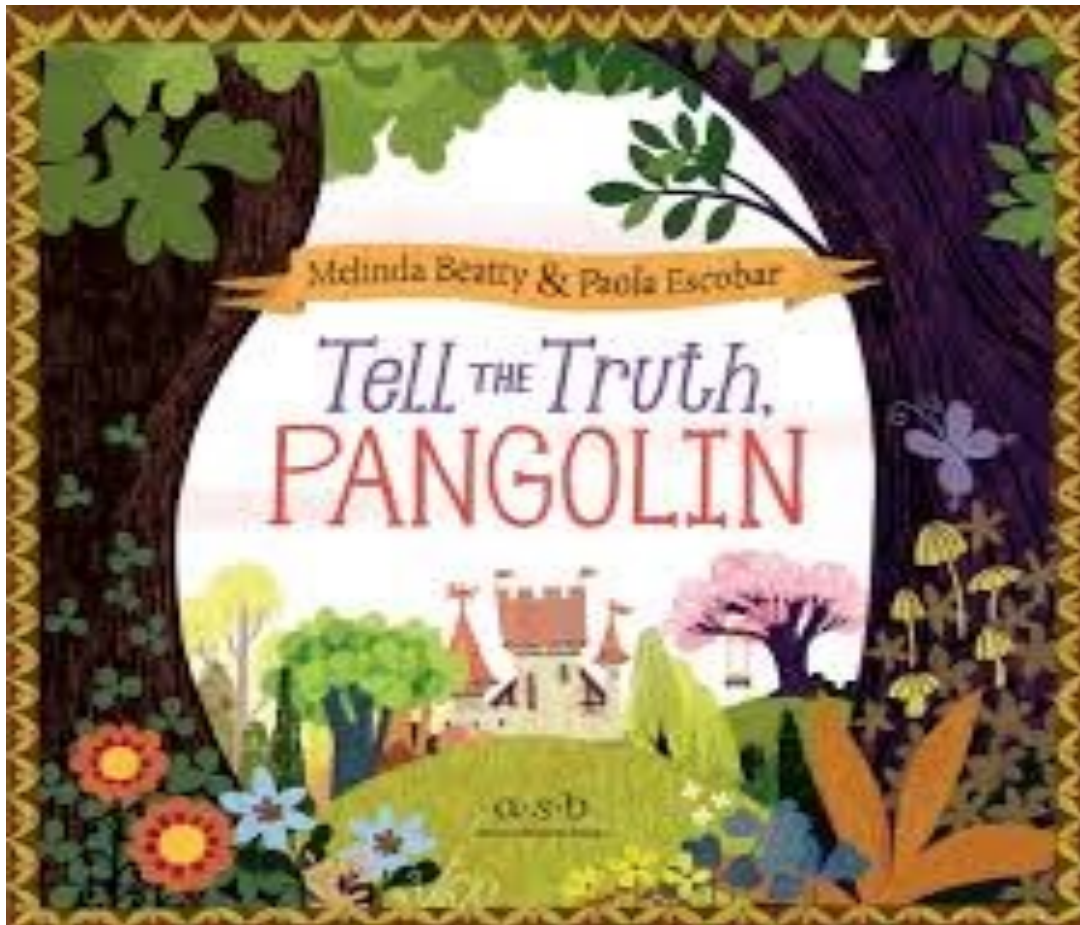


# Grace United Church of Christ



*Sunday, July 28, 2024*  
*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Today's Theme: "Honesty is The Best Policy"*

## WE GATHER

**Welcome**

**Passing the Peace**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Prelude** - "Harlaxton One" from *Harlaxton Suite* - Clark Kimberling  
(named after the composer's then home of Harlaxton Manor)

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Children of God...welcome!

