

A close-up photograph of several golden wheat stalks, showing the intricate details of the grain heads and the texture of the awns. The lighting is warm, creating a rich, golden-brown color palette. The background is softly blurred, emphasizing the sharp details of the wheat in the foreground.

AMAZING GRACE

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2023

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Dear Beloved Members of
Grace United Methodist Church,

As I sit down to write this farewell message, just a few hours after having had a wonderful final worship service with you all, my heart is filled with both joy and sadness. Joy, because I have been blessed with the most wonderful congregation to serve, and sadness, because it is time for me to bid you all farewell. These past three years have been an incredible journey, and I can't express enough how much each and every one of you means to me.

When I first stepped through the doors of Grace United Methodist Church in the summer of 2020 as the choir director, little did I know that I was entering a community that would become a second family to me. As the days turned into months, and the months into years, our bond grew stronger, and I was honored to take on the additional role of organist. Together, we have shared countless moments of joy,

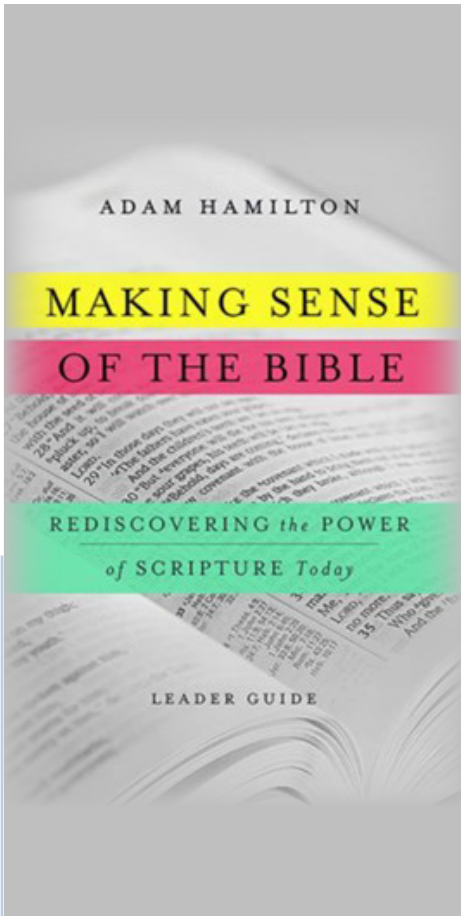
laughter, and worship that will forever be etched in my heart.

You have all been so supportive, encouraging, and understanding in every step of this musical journey we embarked upon together. Your dedication to the choir and the music ministry has been truly inspiring. Beyond the music, it was your warmth and love that touched me deeply. I have witnessed firsthand the true meaning of a united community that cares for one another, celebrates together in times of joy, and supports one another in moments of sorrow. Your kindness and compassion have made my time here not just a professional experience but a personal one as well.

It is with a heavy heart that I must now move on to a new chapter in my life's journey. While I am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead, I cannot help but feel the pain of leaving behind such an exceptional group of individuals. You have given me memories that will stay with me forever, and I will cherish them dearly. I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you for welcoming me into your lives and allowing me to be a part of yours. Thank you for your trust, your friendship, and for making every day at Grace United Methodist Church truly special. I will miss you all profoundly, but I am confident that the bonds we have formed will endure beyond distance and time.

Please keep in touch, and know that you will always have a special place in my heart. May God's grace continue to shine upon each of you, and may your faith and love for one another flourish as you continue to grow as a community.

With all my love and appreciation,
Dallin Baldwin



BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 19

LED BY PASTOR JIM

In *Making Sense of the Bible*, Adam Hamilton invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible. The book begins with foundational questions such as:

- How and when was the Bible written?
- Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why?
- How literally must we read it? And, is the Bible ever wrong?

From there, Hamilton considers the real questions people frequently ask that continue to divide Christians and denominations alike, including:

- Were Adam and Eve real people?
- Why is God so violent in the Old Testament?
- Why would Paul command women to keep silent in the church?
- Is Jesus the only way to salvation?
- How does God view homosexual people?
- Is the Book of Revelation a guide to the End Times

In approachable and inviting language, Hamilton addresses these often misunderstood biblical themes leading listeners to a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life-changing and life-giving. Please call the church office (574-288-4789) if you would like to join us for this class.



**Bible Study
Fellowship®**

STUDY OF JOHN

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

Bible Study Fellowship is an in-depth Bible study that meets mid-September - early May (with a long break in December). This fall, BSF groups around the world will begin a study of the gospel according to John. Classes meet weekly and follow a four-part format for each week's lesson: personal study at home, small-group discussion and an all-class lecture at a local church, followed by commentary notes to read at home.

