

# GRACE NOTES

VOL. 31 No. 5

MAY 2022



## MAY WORSHIP AND PREACHING

Worship with us as we celebrate the great 50 days of Easter!

MAY 1 - RECONCILING SUNDAY

Rev. T. C. Morrow - guest preacher [see bio below]

MAY 8 - Rev. Dr. Amy P. McCullough

MAY 15 - Rev. Levon Sutton

MAY 22 - Rev. Dr. Amy P. McCullough

MAY 28 - Rev. Dr. Amy P. McCullough



A cradle United Methodist, **Rev. T. C. Morrow** has a passion for equipping God's people to put their faith into action in ministries of justice and compassion in their local communities and the world. T. C.'s primary appointment is on the staff of the National Religious Campaign against Torture where she is proud to have recently helped secure funding for and distribute \$770,000 in grants to 19 state-level coalitions working to protect the humanity of all people and end the torturous practice of long-term solitary confinement. She enjoys helping diverse coalitions figure out how to collaborate and set attainable goals. Her second

appointment is on the volunteer clergy team at Foundry UMC as Pastor of Public Witness and Ecumenical Connection.

She is a Provisional Deacon in the Baltimore-Washington Conference. She holds an M.Div. From Wesley Theological Seminary and a B.A. in Physics from Vassar College. She is communications chair for the Baltimore-Washington Area Reconciling United Methodists, a group working to ensure the full participation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in the ministry and life of the United Methodist Church. She and her wife serve as foster parents with the Prince George's County Department of Social Services.

\* \* \* \*

The church office is open weekdays from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. It is always possible to leave a phone message should no one be available to answer when you call and someone will return your call. The general greeting will direct you to a list of phone extensions for staff members.



## Chris will take a summer sabbatical

The Staff-Parish Committee with the support of Rev. Amy and Pastor Levon have approved my request for a 12-week study sabbatical beginning June 6. My work over the last two years during the pandemic has been a challenge, and I am in need of a break and reset. I will not only be resting and visiting family, but I will also be attending several music conferences as well as taking some private lessons in organ, piano and composition. My summer will conclude with a 10-day stay in a secluded Vermont countryside cottage to compose new music.

I am especially grateful to David Brock and to Kathie Metz for filling in over the summer while I am away. I look forward to the Fall with renewed energy and creative insight into my work as Minister of Music.

– Chris Schroeder

## Music at Grace Concert Series

concludes with a **Bach in Baltimore** concert

### ***SUMMER SOIREE***

**Sunday, June 5 - 4:00 p.m.**

This lively send-off to summer features five Baroque concerti including Handel's Organ Concerto, Opus 4, No. 5 performed by Christopher Schroeder at the organ.

Ticket information: [bachinbaltimore.org](http://bachinbaltimore.org)

## BALTIMORE PRIDE WEEKEND

June 25-26

After two years of being apart due to Covid-19, the Baltimore LGBTQI community will be gathering "Together Again". The Pride Parade will take place on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Baltimore Reconciling Congregations will be marching as a group with the Faith Communities of Baltimore. We invite you to come be a part of some 300 church members representing over 30 faith communities in the Baltimore area.

At this time we do not know the time or location for gathering, but as soon as we know, we will send the word out. If you have questions, contact George Kahl at the church office, 410-433-6650. We look forward to seeing you!

## Endowment Investment policy revised

At its meeting on April 5, 2022, the Stewardship of Resources Committee (the previous Trustees and Committee on Finance, now merged) approved a revision to the Investment Objectives and Policies of the Endowment Fund. This revision adopted an updated Statement on Social Responsibility. The revised Statement brings us in line with the *The United Methodist Book of Discipline* and *The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church* resolution on Investment Ethics which encourages all agencies of the church, including local congregations, to consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors in the investment-making process. The Grace Church Endowment Objectives and Policies had last been updated in 2006. If you would like to receive a copy of the updated Statement on Social Responsibility or if you have any questions, you may contact the church office.