**All: Welcome to this place of love and grace,**

Leader: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

**All: God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,**

Leader: God invites all of us to share in the good news:

**All: We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

Leader: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

**Gathering Prayer** (In Unison)

**Lord of all, as we gather to worship You, we ask for hearts open to Your presence. Fill this place with Your Spirit and our souls with Your peace. Let every song, prayer, and word spoken glorify You and draw us closer in communion with You and each other. In Your holy name, we worship and pray... Amen!**

1 Praise to the living God,  
the God of love and light,  
whose word brought forth the myriad suns  
and set the worlds in flight;  
whose infinite design,  
which we but dimly see,  
pervades all nature,  
making all a cosmic unity.

2 Praise to the living God,  
from whom all things derive,  
whose Spirit formed upon this sphere  
the first faint seeds of life;  
who caused them to evolve,  
unwitting, toward God's goal,  
till humankind stood on the earth,  
as living, thinking souls.

3 Praise to the living God,  
who knows our joy and pain,  
who shares with us our common life,  
the sacred and profane.  
God toils where'er we toil,  
in home and mart and mill;  
and deep within the human heart  
God leads us forward still.

4 Praise to the living God,  
around, within, above,  
beyond the grasp of human mind,  
but whom we know as love.  
In these tumultuous days,  
so full of hope and strife,  
may we bear witness to the Way,  
O Source and Goal of life.

## We Listen

### Children's Moment

### Scripture Reading

**Introduction:** Today's Epistle reading is part of a letter written by the Paul to the church in Ephesus that describes how Christian faith and practice are connected, and how belief shapes behavior. In this section, Paul uses contrasts to describe what it means to "put off the old self" and "put on the new self". In verse 25, Paul says that the new life in Christ means relinquishing falsehood and committing to speaking the truth to one another.

Ephesians 4:25 (New International Version)

**25** Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

*You are invited now to sit back, take some deep breaths, and let the words of the scripture settle in you. As Nathan and Will share our musical meditation, think on what the words of this ancient story mean to you today.*

### **Musical Meditation** - Psalm 1 - Emma Lou Diemer

Today's Musical Meditation was composed by Emma Lou Diemer, who passed away last month at the age of 96. Diemer was a notable composer, keyboard performer, and longtime music professor at University of California, Santa Barbara. Her many compositions include works for orchestra, chamber ensemble, keyboard, choir, and more. Her "Psalm 1," originally written for organ and trombone, will be offered by us today on organ and euphonium. -

**Sermon:** The Rev. Chance Martinez

**Sermon Title:** "Honesty is The Best Policy"

**Sermon Hymn:** "Be Now My Vision" NCH-451

1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;  
nothing surpasses the love you impart—  
You my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

2 Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;  
ever within me, my soul is assured;  
Mother and Father, you are both to me,  
now and forever your child I will be.

3 Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,  
you, my inheritance, now and always;  
You and you only are first in my heart,  
great God my treasure may we never part.

4 Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heavens' joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **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** - "Carol" from *5 Bagatelles* - Gerald Finzi

**\*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:** Loving God, we present now what we have brought to you. Things that are both visible and invisible. The coins and paper represent our work, and express in a clear and visible way our love and thanks. But we also bring as an offering the fragile dreams and hopes that we have. These invisible gifts are what sustain our lives. Receive all that we have brought in love, O God. Amen

## We Are Sent

Presentation by The Literacy Council of Frederick

### **Announcements**

**\*Closing Hymn**      “O Savior, Let Me Walk with You”      NCH 503

1 O Savior, let me walk with you  
in earthly paths of service true;  
Tell me your secret, help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love.  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me your patience; let me be  
in closer, dearer company,  
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong.

4 In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
In peace that only you can give,  
with you, O Savior, let me live.

### **Pastoral Blessing for the Journey**

**Postlude** - God of Grace - arr. Paul Manz

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

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE UCC:

Special thanks to today's guest instrumentalist, William Miller. Though a clarinet major while at Shepherd University, Mx. Miller is talented in the performance of multiple instruments. They will be sharing music on soprano recorder, euphonium, and clarinet!

