

Grace Notes

Grace United Methodist Church

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



www.GraceUnitedMethodist.org

Volume 27, No. 5

May 2019

SHARE IN "A CELEBRATION OF SERVICE"

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Like last year, we will dedicate this Sunday to a variety of service projects throughout the church.

The morning's schedule will be:

9:30 a.m. - Worship in the sanctuary

10:00-11:30 a.m. - Service Projects - a series of ways to serve those in need in Baltimore and around the world.

A time capsule containing memories and documentation of our 150 year history will be installed in the courtyard Memory Garden culminating our year-long anniversary celebration



MAY Preaching and Worship

May 5 - Reconciling Anniversary Celebration

Rev. Amy McCullough preaching

May 12 - Rev. Amy McCullough preaching

May 19 - T. C. Morrow, guest preacher

T. C. Morrow works at the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, is a member of Foundry United Methodist Church and a certified candidate for ministry in the United Methodist Church

May 26 - Pastor Dane Wood preaching



Gala and Auction

Saturday, May 4

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The Annual Gala and Auction benefitting the Grace Outreach Backpack Program will take place in Fellowship Hall. A fun opportunity to dress up, enjoy some delicious food, and bid on some fabulous auction prizes and surprises!

Childcare will be provided.

Tickets may be purchased in advance during Fellowship Time or in the church office. Reserved seating is also available.

Please consider donating your special talents, gift cards or other unique items. If you would like to donate, reserve seats or help with set-up/clean-up, please contact Sue Williams at

Suzanne.williams@fundlrc.com or the church office.

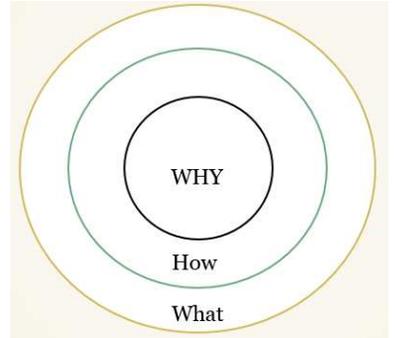
Finding Our Why

With the recent occurrences at General Conference, many of us, myself included, question the direction of the United Methodist Church. Therefore it is more important than ever for us as Grace United Methodist Church to define who we are and what we stand for. As Chair of Grace's Church Council, I wanted to share with you the work we have done towards that end. At our last Church Council meeting held on March 5th, 2019, we went through a group exercise based on Simon Sinek's books called "*Start with Why.*" In it, he describes the concept of the Golden Circle with your Why at the center. He describes the why as the purpose, cause or belief that drives an organization. Using exercises found in the book, "*Find Your Why,*" we generated a Why Statement that would be at the center of everything we do here at Grace serving to guide all of our decisions and our actions as a church. Our Why Statement is as follows:

"To Act so that God's Love is Felt by All"

The next circle out from the why is our how. How will we as a Church achieve our Why? The following is our How Statement:

- *By welcoming ALL who seek to feel closer to God,*
- *By serving others and doing God's work,*
- *By creating a sense of belonging and family for one another,*
- *By caring for each other daily but especially in our times of greatest need,*
- *By bearing witness to the suffering in the world and taking action to fight injustice,*
- *By helping each other grow personally, spiritually and in community with one another*
- *By becoming more whole in our efforts towards perfecting our love for God and walking in the ways of Jesus*



The last ring in the Golden Circle is our What. What do we do as a Church to enact our How statements? These are our ministries, our outreach and social justice initiatives, our worship services, our youth programs, our music and concerts and all the other wonderful work we do here at Grace. We ask that all members of the congregation, prayerfully consider how you can foster our Why and our How here at Grace. Now, more than ever, it is critical that we come together as a Church family.

-Marie A. Yeh, Chair, Church Council

Within the Family at Grace

BIRTHS

Matthew Steele Adams
to Valerie and Curtis Adams
with big brother James and big sister Cecelia
March 19, 2019

Margot Reese Gordon
to Colleen and Reece Gordon
and big brother Cooper
March 25, 2019



Bidding farewell to Dr. Trisha Wetzelberger, former director of Grace's Children and Youth Ministry on her last Sunday. Thank you, Trisha!