Locally, there are both men's groups and women's groups, and some include children's programs. (Daytime groups include a program for infants through pre-school; evening groups include a K-12 program.) BSF offers in-person and virtual options.

If you would like more information on the local groups, feel free to contact Heidi Deethardt at deethardt@sbcglobal.net or 574-485-3743. Grace Church has several people participating in both daytime and evening groups, and any one of us would be happy to connect you to our class!

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Vacation Bible School was an amazing week this year! A HUGE thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and to those who donated special items. Blessings are going *Here, There and Everywhere!*

Be sure to join us on Sunday, September 10 at the 10:30AM worship service - our 3rd graders will be receiving their bibles!



YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAYS @ 6PM

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

Middle and High School students are invited to join us every Sunday from 6PM–7:30PM at Grace UMC. Please contact Jovan (youth@gracemethodist.org) with any questions.



RAMSEY
FinancialPeace
UNIVERSITY



If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end—starting today. Join our Financial Peace University class at Grace United Methodist starting on Tuesday, August 29 at 6:30PM, and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Visit <https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/ABF7BF> to sign up!

A FREE seminar for all Clergy and Laity of the North District.
CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS PROVIDED

**SOUTH BEND CLAY UMC,
FIREHOUSE CAMPUS**
*17646 Cleveland Road
South Bend, 46635*
9 AM-12 PM (ET)



**CHURCH OF THE
FOUR SEASONS UMC**
*9100 E 109th Avenue
Crown Point, 46307*
2 PM-5 PM (CT)

 **UMMC 101**

with Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy

PARTICIPANTS WILL

- Learn about the one thing that John Wesley never did.
- Understand how our distinctive theology and structure positions us well for the future.
- Leave inspired and informed about who we are called to be and what connects us together!

September 16, 2023

Extravagant GENEROSITY

The Heart of Giving

----- Yes, we are able to attend

----- # of people able to attend

----- Sorry, we cannot attend

We are looking forward to celebrating with our church family at our Celebration Picnic on Sunday, August 27 after the second service.

Please check the box to the left indicating whether or not you will be joining us for this catered event.

You can bring this to the church office, place it in the offering plate on Sunday, email communications@gracemethodist.org or call us (574-288-4789) to let us know how many will be joining us.

Thank you!



UMW MUM SALE

8" pots ~ \$8.00 each

_____ BRONZE / ORANGE

_____ LAVENDER / PINK

_____ WHITE

_____ YELLOW / GOLD

_____ RED / BURDUNDY

_____ DARK PURPLE

PICK UP
SEPTEMBER 10
8:30 am-12:00 pm
Grace Church Garage

PREORDER BY
AUGUST 31.

_____ TOTAL ORDERED

\$ _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED

*(Please make checks
out to UMW.
Money due with order.)*

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
10AM - 1PM
GREAT HALL

Please register for
our next Blood Drive at

<https://givebloodnow.com/donorportal/>

Abe Ropp would like to thank everyone for the prayers he received when he was ill. He is doing well and has gotten his strength back.

On behalf of my niece and nephews and their families, I want to thank you for your prayers and kindness in the passing of my sister, Marlene Landry. Our family is very thankful for everything you did. Marlene did love this church and was saddened that she was no longer able to attend and be active.

Blessings to all,
Vicki Davis
Dana Landry
Kevin and Cozy Landry
Bryan and Karen Landry

SUNDAYS

9AM Outdoor Worship Service
10:30AM Virtual & In-Person Worship Services
10:30AM K - 12 Sunday School
6PM Youth Group

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

5:30PM Get Better Basketball

WEDNESDAYS

7:30AM Bible Study
5:30PM Sky Dig Soldiers 2026 Basketball

FRIDAYS

7:30PM A.A.

AUGUST 23

11:30AM UMW Executive Board Meeting
6:30PM Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting

AUGUST 27

12PM Stewardship Luncheon

AUGUST 29

6:30PM Financial Peace Class Begins

AUGUST 30

6PM Mission Outreach Meeting

SEPTEMBER 7

6:30PM UMW General Meeting

SEPTEMBER 9

10AM - 12PM Paper Pantry

SEPTEMBER 10

8:30AM - 12PM Mum Sale Pick-Up

SEPTEMBER 11

6:30PM Blue Star Mothers Group

SEPTEMBER 14

1:30PM Merry Missions Circle

SEPTEMBER 24

10AM - 1PM Blood Drive

SEPTEMBER 27

11:30AM UMW Executive Meeting

AMAZING GRACE NEWSLETTER



3012 South Twyckenham Drive
South Bend, Indiana 46614
574.288.4789
www.gracemethodist.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADDRESS | 3012 South Twyckenham Drive South Bend, IN 46614
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 (Outdoors) & 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, SEPTEMBER 12