### *LETTER TO THE EDITOR*

## Reflections on the Organ Dedication Recital

I was fortunate to have gone to Dr. Keiser's recital on March 18 in the Grace Church Sanctuary. The performance was magnificent and of course the Moeller-built organ has to be one of the best in the City. But for me - and this is in no way to detract from Dr. Keiser's virtuosity - the highlight of the evening was part way through the program when the audience was asked to rise and sing a hymn. There we were, after two years of Zoom and YouTube, standing (sort of socially distanced) together singing! It was ... I am scrambling for words here ... awesomely inspiring. I was like a kid and going to the ballpark to see the Orioles for the first time, walking out from the concourse to our seats and seeing that big green field after only ever previously watching games on our 18" black and white TV. It was the power of corporate worship. Now I have enjoyed, from time to time recently, sleeping in until 9:40 on a Sunday morning, grabbing a cup of coffee the Keurig had thoughtfully prepared and settling on the couch with a live stream, but it ain't like the real thing. If you missed being at the recital in person that night, you can come back to in-person services any Sunday morning and share the same experience.

Signed,

A Grateful Grace Member

## Help for Ukraine refugees with a Grace connection

*It is difficult to ignore news of the war in Ukraine and not be torn by the photos of the cruelties, the horror, the sadness inflicted upon the thousands fighting, fleeing unrelentingly etched in our hearts by the embedded journalists and photographers. So many are asking "How can we help?" Prayers, donations to UMCOR and other organizations, volunteering – many ways large and small. I have been in contact with Grace Church member Christine Pierpont von Klencke who has described how, she, her husband Lippold and their family in Germany are reaching out in a special way. She recalls singing in the children's choir when Bruce Eicher arrived at Grace and that he played for her wedding in 1974. She now stays in touch and watches Grace worship online. [Ed. Note]*

Ten days after Russia started its attacks on Ukrainian cities, (our son) Henry drove overnight to the Polish-Ukrainian border in a privately organized convoy with goods for Ukraine. After resting for a couple hours, he and his friend picked up three refugees, a mother and her two teenage daughters, and brought them back to our town. First they moved in with relatives of two other women who had also been brought back here. Then one contracted Covid, so they stayed where they were being housed for a week before moving to our home! In the castle we have some guest rooms that have a small kitchen, so we fixed the little apartment up for all five of the women. They wanted to stay together after fleeing together. Their relatives didn't have enough room to house everyone for an indefinite period of time. When they arrived here, they made it clear that they wanted to go home as soon as possible. Now, four weeks later that prospect looks rather dim.

The eldest daughter speaks English, which is easier than using the translator-app. They all enjoy being in the countryside and going on walks in the woods, but they would like to make themselves useful. We are planning to employ them in our café, but since four of them speak no German or English, it will not be easy. The German government allows them to work and is organizing a plan to give them welfare, health insurance and money for rent. There is, however, a lot of bureaucracy involved before that aid flows. Their family in Germany and friends of ours in America have been supporting them with contributions to provide essentials until all gets straightened out.

Some people are scared that the Russians will invade other neighboring countries in Europe. The border Henry drove to is only 15 hours from our home in Germany! Lippold and I wish that Germany and Europe would be more willing to share in the suffering that Ukraine is going through. We have to stop using Russian gas, but people are afraid that that will hurt our industry and demand individual tribute. Isn't that what Christ calls us to do? To help those who are suffering even if it means giving up our comfortable life?

We are so proud of the stamina of the Ukrainians and their will to defend their country at all odds. I admire President Zelenskyy and cannot imagine how he can keep up the pace and his hope for success. We must all pray for him and for a miracle that brings peace.

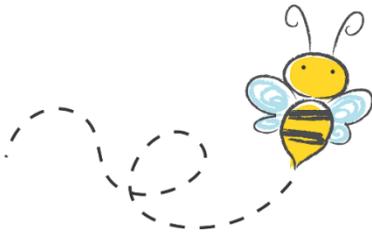
Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>

By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174

By check payable to Grace United Methodist Church with Ukraine written in the memo line.

