

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.7

July 2019



Meals for City Children

Grace will once again be offering a free summer meal to children and youth each weeknight to help combat the food insecurity that can accompany the summer months. This year we are partnering with Wilson Park Christian Community Church who will be hosting the meals.

Wilson Park Christian Community Church is located at 4629 York Road which is just south of the York Road and Cold Spring Lane intersection.

Meals are served each evening from 6:00-7:30 p.m. and began June 24th. They will continue through Friday, August 31. We need YOU to sign up as a meal volunteer.

This has been a very popular and positive way to make a difference in our community. The sign-up poster is available each Sunday, or you may sign up online via <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49AEA728ABF58-summer2>.

NEW LAY LEADER

Jean Smith will assume the role of Lay Leader as Henry Perry and his family prepare to move to North Carolina. Welcome Jean! The Lay Leader is an important link between the laity of the congregation and the pastors. The Lay Leader serves on the Church Council, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and the Nominations Committee. This person is also available to answer questions, listen to concerns, or be an advocate for the lay members of the church. We express our thanks to Henry Perry for serving in this capacity and welcome Jean into this new role.

Upcoming worship and preaching

From now through July, we will have a short sermon series entitled "Radical Rest." Summer is typically the time we often set aside for vacations, time with family, and a slower pace of living. For four weeks - beginning June 30 and running through July 21- we will take a look at different aspects of resting, and how our faith enables us to renew our spirits.



Summer Sermon Series

JUNE 30

Radical Rest - Rev. Amy McCullough

JULY 7

Rest in Nature - Pastor Dane Wood

JULY 14

Playful Rest - Rev. Amy McCullough

JULY 21

Rest in Community - Rev. Amy McCullough

JULY 28

Mission Trip Recap: Pastor Dane and members of our two mission trips will share their experiences in worship.

We also plan to have a churchwide picnic after worship that day.



GUEST PREACHERS IN AUGUST

AUGUST 18

Rev. Dr. Veronice Miles, Associate Professor of Preaching - Wesley Seminary

AUGUST 25

Dr. Daniel Castille, Assistant Professor of Theology - Loyola University

Meet Our Missionaries



Join the Mission-Outreach Committee as we welcome back the Zimmermans, our Missionary Family, in a visit to Grace on **Wednesday, July 10**. Many will remember Mark and Deidre and their children who have been partners in mission since 2010 and will be visiting while on furlough from their ministry in Nepal. They will give a presentation on their mission work and tell us about life in Nepal.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. the church will host a dinner in their honor and all are welcome. This is a valuable opportunity to show support for a family we have been supporting for a long time and a good chance to learn more about the Methodist Church's work in the world.

Please contact Pastor Dane if you are available to assist with set up or food preparation.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

beginning at 12:15 p.m.

Hosted this year by and at
Cathedral of Mary Our Queen
Food and plenty of fun
Summer water slides for all!

GEDCO's CARES food pantry *ALERT*

On behalf of GEDCO CARES' clients, thank you for your continued outpouring of generosity. We are still experiencing a great need and hope that wonderful supporters like you can assist us yet again in providing food for Baltimore men, women and families.

Particularly needed now are

CEREALS and SOUPS

You may deliver items to

5502 York Road, Baltimore, MD 21212 behind St.

Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church.

Questions: 410-532-7117



Within the Family at Grace

DEATH

Linda Lewis Siglin
May 21, 2019

CONGRATULATIONS

Lois "Kittie" Simmons was granted emeritus status at the Community College of Baltimore County in a ceremony on May 15 at the CCBC Dundalk campus. Emeritus status is an honor bestowed upon retired faculty and professional CCBC employees in recognition of outstanding scholarship, exemplary service to the college, and/or work with students. Kittie retired from her position as the director of the admissions office for the School of Health Professions in late December after 23 years of full-time employment at the college. Her emeritus medallion is engraved "Lois Simmons, Director Emeritus, CCBC School of Health Professions Admissions Office."

* * *

News of an honor bestowed upon Marie Stacy was reported in the Ridgely Middle School newsletter: "Ms. Gagne-Stacy, eighth grade school counselor, has been selected by Baltimore County Association of Counseling and Development (BCAD) Middle School Counselor of the Year for 2019. This is a well-deserved honor for Ms. Stacy and we are excited to celebrate her accomplishment."

