

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

- 1/13: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in Grace Basement
7:00 pm-8:30 pm: Property and Finance Meeting
- 1/14: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in Grace Basement
- 1/15: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in Grace Basement
7:00 pm-8:15 pm: Grace Book Club via Zoom
- 1/16: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in Grace Basement
- 1/17: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in Grace Basement
- 1/18: 11:15 am-1:15 pm: NA Meeting in GSR
- 1/19: 9:30 am-10:30 am: Bible Study in Sunday School Room
11:00 am-12:15 pm: Worship on the Sanctuary
(MLK Sunday)
12:30 pm-1:30 pm: Bible Study in Sunday School Room
7:00 pm-8:00 pm: Bible Study via Zoom

2025 Anti-Racism Cohort begins on January 29 at 7:00 pm. See Pastor Chance for details.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

People who are housing and food insecure; people living with addiction; Community Congregational UCC in FL; students, teachers, and staff as they return to school; Susan Smith; Carla Larson; Sally Johnson; Jim Swann; Steve Myers; Jane Hildebrandt

College and Young Adult Ministry (C-YA) will be meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm beginning January 23. Meetings will be held in the Emerging Communities room upstairs. For more info, contact Josh McCabe at smilezjdj@gmail.com. This is open to anyone ages 18-35.

Pastor Chance has office hours at Dublin Roasters (1780 N Market Street) on Tuesday of each week from 8:00am-10:30am. These office hours are open so feel free to come by and join him for a chat and some coffee. No appointment needed.

If you have a pastoral care need or are hospitalized and would like a visit, please call Pastor Chance at 727-809-2390 or send an email to pastorchance.graceucc@gmail.com.

Please consider signing up for:

Fellowship Hour Host/Hostess: It is very simple, fill in your name on a Sunday that needs a host/hostess- keep it simple (i.e. cookies, muffins, sweet bread, or your specialty). We supply the drinks and help to clean up.

First Impressions Ministry: Walking into a worship space for the first time can be intimidating and as we strive to provide an extravagant welcome to everyone, we are looking for members to join our "First Impressions Ministry." This Ministry will make sure that our guests have a bulletin, welcome bag, a name tag and will help them find their seat. Also, they will make sure that guests know where the bathrooms are and invite them to join us for fellowship should there be fellowship hour that day. If you are willing to be a part of this vital ministry, please email Pastor Chance at pastorchance,graceucc@gmail.com.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

SHP (<https://shpbeds.org/>) is a national organization with local chapters that build bunkbeds for children in the local community who otherwise wouldn't have a bed. Grace UCC 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 (or no skill level) are welcome for tasks like cutting lumber, constructing and finishing the beds, transporting them, sorting items, cleaning up and prep work.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to a great organization. Contact Kat Strauss (kat@thewinekitchen.com) to be notified of upcoming builds and be part of the team when you can.

Do you know a member or friend of Grace UCC that is homebound? If so, please let Pastor Chance know so that he can arrange a visit and/or in-home communion with them.

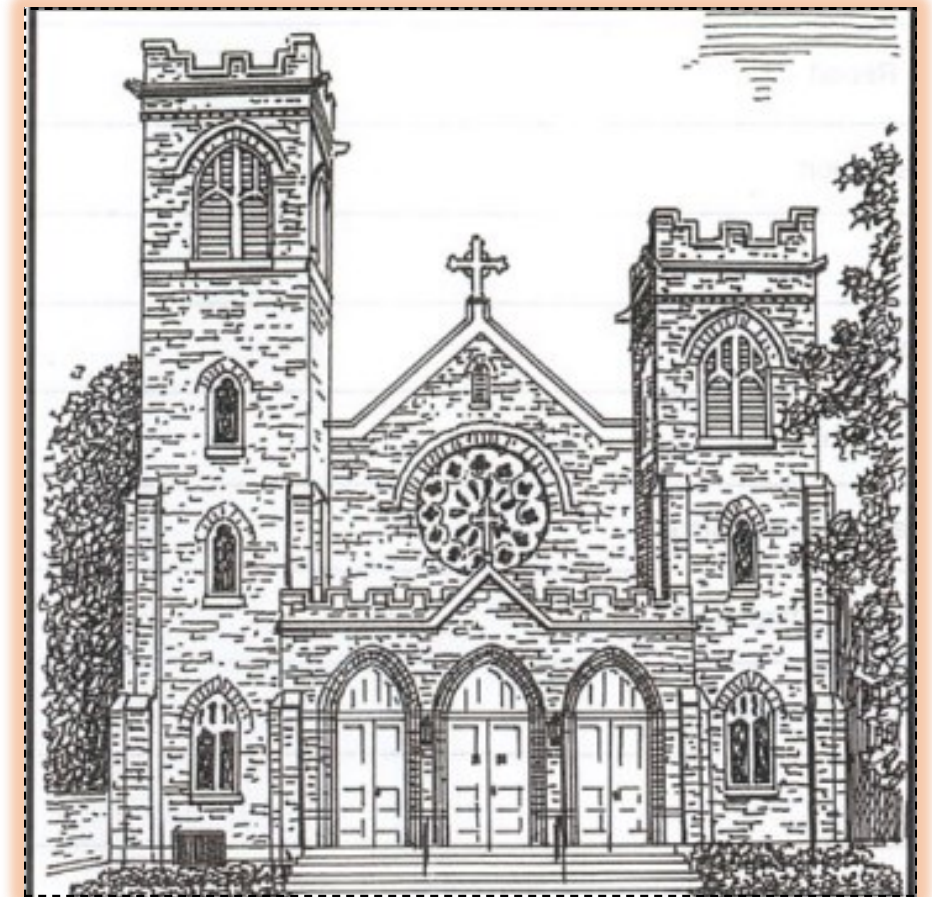
Large Print copies of today's scripture readings and hymns are available on the welcome desk.

