

# Grace Notes

## Grace United Methodist Church

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



www.GraceUnitedMethodist.org

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

Volume 27, No. 10

October 2019

### October Worship and Preaching



**OCTOBER 6**

*World Communion Sunday*

Rev. Amy McCullough

preaching

**SPECIAL FACILITIES**

**MEETING**

Following the service, we will have a congregational meeting at

11:15 in Fellowship Hall to receive the final report/presentation from the Facility Study committee's work about the short-term and long-term facility needs as well as some long-term dreams for improving the accessibility and hospitality of our beautiful facility.

**OCTOBER 13**

Rev. Amy McCullough preaching

**OCTOBER 20**

Rev. Amy McCullough preaching

Stewardship focus begins

**OCTOBER 27**

Guest Preacher: Dr. Arthur Sutherland

Grace's Theologian-in-Residence

"What Compassion is Going to Cost You" -

Luke 10:25-37

### Exploring Hospitality by Dr. Arthur Sutherland

**Lunch and Lecture**

**Sunday October 27**

**11:30 a.m.**

After preaching in the morning worship service, Dr. Sutherland will continue the conversation around hospitality with a lecture that explores three aspects of hospitality: what it is, why it matters and how to start. The key idea is that hospitality is not a matter of entertaining but of engaging. Hospitality begins not with what we do but with what we see. Using Luke 14:7-14 as a starting point, Dr. Sutherland will lead an hour workshop that has several interactive components and small group exercises. Lunch will be provided between worship and the lecture at a nominal cost.

### Harvest Festival



This annual event will take place on **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** There will be pumpkins of all sizes, baked goods of all kinds, a bouncy house to get wild in, a harvest photo booth for the whole family, and so much more! Our Scouts will be out and about with camping set-ups and maybe even a tower?! Come out with the kids, invite some friends, enjoy a great fall day!

Want to help? Contact Kelly Jackson at [klynn95@yahoo.com](mailto:klynn95@yahoo.com).

### CONVERSATIONS ABOUT GRACE

Do you have any thoughts about Grace's upcoming ministries or endeavors? Any questions about Grace's activities or the ongoing denominational conversations in the United Methodist Church? Do you have a story about how God has touched your life or why Grace is important to you? Join fellow Grace members on **Tuesday, October 8** for a fellowship lunch and time of conversation with Grace's pastors, Rev. Amy McCullough and Pastor Dane Wood. Scripture reminds us that when two or three are gathered in His name, Christ promises to be amongst them. This gathering is designed to foster conversation and community in the body of Christ. Lunch will be served free of charge, and a group conversation will follow. Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, **October 4**.

Please share this page with the young people in your family and their friends

## YOUTH MEETINGS



**Youth Sunday School:** Sundays 9:00-9:50 a.m.

Every Sunday the youth meet in the Anything Goes room on the lower level of the church. We cook up some pancakes and chow down. We flip open some Bibles and study up. Join us!

**Youth Fellowship:** Sundays 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

We'll hang out, jam to some tunes, share some stories, eat some food and play some games! It's for everyone 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We've got events happening all year, trips and retreats, lock-ins and parties. Come by and check it out! It's also the only place to get the Pastor-approved T-shirt that you can wear during Sunday worship.

Got questions? Email Pastor Dane at [dane@graceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:dane@graceunitedmethodist.org).

## UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

**Halloween Lock-In:** November 1-2 starting at 7:00 p.m. and going until 9:00 a.m.

We're going to stay up all night playing games, eating candy and watching movies. We may even have some Dia de Muertos festivities! Sign up in the Youth Fellowship Room on the lower level or email Pastor Dane at [dane@graceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:dane@graceunitedmethodist.org).

**ROCK:** February 7-9, 2020 in Ocean City, MD

ROCK is a powerful and fun-filled weekend in Ocean City which allows youth and adults to take a step back from their busy lives and learn about the amazing love of Jesus Christ. It is an awesome experience for folks to more fully connect with God and their friends while listening to great bands and speakers. You will leave ROCK renewed and ready to spread the word about God's great love for us. We are beginning sign-ups now and our deadline is November 31<sup>st</sup>. It'll cost \$100 per person and scholarships are available upon request. Contact Pastor Dane for more information at [dane@graceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:dane@graceunitedmethodist.org)

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

All classes are located on the lower level of the Education building.

