

Grace United Church of Christ 25 E. Second St. Frederick, MD

April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word
April 15, 2018
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Welcome! It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning.

This morning we will use both the black *New Century Hymnal* (NCH).
and the green *Worship & Song* hymnal (W&S).

**Indicates when people are invited to stand.*

We Gather

Prelude: "Intermezzo on 'Now the Green Blade Riseth'"

- French Carol, arr. John S. Dixon

Welcome

Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choral Introit: "I Sing as I Arise Today"

- William P. Rowan (1986)

**Call to Worship (Psalm 4):*

Leader: Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

People: You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

Leader: But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful, who belong to God; the LORD hears when I call.

People: When you are disturbed, do not sin;

Leader: Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD!

**Opening Hymn: #3001 (W&S) "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

**Opening Prayer*

*Passing of the Peace

We Listen

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

- Lloyd Taylor

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

Choral Anthem: "Hymn of Rising!"

- words by Paul Williams, music by Joseph M. Martin

*Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-48

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Message

- Carol Garrison

Following the Children's Message, children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us in the fellowship hall for Children's Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Sermon: "Changing the Words"

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayer

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "When He Cometh"

- George F. Root (1895), arr. Larry Shackley

*Prayer of Dedication

*The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

Our Father 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.

We are Sent

Announcements

*Closing Prayer

*Closing Hymn: #423 (NCH) "Great Is Your Faithfulness"

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: "As You Go"

- Roger Summers

Ringling of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Postlude: "Festive Postlude on 'Truro'"

- Mary McDonald

SERVING THIS MORNING

Jean Barrick will be your hostess for fellowship in the Good Shepherd Room following worship.

Welcome to our Guests!

We are delighted that you joined us for worship this morning. Please be sure to sign the red Friendship Book in your pew.

If you have any difficulty hearing the service, one of our ushers can provide you with a hearing assistance device. We also have large print bulletins and hymnals available.

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for Children's Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children's Message. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Following worship, we invite you to join us for fellowship.

Welcome to Grace Church!



The yellow rose on the altar is presented by the Altar Guild in memory of deceased war veterans and in honor of those who have served our country, as well as those currently on active duty.

CPR - First Aid - AED

We have had interest from the congregation for a FIRST AID/CPR/AED class. After significant research, we found the most convenient one is at Frederick Community College. It is their HEARTSAVER CPR/FIRST AID class, and is offered multiple times throughout the year. The class is 8 hours, and options exist for full day Saturday, full day weekday, and a two-day weeknight course. The course description is:

Course SAF156

This Heartsaver® CPR/First Aid/AED teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrives. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children, and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants.

These classes are open to the public, but we are suggesting **Friday, May 18th** as a time for members of our congregation to attend, in the hopes that you will attend with others that you know. We will also monitor their website for the next weekend class, and notify in the newsletters and church bulletin when those are posted. Fees are \$45 and \$50 for out of state residents. Certification and a textbook are included. If you want to see the course materials a sample will be provided at church; please see Mark Edwards or Gwen McGee.

Do you get a little chilly in church? Please know that there are knitted shawls available for you to use as you need. They are spread throughout the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you don't see one near you. Many thanks to Pam Marshall for this idea and for making the shawls!



Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/GraceUCCFrederick

SAVE THE DATE!

The Grace Church Senior Choir presents
A Cabaret Concert Fundraiser for Puerto Rico
Saturday, May 5th
3:00 p.m.

This concert is FREE; a love offering will be collected to benefit the men, women and children of Puerto Rico who are still without food and electricity 6 months after the devastation of their home by Hurricane Maria. Please plan to join us!

In conjunction with the concert, Carrie Minnick will be hosting a *Thirty-One* fundraiser throughout the month of April. Stop by her table in the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 22nd and Sunday, April 29th to see all of the great products *Thirty-One* has to offer!



Join Nikki on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room for this FREE drop-in class! Zumba is a fun way to exercise, and is appropriate for men and women of all fitness levels. Please join us!

Use of the Church Building

Do you need space in the church building for a meeting or event? If so, PLEASE remember to call the church office and get it on the calendar ASAP. This means BEFORE you make plans, invite people, advertise, etc... Our building is getting increasingly busy throughout the week and we need to avoid embarrassing double-bookings! Thank you!!