GRACE BOOK CLUB

At its July 8th meeting, the group will discuss Jane Harper's *The Dry*. Interested readers are welcome and should come to the Parlor at 7:00 p.m.



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

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Stuart Kahl, Philip Shaw |
| 4 | George Hocker, Jr.,
Janina Stetz, Bobby
Yanega, III |
| | |
| 5 | Madi Casey |
| 6 | Ann Dahl, Andrew Pflaum, Christina Rushing |
| 8 | Cary Achuff, Catherine Buffington |
| 9 | Erin Eisler, Thomas O. Moore |
| 11 | Christopher Rinker |
| 12 | Caitlyn James, Mary Strobel |
| 13 | Michelle Riddle |
| 14 | Rowan Ferguson |
| 15 | Angie Chobanov |
| 16 | Kathleen Bossom, Garrett Charlton, Walter
Greenhouse |
| 17 | Kris Weidner |
| 18 | Brian Kick |
| 20 | Kevin Hudson, Ann Martin |
| 21 | Justin Graves, Getty Greenman, Amanda Pfeffer |
| 22 | Abbey Sinfield, Don Topper |
| 23 | Alex Greenland, Tonya Sapre |
| 24 | Cristin Hickey, Jeff Sewell |
| 25 | Rory Ferguson, Kittie Simmons |
| 26 | Sara Hackley |
| 27 | Carol Polk, John Scott III |
| 28 | Chris Hayes, Tom Wellener |
| 29 | Nancy Cornbrooks, Jenai Paul, Sharon Schillinger,
Kristin Simmons |
| 30 | Ross Burbage |
| 31 | Glenn Rowley, Anna Sinfield |



Summer Office Hours

Summer Office hours

July 1 through August 30

Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Congratulations to our graduates

MARGARET STUART completed a Bachelor's degree in Economics with minors in Computer Science and Korean from the University of Pittsburgh. In June she began a job with PNC Bank as an analyst.

HYESUN STUART, her mother, completed a Master's degree in Theology from St. Mary's Seminary and University School of Theology & Ecumenical Institute. Quite an accomplishment, ladies!

Congratulations to Mother and Daughter!

WILLIAM BICKHAM graduated from Towson University Community Child Care Pre-K. His educational journey will continue in Greensboro, North Carolina when the Bickham family relocates.



SPECIAL GIFTS

We acknowledge with gratitude the following gifts

in memory of Linda Siglin by

Milton Siglin

Thomas Geary and Carolyn McMahon

Jane Ann Simpson

Randall W. and Susan Richards

Mario Tinto

Martha J. Lockwood

Alan L. Siglin

Aurora Plastics, Inc.

Jerry W. Taylor

H. Eugene Miller and Donald Zimmerman

The Siglin-Wolverton Family

in memory of Lura Ellen Warren by

John McDaniel

to MUSIC/CHOIR

in memory of (The Hon.) Shirley Jones by

David Brock

in memory of Linda Siglin by

Milton Siglin

David Brock

Lynn (Chickie) Rubin

in memory of Lura Ellen Warren by

David Brock

THE ALTAR GUILD

in memory of Linda Siglin by

Walter and Claire Greenhouse

Grace Church: A Beacon of Hope for Many in Baltimore

On Sunday, June 9th, the *Music at Grace Concert Series* presented The New Wave Singers, an LGBTQ+ mixed chorus as they presented their Pride concert: *Stonewall: From Revolution to Celebration*. The concert was well attended, and the atmosphere was positive and affirming. The chorus sang a beautiful program of songs filled with history and hope.

For those unfamiliar with Gay Pride and its origin at Stonewall in 1969, here is a foreword written by the chorus director, Tim Gillham, that was printed in the concert program.

In the early hours of June 28, 1969, New York City police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village in New York City. Especially popular with drag queens and homeless youth, it was one of the few clubs that allowed same-sex dancing (which was illegal at the time). The Stonewall was owned by the Mafia, which frequently paid off the police to tip them off before a raid occurred. This particular raid sparked a riot, leading to six days of violent clashes with law enforcement and thousands of people protesting. In 2016, President Barack Obama designated Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and the surrounding streets and sidewalks a national monument in recognition of the area's contribution to gay and human rights. This month, over a million people are expected in New York City to attend "World Pride," celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

Sunday's concert began with songs around the theme of "out of the shadows and into the streets" and included several songs that were found on the jukebox at the Stonewall Inn the night of the uprising. The second half of the concert included songs that demonstrated how the 1969 uprising galvanized forces for LGBT political activism, helping the community through difficult times and granting victories unimaginable just a few years before.

