictional Conferences to be aware they represented a group with a great variety of backgrounds and styles of worship. In our worship and music experiences those three days we were enriched by a tremendous array of approaches to celebrating God.

The joyous times were welcoming new ministers and electing representatives to other conferences. The difficult times were voting to close churches and hearing the dramatic loss in membership of our denomination.

A special moment for us was Dr. Brannan’s sermon as a time of memory for deceased ministers and spouses. He mixed gratitude and humor in his quiet way of reaching a congregation. Only he could connect quotes from Mather and the words of “The Gambler” as sung by Kenny Rogers. In the opening afternoon session Mark Miller, the music director, led us in “The Gambler.” Yes, Dr. Brannan missed it because he was in the Cokesbury bookstore! We were glad to see Bernice Peacher carry Eric’s light to the altar of memory.

We were asked to experience the joy of passionate worship and radical hospitality as we spread God’s extravagant grace. To do this we need to engage and connect with the nominally religious and the non-religious. We must live outwardly so that the community becomes our mission field. We need to expect Bible literacy and deep faith worship. Our congregations will grow when we offer spirited and quality traditional and contemporary worship that connects with the nominally and non-religious people around us. Let us practice Wesley’s advice to live in God’s grace.

Bishop Schol left us with this request. “We know we are calling you to a greater challenge, but these are challenging times that require deeper faith and greater acts of service. This is a time to give ourselves to a higher calling and increase our commitment so that we become like Christ as we make and engage disciples for the transformation of the world. We must lean into the wind as we press on.”

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Grace UM Church. May we live in God’s grace as we welcome others to our community of faith and love.

– *Jean Smith*

Grace Church was represented in a very special way at the 227<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference held May 26-28 at the Marriott Inner Harbor for in addition to Rev. Nancy Webb, Pam Cheek, Jean Smith and me, we had Dr. Emora Brannan, leader in the number of years of service among the class of retiring clergy. Not only was he honored by Bishop John Schol by being invited to preach at the Memorial Service, but he also served communion at the opening worship and participated in the Service of Passage wherein retiring clergy assisted in the transition of the newly ordained and commissioned. When not officially on duty or in clergy-only voting sessions, we were pleased to have him sit with us in the general delegation, join us at meals both at the hotel and at the James Joyce Pub (one of our favorite retreats from the jam-packed agenda of conference).

The theme this year was “Connect As One.” As Rev. Alfreda Wiggins quoted in her opening worship sermon, “We can’t all get to heaven until we all get together!” Bishop Schol stressed that we needed to “Come, open to what God will bring” as we considered the State of the United Methodist Church in the context of today’s world with its many blessings but also challenges and differences of opinion.

Some highlights: Two special offerings were taken during conference, one generously raising more than \$58,000 for UMCOR for the ravages of hurricane, earthquake, tsunami, tornado and flooding in Haiti, Japan, and the southern U.S., and then more than \$18,000 for ministry to the homeless of Baltimore City.

Of primary interest on the business agenda was the election of seven lay and seven clergy delegates each to General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference and four alternates. Lay and clergy met separately, voting only for their colleagues, using electronic handheld devices for the first time – a huge improvement over previous hand-counting methods.

Committee reports, a heartfelt welcome to Baltimore from Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, greetings from two clergy from Zimbabwe, lots of singing with keyboard (some traditional, most contemporary) and discussion and voting on several issues to be referred with the approval of this Annual Conference to General Conference – such was our schedule. Of interest to our congregation was the proposal to delete discriminatory language in *The Book of Discipline* which was approved, evidence of a growing desire for more inclusiveness, especially at leadership levels now. Grace Church had officially endorsed this proposal even in 2010.

The Bishop’s recurring theme was that we must bend into the wind and press on to reach our goal. Some goals set by the Discipleship Council included increasing worship attendance, numbers of those joining by Profession of Faith, numbers of small groups, those engaged in mission, and the money given to mission. The real challenge of the church is “connecting with people.” When seeking new members, we should ask how can this person enrich us? What is this person looking for? Don’t try to make them fit us, but focus on how we can adjust to what they are seeking. In other words, do less talking and more listening and then acting. But with all the reports given, Bishop Schol said we do not have all the answers. We are still figuring it out, but it is the church that must change. Determine what divides us so we can begin to unite. The business of conference just keeps the gears greased - we need to make the wheels turn.

Of great concern to the body was a recommendation that effective for clergy hired as of January 1, 2012, there would be no health benefit when they retire, reflecting a growing pattern in businesses with budgets hurt by the economy. No action was taken at this session.

