

AMAZING GRACE NEWSLETTER

APRIL

2023

Holy
WEEK

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PASS IT ON

*"It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;
you spread His love to everyone; you want to pass it on.*

*What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.*

*I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found;
you can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountaintop; I want my world to know;
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on."*

I woke up this morning with this song in my head and on my lips. I love this song because it reminds me of the beautiful transition from winter into spring; from the coldness and brownness of winter to the warmth and brightness of spring. It's such a wonderful transition and one I have loved since I can remember.

I also love this song because it reminds me of the new creation we can see all around us this time of the year. We see flowers blooming, grass getting greener, trees getting their leaves, and even many different kinds of animals being born! It is this new life that I think I love the most about spring because it reminds me of the new life we are offered through Christ! Paul wrote to the Corinthian church, "...if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

My prayer for you this spring, is that you will embrace the new life you are offered through our risen Savior, Jesus. I pray that you will accept his offer of forgiveness and the assurance of eternal life with him. I also pray that as you live your life in this world, with its ups and downs, its valleys and mountains, that you will do so always knowing, always remembering, always praising God, that in Christ, you are a new creation...everything old has passed away...everything has become new!

Happy Spring!
Pastor Jim

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 2 | 9AM & 10:30AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 6 @ 7PM | GRACE UMC

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7 @ 7PM | EVANGEL HEIGHTS
PASTOR JIM PREACHING
"WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT FRIDAY"

EASTER EGG HUNT FELLOWSHIP

APRIL 8 @ 1PM | GRACE UMC

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9 | 9AM & 10:30AM



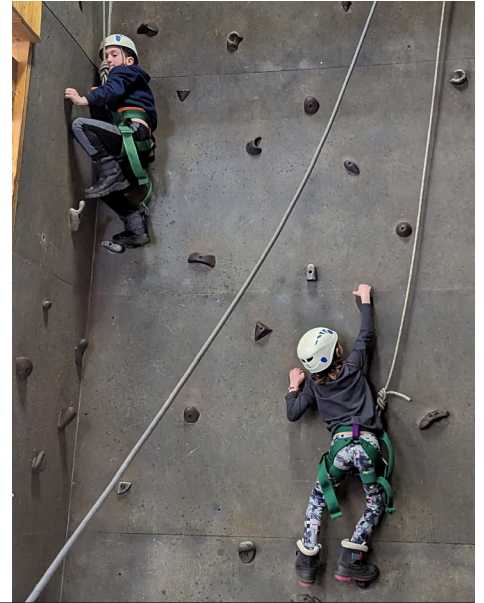
CHOIR SUNDAY | SUNDAY, APRIL 16

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY DONATIONS

We are collecting individually wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt Fellowship, but please no suckers or lollipops, as they do not fit in the plastic Easter eggs. Donation boxes are outside the Great Hall by the Lenten Resource Table and in the Welcome Center. Candy donations may also be dropped off in the church office during the week.

Well, it never fails to hold up to its tradition! No matter what month we schedule the Children's Retreat, we get the same weather! By the time we got down to camp it was in the single digits with 3 inches of snow! We had a lot of fun with all the activities and had a great campfire at night in the main lodge. We could see God working everywhere we went.



NEWS FROM YOUTH MINISTRY

Grace UMC hosted a martial arts demonstration provided by the South Bend Judo Club on Friday, February 24. Families from all over the community came and enjoyed the event.

Grace UMC is hosting another martial arts event for youth and families focusing on Self-Defense. This event will be held on Friday, March 31 at 6PM in the Great Hall. Contact Jovan at youth@gracemethodist.org with any questions.



**RAGGEDY ANN
PRESCHOOL IS NOW
TAKING REGISTRATIONS
FOR THE 2023-2024
SCHOOL YEAR!**



Raggedy Ann Preschool classes are limited in size and feature structured classroom activities and creative group play. The goal is to promote healthy growth in the children as a result of physical, mental and social well-being. The curriculum is planned to give each child an opportunity to enlarge his

or her world. We expect the child to acquire whatever he or she can, not through formal teaching, but by provision of a helpful, challenging and stimulating environment, which makes the acquisition of such skills fun. The school is equipped to stimulate the child's interests and imagination.

Raggedy Ann Preschool offers a variety of two, three, or five-day per week programs, with the option for an extended day of lunch and learning. To find out more about Raggedy Ann Preschool, please visit our website at gracemethodist.org/raggedy-ann-pre-school/.

