

Grace United Church of Christ

Just Peace Sunday



Peace is possible.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST** 

Sunday, September 15, 2024

WE GATHER

Welcome

Passing the Peace

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude - Prayer for Peace - Paul Fey

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Today, we are grateful to gather and worship God in peaceful conditions.

All: While some congregations are rocked with bombshells, our service can exist in calm.

Leader: While some communities are rife with discord, our neighborhoods are primed for dialogue.

All: We are provoked to bring God's peace and praise wherever we go.

Leader: We hold fast to the vision of Shalom throughout all of God's creation.

All: We believe that peace is possible. Help us make it so! Amen.

Gathering Prayer (In Unison)

Holy God, as we follow you up the mountain of our lives, it is easy to feel lost. Inspire us with hope from your Word today. Teach us the peaceful way that invites all unto the lighted pathway of renewed love. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** "O God of Love, O God of Peace" NCH 571

We Listen

Children's Moment

Scripture: Luke: 19:41-44

Sermon: The Rev. Chance Martinez

Sermon Hymn: "O for a World" NCH 575

We Respond

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

We invite you to pray this prayer using the words that are closest to your heart.

Our (Father/Mother/Creator) who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering - O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee - Arr. Gregory Hamilton

***Doxology** (music #780, text #778)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor: Let us present with joy our offerings of commitment and support for the work of Grace Church;

ALL: Incarnate One, especially in these times of uncertainty, we hope to be companions of righteousness. We hope to divest from all that destroys. We hope to live into the Spirit of Christ that sets the captives free. With these offerings, we pray that our gratitude will manifest in acts of radical love and peace where and when they are needed most. Amen.

We Are Sent

Announcements

***Closing/Benediction Hymn** "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Postlude - Introduction & Fugue - Adela Douglas-Pennant

~ The Postlude is still part of our worship; we invite you to sit and quietly reflect as we prepare to depart. ~

Important Announcements !

We are beginning to accept donations of candy for Halloween this year. If you are out shopping and are able, please consider purchasing a bag or bags and bring them with you on Sunday Mornings. This candy will be distributed during the downtown trick-or-treating event this year...and we need all that we can get!

Sunday, September 15- Frederick County Fair

Thursday September 19– Unity Dinner (6:30 pm– 8:00 pm)

Friday, September 20- Grace UCC Coffee House (8:00 pm-10:00 pm)

Thursday, September 26- Grace UCC Young Adult Ministry Kick-Off- 7:00 pm

Saturday September 28– Walk to defeat ALS (Baker Park)

Friday, October 18- Grace UCC Coffee House (8:00 pm-10:00 pm)

Thursday, October 24- Grace UCC Young Adult Ministry (7:00 pm-9:00 pm)

Saturday, October 26- Downtown Frederick Trick or Treating

Friday, November 15– Grace UCC Coffee House (8:00 pm-10:00pm)

Thursday, November 21- Grace UCC Young Adult Ministry (7pm-9 pm)

Wednesday, December 11- Grace Bus Trip to New York City

Friday, December 13- Grace UCC Coffee House (8pm-10pm)

Thursday, December 19- Young Adult Christmas Party (7:00 pm-9:00 pm)

Sunday, December 22- Christmas Cantata at Grace UCC

Tuesday December 24– Christmas Eve Service (7:00 pm)

Thursday, December 26-Tour of Historic Churches (3:00 pm—8:00 pm)

Scan the QR Code!



KICKSTART YOUR WALK FUNDRAISING

Walk to Defeat ALS Baltimore



09/07/2024



Canton Waterfront Park
Baltimore, MD

Walk To Defeat ALS Western Maryland



09/28/2024



Baker Park
Frederick, MD

Walk To Defeat ALS Washington DC



10/05/2024



Washington Monument
Grounds
Washington, DC

Walk To Defeat ALS Chesapeake Bay



10/20/2024



Route 18 P:ark
Centreville, MD

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



ELLIN TUCKER



REGISTER AT WALKTODEFEATALS.ORG

REFUGEE WELCOMING COALITION

Coming soon, Grace Church will be working with our neighbors at ERUCC (Evangelical Reformed UCC) to help a refugee family settle in our area, under the guidance of the Refugee Welcoming Coalition of Frederick. The RWC is an alliance of faith communities, civic organizations, and other volunteers founded in 2021 in recognition of the challenges faced by refugee families in our county. Assistance will include furnishing household items from a list and occasional volunteer work including assistance with transportation and paperwork.

Interested in making a difference? Contact Michael Davies (fluidmosaic@gmail.com) and Missy Moxley.

We are also making donations

- Certain items are on their Amazon wishlist, for shipping directly to the RWC: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/8F1P1KKUOUZH>
- If you wish to donate furniture, or supplies that are in urgent need (shower curtains and bathmats; pillows, sheets and blankets; and almost any type of kitchen supply): please email us at info@rwcfrederick.org to arrange pickup
- To donate cash, you may send a check to **AACF: 45 E. All Saints St., Frederick, MD 21701**, with a note on the memo line that the funds are for RWC.