Strategic Planning project update

Waldon Studio Architects and the facilities study committee have completed an initial assessment of the building usage based upon input from the congregation and users of the facility. Waldon has identified both short term and long term preliminary goals for potential improvements to the Grace Church facility. This process has included online surveys collected from ministry groups, open suggestions from the congregation and a series of focus meetings with ministry leaders and the architects. Short term and long term goals that have been suggested include technology, lighting and aesthetic upgrades, improved storage areas, consolidated offices and entry desk area, increased flexible space on the ground level, increased utilization of the courtyard, improved circulation and access between the glass entryway and narthex and improved and handicapped-accessible centralized restrooms.

The facilities study committee is presently reviewing all of the suggestions prepared by Waldon Studio Architects and will be presenting its recommendations for consideration by the Trustees at their meeting in May. Once the Trustees have reached conclusions on the goals to be supported, an informational meeting will be held with all interested members of the congregation invited to attend in order to review the short and long term goals. That meeting has been tentatively scheduled to be held following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 19th.

SAVE THE DATE - JUNE 15

Baltimore Pride Parade

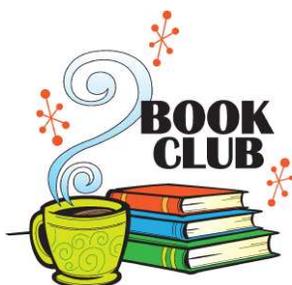
On Saturday, June 15, members from the now seven Baltimore United Methodist Reconciling Congregations will once again march as a group with the Faith Communities of Baltimore delegation. Last year there were 18 members from five United Methodist Churches and we were a part of the Faith Communities of Baltimore group of 300 members representing 30 congregations.

With the press the United Methodist Church has been getting since the recent General Conference, it would be nice to have a large turnout of Reconciling United Methodists to make a statement that there are United Methodist Churches and members that are supportive of the LGBTQ community.

More information will appear in the June Grace Notes. For now, please plan to be with us on Saturday, June 15.



Directors Bruce Eicher and Chris Schroeder, responsible for more than 60 years of inspirational music leadership at this church, are enjoying Fellowship Time after worship.



Like to Read?

The Grace Book Club at its May 13th meeting will be discussing *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. New members are welcome to join them at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.



Birthday Greetings

Heartiest congratulations to those of our Grace family celebrating birthdays in May.

- 1 Ashby Heath
- 2 Elizabeth D. White
- 3 Robert Graziosi
- 4 Robert McIntire
- 5 Laura Bowers, Garrett McGuire
- 6 Tanya Spedalere
- 7 Jack Bayne, Charles Chery-Hise, Addie McGuire, Mason Paul, Molly Thorne
- 8 Avery Heath, Isabella Zimmerman
- 9 David Doub, Elizabeth Madsen, Kristin Turner
- 10 Chayla Rowley, Nancy Seitz, Dorothy Shindle, Zachary Wyatt
- 11 Luke Friar
- 12 Ella Berzins, Ellyse Wiseman
- 13 Kevin Shaner
- 15 Charlotte Benfer, Christine Bowers, Chloe Canter, Lisa Greenhouse
- 16 Marguerite Stucki
- 17 Daniel Hanley, Virginia Jeffrey, Lauren Simmons
- 18 Michelle Fields, George A. Kahl, Charles Maxwell
- 19 Clarke Bowers, Chris James, Kristen McGuire
- 20 Delight Scouten, Sue Williams
- 21 Megan Green
- 23 Ethan Hayes, Kathryn Mullan
- 24 Nancy Gibson
- 25 Susan Baukhages, Alexander Gilmore
- 26 Katarrinna Gause, Taren Weidner
- 27 Michael Paul, Whitney Paul
- 28 Meredith Bickham, Gwen Farrugia, Jeanne Gayler, Sandy Kick
- 29 Stephen Howe
- 30 Stephen McIntire
- 31 Sean Casey, Carole Redline, Sue Rinker, Jeaneen Wingate, Elizabeth Winship



June 24-28 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Children will go "To Mars and Beyond" to explore where God's power can take us. Extended option is available. Registration forms available at the church office. Questions? Contact amy@graceunitedmethodist.org.



If you or someone you know is graduating this spring, please let us know so that we might recognize this achievement in a future issue of *Grace Notes*. Be sure to give us the name, what school and degree, any special honors, and any plans for future education. Send the information to kitty.allen@verizon.net or to the Church Office. Our next deadline is May 10.



Reading Partners tutors: Holly Troyer, Jack Danz, Dianne VanSciver, Patrick Olney, Maureen Danz and Dick Frank. Amanda Graham is not in the photo.

For the past four years, members of Grace have been tutoring children in Baltimore City through Reading Partners. This excellent program is designed to bring the students up to grade level.