Dr. Brannan’s sermon in the Service of Remembrance was titled “It Takes a Heap of Living” as those of memory had done so in passing through the “great ordeal” in serving God’s people – both a joy and a tribulation. They did “a heap of living so God could give us a home.”

In her sermon, Dr. Marian Wright Edelman, advocate for the Children’s Defense Fund, proclaimed that every child is sacred, and each is deserving of respect. She said the greatest threat to our country is failure to invest in our children. “It is easier to raise strong children than to mend broken men,” as we now shamefully spend three times more money on keeping a prisoner in jail than keeping a child in school.

Of interest to long-time Grace members, Rev. Don Bruce Lowe, associate pastor 1963-66, was recognized for reaching a milestone 50 years in ordained ministry.

In pursuing the goal of “connecting as one,” it is not enough for us to accept each other; we need to truly embrace each other. As one who has attended five Annual Conferences now, I sense a shift in the winds as delegates discussed some controversial topics with more approved this year. This is a start, but as the Bishop exhorted, we need to press on, leaning *into* the wind, to reach our goal.

– *Kitty Allen*

## **We welcome new members - be sure to say “Hello” when you see them!**

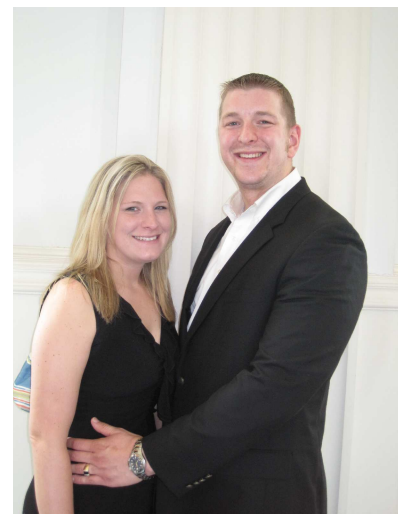
**Diana McGraw**



**Nancy Gibson**



**Amanda Ford and Justin Pfeffer**





Heartiest congratulations to those of our Grace Family celebrating birthdays in July.

- 1 Demmy Adesina, Stuart Kahl
- 2 Elizabeth Bishop
- 3 Bob Bonnell
- 4 George Hocker, Jr., Janie Seitz, Bobby Yanega, III
- 5 Edward Dexter
- 6 Ann Dahl, Andrew Pflaum, Christina Rushing, Amanda Stearns
- 7 Jack Wojciechowski
- 8 Cary Achuff, Catherine Buffington
- 9 Erin Eisler, Thomas O. Moore
- 10 Barry Miller, Joanne Schill, Jesse Schreier
- 11 Christopher Rinker
- 12 Caitlyn James, Mary Strobel
- 13 Thomas Gayler, Jennifer Matosziuk
- 14 Rowan Ferguson, Sean Foote
- 16 Kathleen Bossom, Garrett Charlton, Walter Greenhouse
- 17 Sandy Goll
- 18 Sarah Devine, Brian Kick
- 19 Douglas Miller
- 20 Kevin Hudson, Ann Martin, Mrs. Douglas Payne
- 21 Carol Frazier, Marguerite Greenman, Mason Woodward
- 22 Andrea Allgood, Joshua Gabriel, Kathilynch Martin, Don Topper
- 23 Alexander Greenland, Tonya Sapre
- 24 Broderick Bond, Jed Byrne, Kelly Carter, Brady Thomas Guy, Cristin Hickey, Jeff Sewell
- 25 Jessica Bryan, Rory Ferguson, Doris Patterson, Kittie Simmons, Albert Snellings
- 26 Sara Hackley, Lindsey Miller, Ashley Stansbury
- 27 Kristine McCusker, Marielee McGill, Carol Polk, John Scott III
- 28 Chris Hayes, Linda Personette, John Wellener
- 29 Nancy Cornbrooks, Jenai Paul, Robert Roth, Kristin Simmons
- 30 Ross Burbage, Sarah Cappe, Juliana Cook, Patricia Schall
- 31 Jean Carter, Lesley Dudek, Glenn Rowley, Casey Seneschal

### *My Latest "Vacation"*

This time I went downtown to that "Hotel" with gardens outside of floors 8, 9 and 10 on St. Paul Street, right off of I-83. I spent 9 days there in one of the new rooms – very elegant. The views from the window are spectacular. Great staff, very helpful and attentive. Got a little fixing up that I was told I needed. Hopefully I look better!