Alternatively, you can donate through PayPal on their website,

<https://rwc.frederick.org>.

Security Alert

As many of you are aware, a scam text message was sent to many of the members and friends of Grace UCC this week. The text was an “urgent message” claiming to be from Pastor Chance, but it was not him, and it was not sent from his phone number. Many of you reached out to the office or to Chance directly and we thank you for doing that. A couple of you even sent screenshots of the message and that was very helpful as well. Unfortunately, this thing happens to churches frequently, sometimes by text and other times by email. We just want to reassure you that Pastor Chance, or any staff member, will not reach out to you via text message from an unknown number or email. If there is an urgent matter, please know that Pastor Chance will contact you via a phone call and not a text or email. If you ever receive a text or email from an unknown number or email address that looks suspicious, you are encouraged to call the church office or Pastor Chance directly for confirmation and notification. Thank you all again for making us aware and may we all stay alert to this type of activity.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Sleep In Heavenly Peace!

SHP (<https://shpbeds.org/>) is a national organization of local chapters that build bunk beds for children in the local community who otherwise wouldn't have a bed. Grace Church has been very generous in donating sheets, pillows, mattress covers and quilts over the last couple years.

The Frederick County Chapter of SHP has building events every month or so, mostly on Saturdays, and volunteers of all skill levels (including none) are welcome for tasks like cutting lumber, constructing and finishing the beds, transporting them, or sorting items, cleaning up and prep work.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to a great organization.

Contact Michael Davies (fluidmosaic@gmail.com) to be notified of upcoming builds and be part of the team when you can!

“No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!”





**Join Us for Breakfast Church at Grace
Sunday, September 26, 2024 at 11:00am**

Stories of meals and the act of eating show up numerous times throughout the Bible. Breaking bread and eating together has been a part of Christian worship since Christianity's earliest days. Meals are more than just a handy metaphor in the Bible. God often uses meals to prove God's provision for, redemption of, and ongoing communion with humanity.

We hope that you will join us for the first of what will hopefully become a quarterly worship experience we call Breakfast Church. We will gather in the GSR at our regular worship time, 11:00am, and we will sit at tables as we worship, eat, and fellowship with each other... building stronger community in the process. The scripture lesson will be Interactive, and the sermon will be discussed around the tables. We will sing hymns and collect our tithes and offerings around the table, and we will be blessed by the choir as they share their gifts of music.

Everything from the coffee and juice to the food on your table will be provided for you. We just need you to join us for this new worship experience! If you are interested in volunteering that morning, please see Pastor Chance.

Unity Dinner



Frederick Area Unity Dinner

You are invited to join your friends and neighbors from around Frederick as we gather in our Good Shepherd Room for our monthly Unity Dinner. This is an opportunity for folks to get together for food and conversation. What better way to get to know your neighbor than enjoying a meal together.

This event is a potluck so please bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided! To RSVP, please email pastorchance.graceucc@gmail.com

Thursday, September 19, 2024, 6:30-8:00 pm

Grace United Church of Christ, 25 East 2nd Street Frederick, MD

Please enter via the sidewalk on the right side of the building.

Street parking is free after 5:00pm. We are also close to the Church Street Parking Garage.

M E N T A L H E A L T H J U S T I C E F O R A L L

Mental health is a Universal Human Right

"God will not falter or lose heart until
justice prevails throughout the earth."
Psalm 135



2024 Neighbors in Need Special Offering

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is “Mental Health Justice for All!” This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. Grace United Church of Christ voted to do the same in August of this year.

A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life’s journey.

As you recall, one-third of the Neighbors in Need offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

As part of our commitment to be a 5 for 5 congregation, Grace will be collecting the



New York City

**HOLIDAY
BUS TRIP**

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Explore the Big Apple on your own!
Bus departs Frederick at 6 a.m. and returns at midnight

\$80 per person, limited seating

Pay with QR code below or mail check
Contact admin@grucc.com to register

ORGANIZED BY
GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FREDERICK, MD





Grace United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East 2nd Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312 ~ Office Hours: 9AM-2PM/M-F

Admin@grucc.com ~ www.grucc.com

Pastor Chance Martinez

pastorchance.graceucc@gmail.com

Director of Music: Nathan Strite

Music@grucc.com

Bell Choir Director: James Taylor

Bells@grucc.com

Children & Youth Ministry: Amy Duray

worshipgraceucc@gmail.com

Nursery Attendant: Joan Princler

Joan.dancer@comcast.net

Custodian: Kaden Hansen

Admin@grucc.com

Church Admin: Patricia Baptiste

Admin@grucc.com

Choir Section Leaders: Anna Kovacsics, James Taylor, & Donald Toms

SUNDAY WORSHIP — 11:00 AM — Virtual and in person

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgist:

John B.

Children's Message:

Trish A.

Children's Church

Amy D

Altar Guild:

N/A

Greeter:

John B.

Follow us!



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[GraceUCCFrederick](https://www.facebook.com/GraceUCCFrederick)



www.grucc.com

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