



The Messenger
Grace United Methodist
Church
16 Hillcrest Drive
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Rev. Kim Krause, Pastor

Working together to put our faith and love into practice.

**Services are held at 9:30am - Parking Lot Grace FM-89.7,
Zoom & Facebook**

May 2021

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Family and Friends of Grace UMC,

Spring has sprung – though we know that here in the Northeast, there is always the possibility of Spring Snow – and this year has already delivered on that!! As of my writing this, it seems that most of the flowers that have already bloomed seem to be holding up pretty well. It’s amazing the strength that is within such beauty.

This has me thinking about those places where we have seen beauty, or God at work, during these many months - while we have weathered some very harsh conditions ourselves. So where have you seen God at work during this last 12+ months? Seriously – I really want to know where you have seen God, beauty or God

working through others during this time. Send them via snail mail or email...I want to be able to share with the entire community how and where we have seen God working in the midst of some very dark and difficult times.

And this brings me to a second thought – what are some things that you or the church have done differently that you like? I'm excited that we have been able to figure out enough technology to be able to run parking lot, Zoom and Facebook worship – ALL at the same time!! This was a group effort and continues to be a group effort! Thanks for all that helped Grace to have an online presence. That online presence has allowed so many people to join us either live or by watching later. Many join us in worship week after week! Who would have thought that we would be able to do this, even a year ago??? Amazing how God has worked to allow us to reach our own and NEW people!!!

We've learned to meet, learn and worship on ZOOM – while not perfect, it does allow for conversations, questions and discussions. Perhaps, there will be times that having a study or class on ZOOM would be beneficial, while other times it will be better to meet in person. We long to be with each other again, and we will, but we will continue to Do No Harm (Wesley's 1st rule).

So what new things should we keep? How can we better serve our community? How can we be better disciples of Jesus, where ever we go? Let's take some time to truly evaluate where we are and where God is calling us to next, so that we can continue to put our faith and love into action.

Peace, Pastor Kim

CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH!!

We anticipate celebrating a baptism on May 16th and Confirmation for part of our crew of confirmands on May 23rd (Pentecost). Due to scheduling conflicts, the remaining confirmands will be completing their work in the fall and will be confirmed some time before Christmas (working on scheduling). Please continue to keep our confirmands in your prayers. (Andrew, Ava, Gavin, Elizabeth, Jasmine, Kayla, William)

May 23, 2021 -



THANK YOU!

Evangelism Committee, Steve Shook, Ken & Cindy Bliss for preparing, serving, and delivering our soup lunches on Mondays. Great Job everyone!

JOHN WESLEY'S HEALTH TIP



United Methodists are indebted to John Wesley for his habits of study and discipline that enabled him to create the writings and teachings that became our denominational traditions. What may be less well known is that Wesley was also fascinated by the human body; he conducted many an experiment on himself, eventually leading to his development of over 800 remedies for 300 unique ailments, which he recorded in his volume, *Primitive Physick*. One of Wesley's remedies was for coughs; he suggested to, "make a hole through a lemon and fill it with honey. Roast it and catch the juice. Take a tea-spoonful of this frequently."

EVANGELISM NEWS

Our fully vaccinated staff serving up some delicious soup!



A SHARED EXPERIENCE



What comes to mind when you hear the word *Pentecost*? Many people think of a mighty wind, tongues of fire and multiple languages. But Acts 2 begins with another detail that's just as key: Jesus' disciples "were all together in one place."

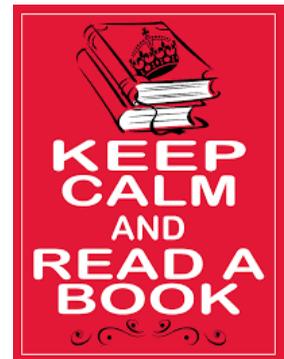
Because they were together physically and spiritually, the early believers didn't miss the life-changing, world-changing birth of the Church.

The pandemic, while changing our definition of gathering, also highlighted our need for interaction. If Jesus' first followers hadn't been assembled on Pentecost, they would've missed the outpouring of God's power and the indescribable joy God had for them. Think about what believers today might miss if we neglect to worship with other friends of Christ. Who would want to miss God's blessings, promises and joy?