Seriously, I want to thank everyone for their cards,

## WHY GRACE?

It was 10:30 in the middle of a snowstorm on Christmas Eve when we decided that the Civic wasn't going to make it. We had only been married a few months and were having as much trouble navigating combined family customs (and pressures) as we were Northern Parkway that night. But we decided we weren't going to drive to Reisterstown for church with our families. We would find a church nearby and go by ourselves. This was big. The lights of Grace United Methodist, the church on the corner that we'd seen a few times, were shining. When we came in from the snow, we were warmed by a sanctuary filled with light and music. This place felt right.

We liked Grace, but at 25 years old, still weren't at the point where we were ready to find a permanent church home. Funny how starting a family changes things. Seven years later when we decided to have children, we knew we wanted to give them an opportunity to grow in faith, an appreciation of the wonders of God, and the stability of a church family and we were needing and seeking these things for ourselves (what's that quote? Home is a place where you grow up wanting to leave and grow old wanting to get back to...it was kind of like that for us and church).

Being from different denominations – I grew up Methodist, Mike grew up Catholic – we explored a variety of different churches in the area and kept coming back to Grace. It still felt right. The sermons were intellectual, spiritual, and sometimes challenging. The members of the congregation were so genuine. Not sticky sweet. Not pushy. They were people we really wanted to talk to and get to know. We like that Grace is in Baltimore City and committed to the growth and prosperity of its citizens. We appreciate that the church is a reconciling congregation. And when we found out that Nancy Webb (who we adore) was a friend of the minister who married us, it was one more sign that this place was right.

Now four years after joining, the wonderful Dr. Brannan has baptized our two children, Adeline and Garrett, I am lucky to be on the Mission Outreach Committee, and we have made friends young and old who make us feel like we are part of a community. We are happy to be raising our children here, hopeful about the next chapter of the church, and know that this is the right place for us.

- *Kristen Campbell McGuire*

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calls and asking my family how I was doing. And especially your prayers. We all appreciated your caring.

- *Ruth Ann Beacher*

## New School Partnership

The Mission Outreach Committee has started a new partnership with the Northwood Appold Community Academy (NACA), a Baltimore City Charter School at the corner of Loch Raven Boulevard and Cold Spring Lane. The committee has granted funds to support a field trip and book purchases for the school's library and is looking forward to growing this partnership in the coming months. Thanks to Wilma Starkey for providing leadership for this initiative.

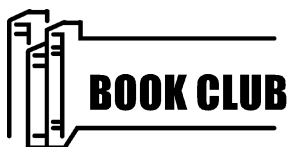
NACA first opened in the 2005-2006 school year. It now serves nearly 400 children in K-7 grades and has plans to add a grade a year until a full K-12 program is in place. The school boasts a 7:1 student to adult ratio, a class size of 21 students, and is open to any student in Baltimore City through a lottery process.

The founding president and lead facilitator for the school is Dr. Cecil Conteen Gray, pastor of Northwood-Appold United Methodist Church. Dr. Gray's wife, Sonya Hunt Gray, serves as vice president of the school. The Grays and other school leaders understand that many families leave the city seeking better public schools or strain financially to afford independent/private schools and they are committed to offering city students and parents a reason to stay in Baltimore. Test scores at the school are comparable to Baltimore City averages. Northwood Appold stresses computer and phonics-based education and founders describe the ethos of the school as "optimistic, student-centered, high-achieving, committed to and expectant of excellence for all, culture-sensitive, respectful, engaged, energetic, creative, serious, fun, and finally, focused on and committed to freedom and democracy, so that our students are proficient at making a living and a life." NACA is guided by Yale University's Dr. James P. Comer's School Development Program, wherein all major decisions are made collectively.

In April, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake awarded NACA the grand prize for its participation in the Mayor's Fuel Up to Play 60 Challenge. NACA was one of several schools in Baltimore City to participate in the fitness challenge, hosted in conjunction with the NFL.

We are optimistic that this partnership will provide an ongoing opportunity to support students in Baltimore City and will keep members of our church community updated on ways to be involved with NACA.

\* \* \*



The selection for the July 11 discussion will be *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. Come to the parlor at 7 p.m.



## Report on "Ride for the Feast"

Dr. Frances Northington, one of the bikers on the Shirley Temples team, reports the following about the fund-raising project.

- Over \$321,000 raised by 185 riders
- Our host in Ocean City was Atlantic United Methodist Church - those Methodists are good people!
- Our Team Shirley Temple raised more than \$22,000 for Moveable Feast.
- Every one on our team pedaled all 140 miles, a total of 1120 miles!
- Grace Church, my largest sponsor, helped raise more than 50% of the \$3,330 that I raised.

Frances sends a special thank you to each of those who supported her in this worthwhile benefit.