Each year the tutors have requested the donation of "gently used" books to increase the numbers of books that the students can choose from after their session with the tutor. Each student can choose a book, and that book is theirs to keep.

All of the past and current tutors would like to thank everyone from our congregation and Grace Preschool for the wonderful books that have been donated. These books have enhanced the love of reading within the Reading Partners classroom.

Thank you from Jack and Maureen Danz, Dick Frank, Amanda Graham, Pat Olney, Holly Troyer and Dianne VanSciver. Grace Church has again shown that it is a community that cares.



Now accepting applications!



Call us for a tour today!

Grace Preschool

grow with us

Twos, Threes, Pre-K & Kindergarten programs

410.532.2235

GracePreschoolBaltimore.com

5407 North Charles Street • Baltimore, MD 21210

LOC #15346



Grace Preschool “Pedal for Pediatrics”

On May 3, Grace Preschool will sponsor an event to benefit the Pediatric Oncology Division of the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. The Grace Preschoolers, who are in the Threes, Fours, and Kindergarten, will bring their bikes, trikes and scooters to school with them that day and ride a course especially laid out for them in a secured section of the parking lot.

Pediatric oncology research is tremendously underfunded and it is often very challenging for pediatric oncologists to raise money for their grants. Every single dollar raised at Grace will support research at Hopkins, helping them to find safer and more effective cures for childhood cancers.

If you would like to lend your support, you may write a check payable to Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center with “Pediatric Oncology” in the memo line. The Preschool will forward donations to Johns Hopkins. You will receive acknowledgment of your donation from Johns Hopkins.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Grace’s Soprano Soloist, Teri Bickham completed her Doctor of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance degree from the University of Maryland!! Teri began her studies in August of 2016 and recently finished with her final voice recital on March 29th. The Chancel Choir celebrated her achievements following choir rehearsal. Congratulations, Teri!! We are so very proud of you and grateful for your presence at Grace Church!



There are still openings for the
2019-2020 school year.
Help us spread the word!



Music at Grace
Concert Series

“Patricia Hengen and Friends” in concert

Sunday, May 19 - 3:00 p.m.

Join Grace’s Alto Soloist in an afternoon of sacred works, song, opera and musical theatre. Patricia will present works by Vivaldi, Rodgers & Hammerstein, and more.

All music is a reflection of impactful moments in her life both personally and artistically.

Collaborative artists include Anthony Shields, violin and Carl Hengen, tenor. There will be a 15-minute intermission.

No admission fee; free will offering to support the Concert Series.

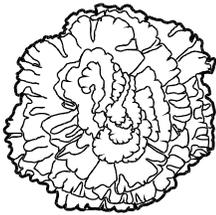


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Carnations for Mother’s Day

Remember your Mother, Grandmother, Daughter, Sister, Aunt, and special friends by placing a carnation in the Chancel.

Proceeds will benefit Grace’s Vacation Bible School ministry.



All orders must be placed by Friday, May 3, 2019

I/We wish to purchase _____ carnations (\$2.00 each) to be placed in the Chancel on Mother’s Day, May 12, 2019

In Honor of

In Memory of

Purchased by

Total enclosed \$ _____

Envelope No. _____

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

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This issue mailed April 22nd
DATED MATERIAL
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BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ASSOCIATES
presents

“Second Fiddle Shoppes”

Decorative furnishings and decor
from previous Symphony Designer
Showhouses plus. . .

Local Crafters - handmade jewelry,
candles, hand-crafted chocolates,
accessories & more...

Bargains Galore in the ENCORE
SHOP! “Nearly new” household
items, jewelry, toys...

Food - baked goods, pizza, snacks. . .

“Pop-up Concert” presented by BSO musicians

Saturday, May 18, 2019

10 AM - 4 PM

at *Grace United Methodist Church*

\$2.00 donation at the door Door prizes every hour!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 24-31, 2019

for children ages 3 and up

9:00 to noon

Extended day available for additional cost

Help discover the wonders of God's Universe

Wildlife Adventures will return
each day with a different animal

Contact Rev. Amy McCullough with any questions

amy@graceunitedmethodist.org

Registration forms available through the Church
Office

*The Baltimore Symphony Associates (BSA), the volunteer arm
of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) is holding this
one-day fundraiser at*

*Grace. Everyone is invited! The BSA supports the
educational programs of the BSO such as mid-week concerts
for about 55,000 Baltimore area school students and the
famous OrchKids program.*