Treasurer's Report



March 2018

Income: \$12,916.72
Expenses: \$18,455.60
Difference: - \$5,538.88

2018 Year-to-Date

Income: \$38,296.72
Expenses: \$60,205.92
Difference: - \$21,909.20

Offering Envelopes and Electronic Giving

Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex for anyone who would like to use envelopes for regular giving. Simply pick up a box and write your name on the sign-up sheet next to the number that you've chosen.

If you prefer to give electronically, we offer 2 options:

(a) the *UCC e-Giving* program allows you to have a regular, recurring donation drafted out of your bank account, or charged to your credit card. *(To get started, simply pick up an authorization form in the Narthex, or contact the church office.)*

(b) make donations through our website using PayPal! Simply click the button at the bottom of the home page - www.grucc.com.

If you decide to participate in our electronic giving programs, you can pick up some "I give electronically" cards to place in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

Volunteer Opportunities at Grace Church

Are you ready to get more involved in your church? We have plenty of opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, and interests:

Acolytes, Altar Guild, Children's Sermon volunteers, Lay Caring Ministry, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Scripture readers, Ushers, and Youth Ministry - *please speak to Pastor Rob*

Sanctuary and Joyful Noise Choirs - *please speak to Jonas Dawson*

Hand Bell Choir - *please speak to James Taylor*

Fellowship Hosts and Greeters - *please speak to Rob Apgar*

Congregational Life activities - *please speak to Matt Bonin or Rob Apgar*

Sunday School teachers, Children's Church leaders, and Nursery volunteers - *please speak to Jean Barrick*

Offering Counters - *please speak to Lloyd Taylor*

Outreach and Missions - *please speak to Sarah Travis*

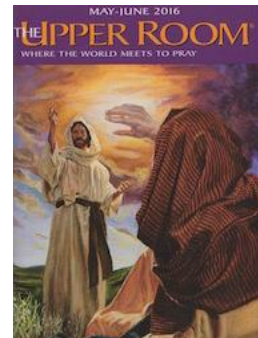
Summer is coming...

And that means that we are preparing for Pastor Rob's Sabbatical. We have pastors who are going to be with us on Sundays, and for emergencies, but we are also looking to put together a team of lay people who will be willing to visit people in the hospital and nursing homes as we have the need. Gary Johnson has agreed to coordinate this and be the contact person for this ministry while Pastor Rob is away. Before the summer, we will have a time to get together to learn about how to visit people in health care settings, i.e. praying with people, hospital visitation guidelines, etc.

If this is something that would interest you, please let Pastor Rob or Gary Johnson know. Thanks!

Upper Room Devotionals

Devotional booklets are available in the Narthex for anyone who would like a resource for daily prayer. There are regular and large-print versions, and there is no cost for the booklets, although donations are gladly accepted.



THE GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

The Good Samaritan Fund is designated for emergency financial relief to members and friends of Grace Church. Only the pastor and person in need know who receives assistance from the fund. If you or someone you know from our church family is in need of assistance, please contact Pastor Rob directly.

Donations to the Good Samaritan Fund can be made at any time, in any amount. If you would like to help, please place a check in the offering plate made out to Grace Church with "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line. Thank you!



Let's keep in touch!

Each week, the Grace Church eNews is sent out to our members and friends to keep everyone up-to-date on upcoming events. If you haven't been receiving these emails, please contact the church office to be added to the list.



Frederick's Amazing Faith Dinner Dialogues

Sunday, May 6 or Thursday, May 10, 2018

5:00 – 8:00 pm

Would you like to participate in a dialogue with people of different beliefs in order to understand how they apply their principles when making decisions, resolving conflicts, overcoming fears and expressing joy?

Frederick Interfaith, an organization that formed after 9/11, fosters spiritual understanding, unity, and love among people of diverse beliefs. As one of its outreach activities, Frederick Interfaith sponsors an annual Amazing Faiths Dinner.

Groups of eight to ten participants will meet all over the Frederick area at simultaneous dinners for meaningful conversations. During the meal, each person will be asked to answer a question about his or her personal experience with faith or beliefs. Trained moderators will facilitate each meal. People of all faiths and no faith are welcome. This event is free for participants; diners are invited to bring a dish for the meal.