## Within the Family at Grace

### BAPTISMS

Robert Laird Wilhide  
May 15, 2011

June Grace Michaleski  
May 29, 2011

### BIRTH

Ellyse Camile Wiseman  
Daughter of Jody and Tom Wiseman  
Granddaughter of Linda and Burt English  
May 12, 2011

### WEDDING

Whitney Ann Scheiner and Joe F. Martel  
May 14, 2011

OUR EXPENSES DO NOT TAKE A SUMMER VACATION.  
PLEASE KEEP YOUR GIVING UP-TO-DATE

## The Editor's Eye

*“This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember and move on. . .”*

### I.

On June 30, the sun will set on an era at Grace Church as The Rev. Dr. Emora Thomas Brannan enters retirement and for the first time in two decades will not have to prepare a weekly sermon or worry about lights left on at 5407 North Charles Street.

For 20 years the members of this church have been blessed by the presence of the Brannan family. We have watched young Patrick and Elizabeth mature from childhood to fine young adults. We have shared joys, illnesses, concerns, and celebrations with this family living in the parsonage, “our house which has been their home.”

Dr. Brannan is a man of God, an inspirational and well-informed preacher, the owner of so many books – all read and remembered, a respected historian, compassionate counselor, and tireless leader for Methodism in this church, the conference, the Ecumenical Institute at St. Mary's, and beyond, and our friend. We will remember the visuals of Dr. B, some with a smile -- his collection of braces, his clerical collar (unless wearing his Charlie Brown or light-up Christmas tie), his tam, his regal processional “cardinal red” cape, the impressive array of chasubles and liturgical stoles, his straw hat and Mardi Gras outfit, even his Tina Turner garb. He gave us beautifully integrated services of worship, enthusiastic support of music and other programs of our ministry, a love of baptisms and the walk with the children.

He boldly met the challenge to guide us through an extensive and successful capital campaign, preparing Grace for ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With it all, he even understands the workings of our security and alarm systems, knows how to restart the boiler, and reset the elevator. As our senior pastor, he would never ask others to do what he would not do himself and could often be found setting up tables and chairs, taking out the trash, duct-taping the paraments on the altar. His Bible study and Advent and Lenten studies drew a core of regulars fascinated by the depth of his knowledge of the Bible and biblical times. With his support, Grace has become a leader in the Reconciling Ministries Network, and active advocacy for the mission of Manna House.

His expertise and knowledge were recognized by the Conference as he was often an appointed leader at that level and frequently at meetings there. How much more could he possibly fit into each 24 hours? Only Jay Leno knows for they shared the wee hours together many nights!

Behind him and beside him always is his wife Nancy who both willingly and out of necessity shared her life with us in many ways, especially working with the church school, teaching the Youth Class and co-directing the Youth Fellowship. She balanced with grace the raising of her children and ours. Her husband would be out many nights at committee meetings, teaching, visiting hospitals, so it was Nancy who absorbed a larger role. The parsonage was the site of parties, picnics, youth gatherings, and her cakes were the first sold at every Country Fair. With her own teaching career, health challenges, and frequent visitors seeking food and handouts, she was a true ballast for them all. Even after their move to Gaywood, she and their dog would nightly drive by to check the church facilities for left-on lights and unlocked doors.

Emora and Nancy have been such an integral part of Grace. We will miss them, but recall with fondness and gratitude many memories and signs of accomplishment. Well done, good and faithful servants. We at Grace Church are truly richer for your presence among us. Thank you, dear friends. Happiness, good health and God speed!

### II.

Yes, the sun will set on June 30, but it will rise again, high in the sky on July 1, as we welcome The Rev. Amy Peed McCullough, our new lead pastor. With great excitement we await the leadership she is bringing. The parsonage has been repainted and repaired in readiness for the new family – her husband Chris and their children, Luke (5) and Suzanna (2) – happy to know that the playground is next to their backyard. All things new for all of us!

In the days and weeks ahead, Rev. McCullough will be meeting with individuals and small groups as she and we become better acquainted, explore mutual interests and expectations, and set the path of ministry for the months ahead.

“Welcome, Happy morning!”

### III.

Rev. Patti Fenske begins a new stage in her life's journey on July 1 as well. As our Minister of Pastoral Care, she has visited the sick, brought church to the shut-in, entertained the UMW with her singing. As a deacon, she has shared in our worship as the reader of the Gospel, the one who sent us forth, and communion preparation. But most of all, she has been a loving friend, baking cupcakes for those she visits, providing transportation to doctors, listening, praying, offering a personal greeting with the communion host, and a heart-warming smile. Now as you retire “one more time,” Patti, we give you our love and deep appreciation. May God continue to bless you and those you love.