**Easter
Egg Hunt Fellowship**

1:00pm

**Grace UMC 3012 S. Twyckenham
Saturday, April 8th, 2023
Walkers through 4th grade**



PILGRIMAGE HEALING

HANDS - ON MINISTRY

Grace UMC's Healing Hands Ministry is a Pilgrimage Healing process which is open to all those seeking prayer and the healing power of touch. Healing partners, trained in the process, are willing to pray for you. Sessions are by appointment. Contact Ruth Pavich, jrpavich@yahoo.com (574-255-3850), to schedule an appointment or with questions. Also let us know if you're interested in training as a healing partner.



GRACE CARES TEAM

TAKING CARE OF THOSE WE LOVE



We are expanding our Grace Cares Team and are looking for people who like to write cards, make phone calls, make meals or go on visits. We meet every other month and communicate mostly through email or phone. If you are interested, please talk with either Pastor Jim or Melodie.

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR CALLERS, WRITERS,
AND VISITORS FOR THE TEAM**

Contact Pastor Jim or Melodie for more information.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the friends and family of Judy Marquardt. Judy passed away peacefully on March 24.

Our sympathy is also extended to the friends and family of Sylvia Whitmer. Sylvia was the founder and creator of Raggedy Ann Preschool.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 @ 6:45PM

The Church Council Committee is meeting on Wednesday, March 29 at 6:45PM. Meetings from then on will meet on the fourth Wednesday of odd months. These meetings are open to everyone. Please join us!

GRACEFUL FRIENDS GATHERING

TUESDAY, APRIL 4 @ 6:30PM

Everyone is invited to join Graceful Friends UMW group in the Parlor at 6:30PM on Tuesday, April 4. We will be filling plastic Easter eggs with candy in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt Fellowship on Saturday, April 8. Contact Kathy Thies with questions.

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 from 10AM-1PM

Please register at <https://givebloodnow.com/donorportal/>.

After many years of helping organize the Blood Drives at Grace by herself, Ruth Pavich could really use some help. We are looking for a small team of volunteers that would be willing to help Ruth get flyers up and make a few phone calls. If you are interested in this ministry, please let the Church office know, 574-288-4789.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAYS

9AM & 10:30AM Virtual & In-Person Worship Services
10:30AM Sunday School

MONDAYS

1PM Pilgrimage Healing (by appt.)
7PM A.A.

TUESDAYS

5:30PM Get Better Basketball

WEDNESDAYS

7:30AM Bible Study

THURSDAYS

7PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAYS

7:30PM A.A.

APRIL 2

10AM Blood Drive

APRIL 4

6:30PM Graceful Friends Gathering

APRIL 5

6PM Trustees Committee Meeting

APRIL 8

10AM Paper Pantry
1PM Easter Egg Hunt Fellowship

APRIL 9 | Easter Sunday

APRIL 12

6:15PM Pilgrimage Healing Meeting

APRIL 16 | Choir Sunday

APRIL 18

7PM Grace Cares Meeting

APRIL 19

6:30PM Finance Committee Meeting

APRIL 20

11:30AM Luncheon at St. Paul's

AMAZING GRACE NEWSLETTER



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574.288.4789
www.gracemethodist.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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PHONE | 574-288-4789 WEBSITE | gracemethodist.org
FACEBOOK | [sbgraceumc](https://www.facebook.com/sbgraceumc) YOUTUBE | [SBGraceUMC](https://www.youtube.com/SBGraceUMC)

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES | 9AM & 10:30AM | Livestream & In-Person

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION CALENDAR

If you would like to celebrate or memorialize a loved one or event by dedicating flowers for the altar, please sign up at signupgenius.com/go/70a084eadae2aa4f94-altar. Please sign up by 10AM on the Tuesday before desired date.

THE MORE WE KNOW, THE BETTER WE CAN CARE!

If you or anyone in your life needs care, love, prayer and support, please contact Melodie at 574-288-4789 or email the Grace Cares confidential email address at gracecares@gracemethodist.org. Grace Cares about you!



MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO GRACE UMC

If you would like to contribute, please scan the QR Code or text 574-444-3044 and follow the prompts. Please remember Grace United Methodist Church when doing your estate planning.

NEXT AMAZING GRACE SUBMISSION DEADLINE | TUESDAY, APRIL 4