100% of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.



# The Children's Ministry is Abuzz with Good News!

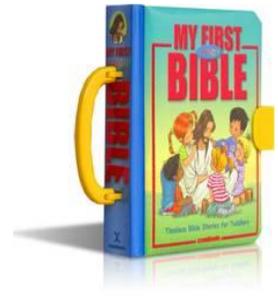
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: It's A Food Truck Party** Dates are June 27-July 1, 2022, for ages 3 to 12 years. Online registration will continue through June 1 at [Grace United Methodist Church Baltimore · My Cokesbury VBS](#). **Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 11:15 am to 1:30 pm VBS Kickoff Celebration – fun, food and Entertainment.**



**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** was the Children's Ministry Easter Egg Hunt There was so much fun and games -- bible stories, led by Claire and Walt Greenhouse; Arts and Crafts activities headed by Biz Shaner, Becky Farace, Diane Topper, Beth Vargas and Bonnie Tarbert. Leading the way for the relay races were Rev. Amy McCullough, our nursery teacher, Caitlyn Hickey and Jordan McKeldin. Last but not least, was a special guest appearance by our VBS puppet DJ Cupcake (Rev. Levon Sutton). Special kudos to members of our Youth Ministry for hiding the tons of eggs and then helping the children find them. A fun day for all, especially when the adults participated in the races as well.

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> --** Our traditional 3rd Grade

Bible Blessing Ceremony during the 10:00 am morning worship. Third grade is an important year of discovery and for our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to receive their own Bible. We are so grateful to share in this faith milestone with you and your family. if you are interested in your child receiving a Bible, please contact the Director of Children's Ministry, Carolyn Young,



**Teacher Appreciation Week -- May 2 - May 6: Celebrate** our GUMC Sunday School teachers: Amy Madsen, Kristen Campbell-McGuire, Signing/Music leader Biz Shaner, Bonnie Tarbert, Doug Schmidt and Shepherd, Walt Greenhouse, for their faithfulness. Their genuine care and energy they continuously put in this ministry is pure love. Tell them, pray for them, let them know how much they are appreciated.

**Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> -- 10:00 am Move Up Sunday.** Time to celebrate our Sunday School children/students as they move up to the next level. We cannot wait to see how the Lord will instill a mighty work in them as they continue to grow in their faith formation. The children will be recognized during morning worship and presented with certificates of recognition.



**Welcome new Acolytes:** Breanna Gullett and Arjentina Devine. Continuously pray for our acolytes as they lead us into worship.



**Begins Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**



## EMPTY BOWLS

About 35 Grace members of all ages shared in an outreach project on April 3 following worship, painting ceramic bowls which were then donated to the St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore Empty Bowls project. Empty Bowls raises funds and generates awareness to assist those impacted by hunger, homelessness and poverty. On April 23 at the Timonium Fairgrounds, more than 12 restaurants provided delicious soups and patrons who had purchased a \$35 ticket picked a bowl, enjoyed the soup, entertainment and silent auction of this popular fundraiser.





## Altar Flowers - May 2022

The flowers are given to the glory of God and ...

MAY 1 In memory of Stephen M. Eicher by his father, Bruce R. Eicher; and Millard H. Smith on his birthday by his daughter Lynn Reichhelm and grandsons Rob and Scott.

MAY 8 - Mother's Day - in memory of our mother, Peggy Bond and grandmothers, Edith Scott and Catherine Bond Ross by Kitty Allen and Barbara Bond.

MAY 15 in memory of John Workman by his wife Marilyn on their anniversary; in honor of Lisa Greenhouse on her birthday by her parents.

MAY 22 in memory of Henry C. Weber, Sr. by his son Carl and family; Robert Roy Goll by his children and grandchildren.

MAY 29 in memory of Helen F. Stokes by Vickie Leshinskie

### *Looking ahead to June*

JUNE 5 Doris Franklin (1) and .....