## Patti Fenske honored on retirement

Elaine Schaefer reading certificate in the service (top) [Patti missed being there] and Patti cutting “her” cake at the UMW meeting.



### *A tribute*

Patti had just come to Grace Church when I was hurt in a golf cart accident (shattered arm, bruises, etc.) We returned to Baltimore on Friday from S.C. where the accident occurred. Monday p.m. Patti

was at my home. Many more trips followed -- food from the market and just being there. In Dec. 2009 I fell, unable to walk with both bones broken in my pelvis. The recovery was long, but Patti was there. In our conversations, I needed a painter and Patti’s beloved son-in-law did the job. Then, with some other church members, Patti came for lunch to see what Casey described as “sharp.”

When I think of Patti, I remember her as bring someone who did a great job, great friend, and oh, all the nice things I can say!!! I shall truly miss her.

– Laura Headley



**Steven James** was recognized in the service for 25 years as our tenor soloist. Following is a song sung to him at a choir brunch after worship (lyrics by Jane Benson - tune “Bicycle Built For Two”)

*Even Steven, tenor extraordinaire:  
Calm composure, no crisis can impair.  
Whatever you’re nasal-misting, your dulcet tones assisting,  
“Ar Hyd y Nos” to Berlioz  
In your twenty-five years at Grace.*

*Three decades as public health’s stalwart guard,  
Now it’s chef, golfer, Grampa – but still our bard.*

*Here’s why we’re confetti-flinging:  
You’re great, and so’s your singing.  
With cheers galore, we thank you for  
Your twenty-five years at Grace!*

He joins Alice Mack and Kathryn Arnold, both of whom joined the quarter-century club in recent years. (Paul Redline also served as our baritone soloist for more than 25. Robert Cantrell is newer to our church as soloist , and building up his years!) How blessed we are for their years of singing and praising God among us.

### Hunger doesn’t take a vacation

There is a great need during the hot summer as fewer donations of food are received. Please remember those in need when doing your grocery shopping.



“Mr. Wesley” came to worship, read from the scriptures, (King James version) preached, and even baptized a baby during his visit to Grace.



In the next issue, we will publish the official photo of the Confirmation Class, but here is one of the cake served at the reception following the service.

# CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

September 2010 through May 2011

– *Clip and save this page, inserting it into the cover pocket of your Directory* –

## NEW MEMBERS



Amanda Ford and  
Justin Pfeffer



Nancy R. Gibson



Cynthia King



Diana R. McGraw

Amanda Ford - 4 Strabane Court, 21234  
Justin Pfeffer - 4 Strabane Court, 21234  
Nancy R. Gibson - 5000 Greenleaf Road, 21210  
Cynthia King - 511 W. Pratt Street, #805, 21201  
Diana Renshaw McGraw - 817 Trafalgar Road, 21204

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Allen, Malcolm III - 538 50<sup>th</sup> St., Apt. 3R, Brooklyn, NY 11220  
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Wojciechowski, Dawn - 4007 Pinedale Drive, Nottingham 21236  
Woelper, M/M Benjamin F. - 9104-D Timberbrook Lane, Florence, KY 41042

**REMOVALS (D=deceased)**

Battye, Kenneth - D  
Beasley, M/M Robert  
Blalock, Gregory C.  
Blome, Esther - D  
Carrigan, Nancy  
Decker, George F. - D  
Duncan, Irene - D  
Farace, M/M David  
Goetzke, Betty Lee - D  
Graf, Karl M. - D  
Graf, Marian - D  
Hemmings, Dorris - D  
Hewitt, Doug & Murray, Teena  
Neal, Margaret - D  
Peacher, Rev. Eric G. - D  
Pease, Jacquelyne - D  
Perritt, M/M James  
Pohlhaus, M/M Carl  
Pyle, Louise - D  
Rogers, M/M Michael  
Simmons, John Edward  
Stucki, Walter A, III

**NAME CHANGE**

Elizabeth Ander to Elizabeth Vargas  
Virginia M. Hodges to Virginia M. Jeffrey  
Jhana Kessell to Jhana Marquez

Grace United Methodist Church  
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## GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor	Amy Peed McCullough
Associate Pastor	Nancy J. Webb
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
Youth Directors	David Beachler
Administrative Assistant	Christina Rushing
Church and Business Secretary	Lois Klein
General Treasurer	Lynn Beachler
Preschool Director	Barbara Blair
Custodial Staff	Chris Gause, Carolyn Sandler
	Peggy Tyler, <i>emerita</i>

### Grace Notes

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