BOOK NOOK NEWS

The Book Nook is open (with all NYS health guidelines, including face coverings) only on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:00 until Noon. We will not be open on Thursday evenings.

Also make a note that we are overflowing with cookbooks if you're looking for any. And we will for the time being.



BARGAIN SHED NEWS

The shed is open on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:00am-Noon. Since the Shed opened on March 20th, we have been blessed to receive generous donations from Church members and friends. People quarantining during the pandemic were making good use of their time cleaning out and downsizing. The shop is brimming with good deals. Sales receipts through April 24th totaled \$1,210.50.

Stock is forever changing, so stop in and say hello. You may just find something you can't live without.

CROP WALK NEWS

The RCS CROP Walk will be held on April 30, May 1, and May 2. Our church family will be walking on Sunday.

SPECIAL DATES

- National Day of Prayer — May 6, 2021
- Mother's Day/Festival of the Christian Home — May 9, 2021
- Ascension Day — May 13, 2021
- Pentecost Sunday — May 23, 2021
- Trinity Sunday — May 30, 2021
- Peace with Justice Sunday – May 30, 2021
- Memorial Day — May 31, 2021

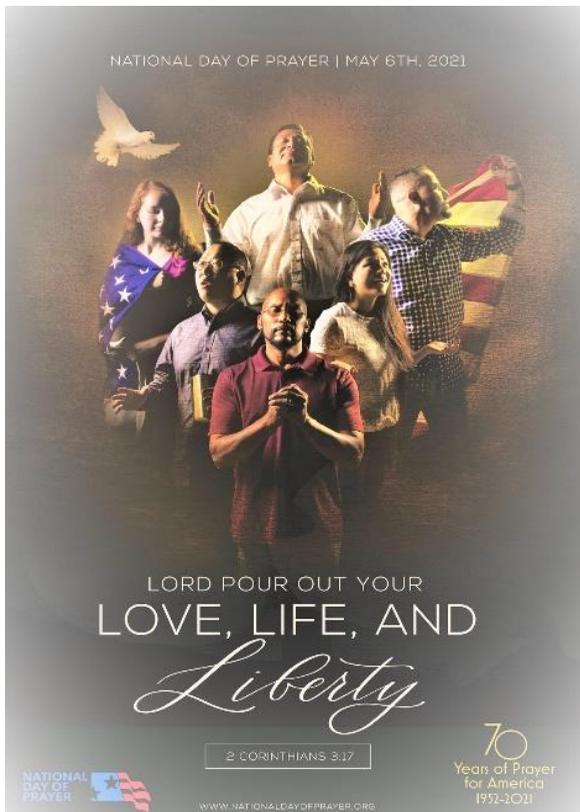


3-James Quinn
4-Brandon Malloy
5-Sam & Hazel Lambert
6-Marty & Mary Alice Van Wie
6-Rilley Kellam
13-Chelsea Youmans
17-Maddie McTigue

19-Cassandra Conteras
20-Ginny Frazee
22-Al Burrill
23-Kate Robertson
27-George June
31-Sadie Lambert

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

This year marks 70 years since Reverend Billy Graham stood on the capitol steps in February 1952 and called for congress and the president to establish a day of prayer. By April of that year, President Truman signed the legislation into public law. Through the decades, Americans have observed the National Day of Prayer in all 50 states and in U.S. territories, praying for our nation. These prayers have not stopped through wars, peace, political shifts, celebrations, and now a global pandemic. In all circumstances we prioritize prayer as a first response and not a last resort! Our prayers in 2021 focus around our heart's cry "LORD, pour out Your LOVE, LIFE and LIBERTY." This prayer proclaims the Biblical truth found in our theme verse, 2 Corinthians 3:17 NKJV "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."



Bible Quiz

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: “In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach.”
What “former book” did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John



Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)



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JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook, please join the Church page by liking us at Grace United Methodist Church, Ravena, NY. Find out what's happening each week, including meetings and special events.

OR VISIT US ON THE WEB: www.gumcravena.com