To register for the dinner:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4cafaf2eaafb6-amazing1>
or email frederickinterfaith@gmail.com or phone 301-639-2062

RSVP by April 16, 2018

FREE Children's Festival

Saturday, April 28

10 AM - 3 PM

Baker Park* in Downtown Frederick

Entertainment • Activity Booths • Hands-On Activities for Young Children

Food for Sale (or Pack Your Own)

Sponsors:

Child Care Choices • City of Frederick

*In the event of inclement weather, the festival will take place inside the Talley Recreation Center

Daily Bible Readings for this Week

The readings for April point us in the direction of new beginnings. The readings from Acts are yearly readings as we focus our post resurrection attention to the Apostles and life in the early days of the Church. The Hebrew Scripture readings focus us on the prophets' teachings about the new life we anticipate in the Kingdom of God. While there will indeed be struggles in this world, the prophets' words of gloom are always tempered with words of hope and assurance. You belong to God and in the end...God has the final word!

The daily Bible readings are clustered into weeks with Sunday being the center of each week. The lessons come from the Revised Common Lectionary. The readings for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each week orient our prayer and preparation for the Sunday lessons. The readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday reflect on Sunday's lessons. In the worship of Grace Church we normally read only two lessons. However, many Sundays the Psalm for the day is also incorporated into the service as a Call to Worship or prayer.

Third Week of Easter

Apr 15 *Third Sunday of Easter*
 Acts 3:12-19
 Psalm 4
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36b-48

Apr 16 Psalm 150
 Jeremiah 30:1-11a
 1 John 3:10-16

Apr 17 Psalm 150
 Hosea 5:15—6:6
 2 John 1-6

Apr 18 Psalm 150
 Proverbs 9:1-6
 Mark 16:9-18

Fourth Week of Easter

Apr 19 Psalm 23
 Genesis 30:25-43
 Acts 3:17-26

Apr 20 Psalm 23
 Genesis 46:28—47:6
 Acts 4:1-4

Apr 21 Psalm 23
 Genesis 48:8-19
 Mark 6:30-34

Apr 22 *Fourth Sunday of Easter*
 Acts 4:5-12
 Psalm 23
 1 John 3:16-24
 John 10:11-18

Worship Assistants

April 22nd:

Greeter: OPEN

Scripture Reader: Trish Abell

Children's Message: Trish Abell

Children's Church: Oi Kettavong

Fellowship Host: Jean Barrick

April 29th:

Greeter: OPEN

Scripture Reader: Beth Warren

Children's Message:

Patti Flanders-Lombardi

Children's Church: Colleen Street

If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host the fellowship time after worship, please sign up on the refrigerator in the Good Shepherd Room.

Caring and Sharing

The following are members and friends of our church family who are currently ill, hospitalized, or home-bound. Please keep them in your prayers and perhaps send a note or a card. Addresses can be obtained from the church office, or you can pick up a church directory from one of the ushers. If you know of anyone who should be added to this list, please call the church office.

Millie Davis, Joe Free, Jean Gaver, Paul and Miriam Himes, Karlene Kaufmann, Pam Kehne, and Betty Linton.

Please note that hospitals are no longer permitted to contact churches on behalf of their patients. If you know of a church member who is hospitalized, please inform the church office. If you or a family member is hospitalized in an emergency situation, please call Pastor Rob at 240-217-2767.

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East 2nd Street

Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312

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Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor
Jonas Dawson, Director of Music

pastorrob@grucc.com
music@grucc.com

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE CHURCH

Sunday, April 15 - Third Sunday of Easter

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes for adults and youth

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. - Volunteers from Grace Church serve at the Soup Kitchen

5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, April 16

6:30 p.m. - The Frederick Center Young Adult Group (2nd floor)

Tuesday, April 17

6:30 p.m. - ManKind Project (Basement)

Wednesday, April 18

6:30 p.m. - The Frederick Center youth group (Basement)

Thursday, April 19

6:00 p.m. - FREE drop-in Zumba class (Good Shepherd Room)

6:00 p.m. - Frederick Co. Health Dept. support group (Basement)

Friday, April 20

8:30 p.m. - N. A. meeting (Good Shepherd Room)

Saturday, April 21

8:00 a.m. - N.A. event (Basement - all day)

9:30 a.m. - Piano recital rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 22 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes for adults and youth

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church worship (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, April 24

6:30 p.m. - ManKind Project (Basement)

7:00 p.m. - Church Council meeting (Room 3)

Wednesday, April 25

6:30 p.m. - The Frederick Center youth group (Basement)