Church Staff

The Reverend Chance Martinez, Pastor
Nathan Strite, Minister of Music
Tricia Baptiste, Administrative Assistant
Kaden Hansen, Custodian



Grace
United Church of
Christ



January 12, 2025

25 EAST 2'ND STREET
FREDERICK, MD 21701
301-662-3312 • WWW.GRUCC.COM
E-MAIL: ADMIN@GRUCC.COM

"Loving Our Neighbor Out Loud"

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Baptism of Christ Sunday

Welcome

Council Appreciation and Installation

Passing the Peace

Ring of the Bell

Prelude: *Tranquility* arr. Alejandro Consolacion

CALL TO WORSHIP (YOU MAY DO THIS SEATED OR STANDING)

Leader: God is with us always and calls each of us by name.

All: When we pass through difficulties and stress,

Leader: God is with us and calls us by name.

All: When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,

Leader: God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us.

All: Blessed be God who knows us and calls us by name.

Amen!

Gathering Prayer (in Unison)

Lord of Hope and Light, in the midst of Darkness you offered light to people who lived in fear. Today that light comes to us as we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. Open our hearts this day and remind us that you have marked us as people of hope and light. Prepare us to serve you by serving your world. AMEN.

***Opening Hymn *I Am the Light of the World* NCH #584**

Child In Us All Chapel

Offering

Music During Offering: *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. Michael Cox

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

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 (In Unison)**

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given – Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave the old year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! Amen.

Scripture Reading: Luke 3:15-17; 21-22 (NRSV-ue)

One: Hear what the spirit is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Chance Martinez

Remembrance of Baptism

Music *Meditation on "Borning Cry"* arr. David Christiansen

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 Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Announcements

***Closing Hymn: *O Radiant Christ* NCH #168**

Choral Benediction: *Grace to You* arr. Lloyd Larson

Postlude: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. Paul Manz

Please note that the Postlude is part of our service and we ask that you center yourselves as we close today's service.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Grace United Church of Christ. We pray that you would experience God's presence in our midst as we worship together.

SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Nathan Strite and Grace Choir

Greeters: Mary Turner

Acolyte: Sophia Kaufman

Liturgist: Mary Turner

Sunday School: Amy Duray

Child In Us All Chapel: Pastor Chance

ASL Interpreter: N/A

Offering: John and Carol Brehmer

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS

If you are visiting for the first time today, please stop at the Welcome Table (in the lobby) to receive a gift bag. We also welcome you to join us in front of the Sanctuary for Grace in Five where we will introduce you briefly to the ministries of Grace UCC.

Joys and Concerns: If you have a Joy or Concern that you would like shared during our service today, please fill out a Joy and Concern Card and drop it in the plate at the front of the Sanctuary during the Passing of the Peace.

Are you receiving the weekly Grace UCC E-mail News Blast? If the answer is no...please email the church office at admin@grucc.com to be added to distribution list.

You are invited to join us for Bible Study each Sunday. There are three opportunities each week to participate (9:30am-In-Person; 12:30pm-In-Person; or 7:00pm via Zoom.

Giving This Month to Date: \$2,090.00
Total Needed Monthly to Meet Budget: \$14,583.33
Toward Goal to Date: 14%

Attendance Last Week: 55