Minnows (ages 3-4) - Off Broadway Room (Room 28)

Doves (ages 5-6) - Bible Buzz Room (Room 29)

Eagles (ages 7-8) - Art and Soul Room (Room 7)

Ravens (ages 9-10) - Room 26

Sunday School will be held every Sunday during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, excluding the first Sunday of each month when the children will be in church with their families for Holy Communion. All other Sundays, they will check in at 9:55 a.m. in the Narthex lower level to be escorted to the Chapel to worship together before leaving for their age-related classes.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** - this year the children will be divided by age into one of two choirs. Younger children, ages 3-8, will meet with Ms. Mairin Srygley, choir director, in Room 105 from 10:50 to 11:05 a.m. each Sunday. Older children, ages 9-10, will practice beginning at 11:05 a.m. until 11:25 a.m. while their parents are at Coffee Fellowship.



# STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

*“Let us not love with words but with actions”*

I John 3:17-18 adapted

## STEWARDSHIP 2020 FOR GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Grace is a place where God’s love is made real, through our worship, music, Sunday classes, weekly small groups, children’s programs, mission trips and generous giving to communities in need. Stewardship is one term to use when talking about all of these endeavors, for we are stewards of God’s love for the world. You are a steward of the talents, gifts, and resources God has entrusted to you. You can make a difference in bringing God’s love to another.

This fall, Grace’s stewardship campaign will ponder God’s charge to love not only with words but through actions. The stewardship series begins in late October, and throughout worship we will ponder some key scripture lessons about giving, serving, God’s grace and our generosity. We will also celebrate the many ways Grace has demonstrated God’s love in the past year.

Look for your stewardship package to arrive by mail in late October. And begin praying now about your 2020 pledge. A pledge is an outward and visible sign of our commitment to God and our desire to serve one another through Christ. Your pledge is a vital part of supporting the ongoing ministries of Grace. We invite your 2020 pledge to Grace’s Operating Budget by Sunday, November 10.



## Grace welcomes Timothy McGowan as our new tenor soloist

Timothy McGowan is excited to be the new tenor section leader at Grace United Methodist Church. As a soloist, he enjoys singing traditional opera, sacred music, contemporary works and American music theatre. Timothy is a vocal fellow of the Baltimore Choral Arts Society. He has previously performed with The Opera Institute at Boston University, The Ohio Light Opera, Seagle Music Colony and Odyssey Opera. Timothy holds a Master of Music degree in Voice Performance from the Boston University College of Fine Arts.



## BREAKFAST

The Youth will host and serve breakfast on Sunday, **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** for all the church’s saints. That means EVERYONE! We’ll serve a breakfast and collect donations to support youth trips and mission throughout the year. We invite you to bring some pictures or heirlooms to share, and we’d love to hear stories about influential saints in your life. Come for breakfast at **9:00 a.m.** and stay for this special Christian Holiday Worship at 10:00 a.m. The 8:30 a.m. service will be ‘Communion only’ this week and there will be no Coffee Hour post-service.

Want to help? Contact Pastor Dane at [dane@graceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:dane@graceunitedmethodist.org).

## Building the Beloved Community



At September 11’s meeting the group decided that they will be reading *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson as its first book, and the meeting date for discussing the book will be Wednesday, October 9 at 7:30 p.m.

There will be lending copies of the book available in the church office for persons to take home, read and return. All are welcome.

\* THIS MONTH'S \*  
**birthdays**

Happy Birthday greetings to those of our Grace family celebrating in October:

- 2 Becky Shaner, Asa Shaw
- 3 Kent Grasso, Elisabeth Nix, Nancy Webb
- 4 Zachary Graf
- 5 Lynn Beachler, Joseph Dandy
- 6 Darrell Sacks, Elizabeth Shaner
- 9 Allison Ferguson, Michael Gullett
- 10 Deb Bidlack, William Fishman, David Garman
- 11 Claire Greenhouse
- 12 David Beachler, Jamison Hodges, Charles Plitt III, Susannah L. Sowell
- 13 Olivia Birkel, Stephen Danz, Buzz Getschel, Josephine Gravestrong, Barbara Starkey
- 14 Luke McCullough
- 15 Jeb Cook
- 16 Donald A'Hern, Sue Houghton
- 17 Jeanette Cosper, Suzanne Stevens
- 19 Hollis Houston
- 20 John Gillan, Chloe Kick, Mandy Martin, Glenn Simmons, Ron Spedalere
- 21 Barbara Blair, Matias Calderon
- 22 Matthew Franklin, Jean Smith
- 23 John Madsen, Erin Millon
- 25 Carla Hackley
- 27 Anders Schillinger
- 28 John Crow, Mike McGuire, Lily Updike
- 29 Becca Friedel
- 30 Brandon Bickham, Susan Rice, Beth Vargas
- 31 James Adams, Susie Guth, Brent Laytham, B. A. Sewell

## SPECIAL GIFTS

We acknowledge with gratitude the following special gifts in memory of LINDA SIGLIN by  
Lynn Ingersoll  
Beverly and Royce Norman-Cooper  
Judith O'Donnell

## *Within the Family at Grace*

### DEATHS

Dr. Richard L. Hall - August 15, 2019

Elizabeth K. Winship - September 7, 2019

### BAPTISM

Leah Caydia Witt  
August 18, 2019



## Altar Flowers

Last month we started what will be a monthly listing of altar flower donors. Even though this article is being written in September, we are looking forward to November flowers. An "\*" by a name indicates a

standing order. Names without an "\*" are those who donated flowers last year.