JUNE 12 Kelly Jackson (1) and .....

JUNE 19 Carol Cathcart (1) and .....

JUNE 26 Lynn Reichhelm (1) and .....

*Please contact Claire Greenhouse if you would like to donate flowers or with any additions or corrections to the above orders: 410-337-7407.*

## **GRACE BOOK CLUB**

Lovers of reading and discussing books together are invited to join the Book Club in the Parlor at 12:30 on second Mondays. For May 9 *The Lost and Found Bookshop* by Susan Wiggs is the book.

## Within the Family at Grace

### DEATHS

Dorothy M. Shindle  
March 31, 2022

Elinor M. Old  
April 7, 2022

## **Grace Notes - in retrospect**

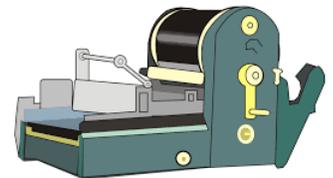
(from *A History of Grace United Methodist Church - 1951-2018*)

Our church newsletter has been "Grace Notes" since 1942 although it has undergone a variety of styles and formatting/publishing processes. In 1951 it was professionally printed, as were the Sunday worship bulletins. In 1974 both bulletins and Grace Notes were typed on an IBM-



Selectric by the church secretary with the newsletter mailed weekly. It was in 1980 that Grace Notes became the "wrapper" for The Circuit Rider, a national United

Methodist newspaper, with our local news on the front page and conference and international news inside. This lasted for 29 months when The Circuit Rider decided it was too expensive and would no longer carry the local editions. Grace Notes was again mimeographed in-house every two weeks. By 1987 Grace Notes reverted to a legal-sized sheet folded in half and posted as a self-mailer to save money and sent out monthly. In 1993 the format changed again



and we sent our news to be a part of the conference "Connection" allowing for inclusion of photos and again conference, district and world news of interest to Methodists. After a five year experience it was found to be non-self supporting and maintenance of mailing lists proved a real challenge. Grace then opted to have the newsletter printed by a local printer with camera-ready copy hand-delivered to them every three weeks. In 2007 another local printer with vast experience in printing church newsletters and bulletins, selling ads to eliminate printing costs, was contracted and currently prints a monthly issue for us. The mailing is handled by volunteers.

*This is the last issue of the monthly Grace Notes you will receive. Watch for our new publication, a quarterly magazine, which will be mailed in June.*

Grace United Methodist Church  
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Baltimore, MD 21210-2024

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This issue mailed April 25, 2022  
PLEASE RUSH

## Spring fun at Grace Preschool

April is the time of year when, as in nature, you see the fruits of your labor. Lots of growth and fun happening in our school!

First Grade: Students learned to research animal facts and write their own paragraphs, even learning the digestive system in owls and dissecting owl pellets to learn more about what they ate.

Kindergarten students continued their studies around the world "visiting" Botswana and learning more about the rock paintings found in the Tsolido Hills. Using chalk and pastels on sandpaper, they created their own rock paintings. They embraced the beauty of spring taking early morning walks to stop and smell the flowers.

Pre-K students continued learning the alphabet and almost finished each letter. They also invited one special adult in their life to spend time in the classroom and have a sweet picnic together with picnic baskets, bento boxes, blankets and pink lemonade.

The Threes became paleontologists during their Dinosaur unit, digging for dinosaur bones, and now are learning how the water cycle helps all living things.

Our Twos are anxiously awaiting the hatching of their chicken eggs! In our incubator they observe and talk about what is happening in the eggs and check to see if any have begun the hatching process.

My Grownup and Me classes are creating a fun and safe place for toddlers from 12-24 months and their caregivers to engage in art and sensory activities and meet other area families. We've had an average of 10 people join each time and welcome others interested in experiencing a classroom environment in a safe and loving way. The Science Guys came to Grace on April 1 demonstrating the wonders of science. Many great things are happening with more to come as we wind down for the summer.