Many people came up to me to say how welcomed they felt when they entered Grace Church. The rainbow flags out front and on the light fixtures in the sanctuary were noticed by many in attendance. And several people shared that they appreciated the letter published in the Baltimore Sun that Grace Church published regarding the recent rulings at General Conference. The community of Baltimore recognizes the important work that Grace Church is doing. We are a beacon of hope for many in our community. Beside this article is an ad that we placed in the New Wave Singers program.



Congratulations to the **New Wave Singers of Baltimore** and to their Artistic Director Timothy E. Gillham on their exciting and successful

STONEWALL: From Revolution to Celebration Pride Concert

at Grace Church!

We LOVE your mission and vision!



Thank you for your ministry to the world!

We here at Grace Church welcome all who desire to feel closer to God.

We serve others by following Christ's example.

We bear witness to those who are suffering in this world. We strive for perfection in Christ's love as a family of God. Recently the UMC's General Conference, the worldwide governing body, has passed laws to continue the exclusion of LGBTQ+ persons from the rites of ordination and marriage. We will fight this and other injustices that we see.

While we are working for change in the greater church, Grace remains a welcoming, affirming congregation.

Grace Church is for all!

Grace United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

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*Grace Church seeks to act so that
God's love is felt by all.*

Staying for the Postlude

by **Noble L. Thompson Jr.**

reprinted from *The American Organist*, June 2019 issue

My raw and rebellious back, recuperating from spine surgery, balked at being required to travel 45 minutes from the suburbs to downtown Philadelphia for worship at First Presbyterian Church. So, I occasionally attended services at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, ten minutes from my house.

One Sunday, 15 minutes before morning worship at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian, I found an aisle seat in the sanctuary, nodded to the woman seated beside me, and prepared to receive the Word. One hour later, spiritually fed, I sat a bit longer as organist Jeffrey Brillhart began the postlude, Franck's *Piece heroique*.

"Excuse me," the woman beside me asked as she stood to leave.

I responded, "Oh. You're not staying for the postlude?"

She returned the strangest look.

Bracing myself for a tongue lashing, I pushed further. **"I'm visiting today, but at my church, we are encouraged to regard the postlude as an essential part of the service. It's a final opportunity to pray that the message of the day be received in our hearts."**

With a glowering look, somewhere between disbelief and contempt, she squinted. Now, certain that I had gone too far, I waited for a verbal backhand. But surprisingly, she said, "Okay, I'll stay."

Together, the two of us sat for the Franck. After the final chord, I waved a salute to Jeff Brillhart in the rear gallery where he sat at the console. He returned the gesture.

The lady next to me then asked, "Oh, you're an organist?"

"Not really. I've played since I was a teenager, but I'm a retired physician. I guess God thought my talents were more suited to medicine than music."

"My late husband was a physician," she said.

"Really? Where did he practice?"

"Bryn Mawr Hospital. He was a neurosurgeon before he died two years ago."

"What was his name?"

After she told me her late husband's name, I smiled. "I knew your late husband for more than 30 years," I replied. "We worked together at Jefferson University and at Main Line Health. I remember when he left clinical practice to work at the Pennsylvania Medical Society, hoping to help resolve some of the thornier issues in health care. Eventually, he returned to

Bryn Mawr where we consulted together on many cases. He was a fine physician. We all miss him."

Tears rose in her eyes. "Oh, thank you for those kind words. It means so much to me."

We chatted a few minutes more as we walked toward the narthex. But just as we were about to say goodbye, I couldn't resist. "See what wonderful things happen when you stay for the postlude?"

Noble L. Thompson Jr, MD, is an award-winning, board-certified neuroradiologist, a medical-legal consultant, a published writer, and a former equestrian-foxhunter who still plays the organ every day. A member of the Philadelphia AGO Chapter, his memoir Never Give Up: My Struggle to Become a Doctor was published in 2015.



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Our expenses do not go on
vacation;

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offering current.

Scenes from our Sunday of Service activities



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This issue mailed June 24th
DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE RUSH



On Pentecost we hosted the Sonlight Youth Choir and Handbells from Gainesville, GA, who with our Youth Choir, led the music for the service. A special retable flower arrangement and new Pentecost banner also helped make our worship very special that morning.