For NOVEMBER:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Frank \*      McCabe \*

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Polk \*      Sapre \*

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Volker (1 vase)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Hocker/McCrory \*      Joyner \*

At this time there is an opening for one donor on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. If you are interested in this date or wish to make a change in your donation, please contact Claire Greenhouse at 410-337-7407 or

[aschoolrn@verizon.net](mailto:aschoolrn@verizon.net).

Looking ahead, there is an opening for special Christmas and Easter flowers and also for a new Paschal candle.



Congratulations to BRUCE EICHER on yet another retirement! Members and friends of the Grace congregation extend heartfelt congratulations to Bruce who has retired as principal organist at Beth El Congregation after 56 years of service. When added to retirements after the 55 years he served as Director of Music and Organist here at Grace and the decades he served as a member of the Music Theory Department at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, that is whole lot of notes played, taught, arranged, composed, directed and inspired.

"Our congregation, choir, and I have been truly blessed to have Bruce Eicher's beautiful and gifted soul as a part of the musical life at Beth El," said Cantor Thom King. "Bruce brought spiritual enrichment to our congregation for more than half-a-century, so he richly deserves being brought from behind the organ for some long-overdue recognition." He was honored at Shabbat on Saturday, September 6. Beth El made a contribution to the Bruce Eicher Prize awarded annually at Peabody, a prize begun by Grace marking Bruce's 50<sup>th</sup> year here and enhanced when he retired 5 years ago.

## The Inn Project

“It is not an act of particular virtue to love your children and treat them well; instinct and evolution privilege our own kids, and from the moment they blink into the world, we would risk anything for their safety, sacrifice anything for their happiness. **It’s how we treat other people’s children that measures and tests us today.**”

Nancy Gibbs, “Other People’s Children,” *The Washington Post*, August 25, 2019.

+ + +

We all have an opportunity to show that we care about the children of immigrants at the border and show that we feel that all people should be treated fairly and humanely.

The Inn Project is the result of The United Methodist Churches in the Southwestern Conference setting up a program to find housing for migrants coming out of detention centers. This was initiated at the request of U. S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement just before Christmas in 2016. The Inn is now a year-round place for migrants to come and rest before going to more permanent housing. The Inn is able to house 50 people at a time.

Over the course of the coming year, Grace will be giving you many different opportunities to help. Besides the postcards to our U. S. Senators and Congressmen that we have been mailing, we will begin collecting items that The Inn needs. Some of these things like **children’s clothing** (infant to age 8, new or gently used), **children’s underwear and socks**, and **adult underwear** (size small), will be shipped to Arizona. The first shipment will be sent October 31, with another shipment going at a another date.

Other items would be prohibitive to ship so we will be asking for donations to have those delivered or purchased there. As the Christmas season approaches, we will have cards so donations can be made in someone’s name as a gift. Checks should be made out to Grace Church and designated for The Inn Project. You may also donate on the Grace website to pay with a credit card. We were gently told by the head of The Inn in Tucson, Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank, that there is always a need for groceries.

Some of the other items needed include:

|         |                    |         |                  |
|---------|--------------------|---------|------------------|
| \$10.00 | underwear          | \$10.00 | 2 packs of socks |
| \$15.00 | package of diapers |         |                  |
| \$25.00 | child’s coat       | \$50.00 | adult’s coat     |

Plans for a social event, such as a tea, are also underway. Hopefully we will have something that appeals to everyone. We hope you will all join with us and do what you can do to help in this endeavor!

To learn more about The Inn, go to [www.umc.org/how-we-serve/united-methodist-welcomes-migrants](http://www.umc.org/how-we-serve/united-methodist-welcomes-migrants)



## Missions: Weekend Food Ministry

Every year Grace UMC supports our local neighborhoods by providing bags of food to young students who are homeless or food-at-risk. There are over 1,500 homeless minors in Baltimore City with many more living on the edge of that classification. Many of these children rely on free meals at school for food security and nutrition. A child who is hungry and insecure about where their meals are coming from cannot learn at their best. Our bags provide a variety of foods to get a child or small family through the weekend. All the food is non-perishable as many of these families have no access to refrigeration. Food programs like this have proven to lower disciplinary issues, increase test scores, and improve reading levels, all because students have food in their stomach. We will be delivering 34 bags a week this year to 3 schools:

Govans Elementary, Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle, and Tunbridge Public Charter School. We order the food weekly and it gets delivered to the church on Wednesdays. Our Logos Study Group helps organize the food after their meeting in the afternoon and the following morning our Preschool students pack the bags. Preschool Parents then volunteer to deliver the bags to the schools on Thursday morning. This is a great ministry that involves lots of different groups in our church and wonderful partnerships with local schools. How can you help? The best thing you can do is pray for these students we are assisting and these bags of food. Prayer is always our first step. Next, you can attend, buy, and donate at our Annual Gala in the spring. The funds raised at this event pay for these bags, which cost up to \$15 each, and we provide them every week of the school year. It adds up! You can also give directly to the program any time with a donation marked for “Weekend Food Ministry” or “Backpack Ministry” as it’s formally known. Lastly, you can volunteer to help pack or deliver on special weeks in the year. There will be weeks when our Preschool is out but City schools are in. We’ll need your help those weeks, so be sure to watch for notices in our Bulletins and E-notes. It is such a pleasure for me to organize this mission and work with our Preschool and neighborhood schools. This is possible because of your generous hearts. Thank you! -Pastor Dane

## Photo Release Form

Including the images of members of our church family in the newsletter, on bulletin boards and other displays, in slide shows or other videos during worship and other church events, and on our website and/or social media pages such as the Facebook page can be a great way to motivate and encourage individuals to become more involved. It is also an excellent outreach tool for guests who may be curious about what our events and activities are like.

Grace United Methodist realizes the importance of sharing Grace's story and the importance of maintaining the privacy of the individuals pictured in these media. To this end, Grace United Methodist maintains a photo policy covering the display and publication of photographs and/or video of members, guests, and participants of church programs. The full policy is available in the church office and can be requested by any church member, friend or guest at any time.

Unless an individual or specific group specifically directs Grace United Methodist Church **not** to use photos containing their image or likeness, photographs may be made available for use in church communications and publications with the exception of children and youth. A Photo Policy Opt-Out Form may be used to direct the church not to use such photos. This Opt-Out form is available in the sanctuary narthex and in the church office. Photos of children and youth (ages 0-18) operate under an Opt-In policy in which parents are asked to authorize the use of their child(rens)'s photograph for the stated purposes. Opt-In forms are available each fall during the Sunday School registration process and are available through the church office throughout the year.

If you have any questions about Grace's photo policy, please speak with the pastoral team



## Church Conference

Tuesday, October 29 7:00 p.m.

beginning in Fellowship Hall

This is a cluster Church Conference in which we will be welcoming other area churches to Grace for a combined time for worship and ministry sharing, and then breaking into separate meetings to complete each church's business. Everyone is invited to attend, to extend a warm welcome, to learn about our ministries and to vote on the business at hand.

## Summer Splash fun at the Cathedral of Mary our Queen



Left: Pastor Dane in the Dunking Tank; above: Splish Splashing Fun; right: Rev. Amy and Michelle Riddle chilling out!



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

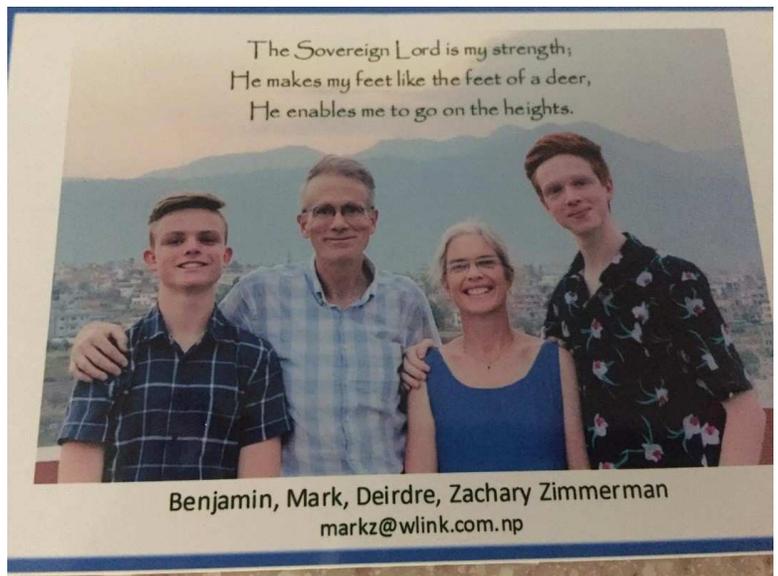
NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 642

Address service requested

This issue mailed September 23  
DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE RUSH



The book the group is reading is *Andy Warhol is a Hoarder*, by Claudia Kalb. Read the book and come on Monday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. for discussion. New members are always welcome!



A photo card from our missionary family in Nepal!  
My those young men have grown!