- Sunday 7/28:** 11:00 am Worship Service  
"Stuff the Bus" Donations Accepted (last day)  
12:15 pm Fellowship  
2:00 pm-5:00 pm Korean Church  
7:00 pm-8:30 pm Summer Concert Series in Baker Park
- Monday 7/29:** 7:00 am-4:30 pm Salvation Army  
11:30 am-1:30 pm NA Meeting  
6:00 pm-8:00 pm NarAnon Meeting  
6:30 pm-9:30 pm AA Meeting  
**Bulletin Announcements due by Noon.**
- Tuesday 7/30:** 7:00 am -4:30 pm Salvation Army  
9:30 am "Stuff the Bus" Pick up  
11:30 am-1:30 pm NA Meeting
- Wednesday 7/31:** 7:00 am -4:30 pm Salvation Army  
11:30 am-1:30 pm NA Meeting  
6:30 pm-9:30 pm AA Meeting  
7:00 pm Book Club (zoom)  
7:00 pm-10:00 pm Iglesias De Dios Church
- Thursday 8/1:** 7:00 am-4:30 pm Salvation Army  
11:30 am-1:30 pm NA Meeting  
7:00 pm- NA (Woman and Children Meeting)
- Friday 8/2:** 7:00 am-4:30pm Salvation Army  
11:30 am- 1:30 pm NA Meeting
- Saturday 8/3:** 8:30 am-10:00 am Women's NA Meeting  
10:00 am-11:30 am Men's NA Meeting  
3:00 pm-5:00 pm Korean Church  
7:00 pm-10:00 pm Iglesias De Dios Church

# **Important Announcements !**

**Sunday, August 11- Blessing of Teachers/Staff/Students**

**Sunday, August 18- Volunteer at Community Table**

**Sunday, September 8 - Rally Day/Homecoming**

**Saturday, September 14- Grace Booth at In the Streets**

**Sunday, September 15- Frederick County Fair**

**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-9:00 pm)**

**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)**

**Thurs, 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**

**Thursday, December 26-Tour of Historic Churches**



## REFUGEE WELCOMING COMMITTEE

In 2024 Grace Church is starting a team to help a refugee family, under the guidance of the Refugee Welcoming Coalition of Frederick (<https://www.rwcfrederick.org/>). The RWC is an alliance of faith communities, civic organizations, and individual volunteers founded in 2021 in recognition of the influx of refugee families who need help establishing themselves in our area. Assistance indeed includes transportation, furnishing household items, and assistance with bureaucracies like school enrollment and health services.

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

Until we form our team, you can make 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](mailto: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.

# Stuff The Bus



## STUFF THE BUS

### 2024 Elementary School Supply List

- Two-Pocket Folders
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Markers
- Ziploc Bags
- Dry Erase Markers
- Kleenex
- Pencil Boxes
- Earbuds (with Microphone)
- Pencil Sharpener
- Composition Notebooks

**DONATIONS DIRECTLY SUPPORT FCPS STUDENTS!**

**LEARN MORE: [UWFREDERICK.ORG/STUFFTHEBUS](https://www.uwfederick.org/stuffthebus)**

Questions? Contact Joyce Kwamena-Poh at [jkwamenapoh@uwfrederick.org](mailto:jkwamenapoh@uwfrederick.org).

Grace UCC is a community partner for this year's United Way Stuff the Bus program!

Kids in our community need the tools and support to learn - now more than ever.

The goal of the Stuff the Bus program is to ensure that every student in Frederick County has the tools and support they need to learn. This program provides FCPS students with the supplies they need to start the school year through generous donations from our community.

Any school supplies for elementary, middle or high schoolers are welcome! Please place supplies in and around the bin in the narthex. They will be collected at the end of the drive on Tuesday, July 30th.

In addition, Grace UCC has our own page for the virtual drive which allows for cash donations to purchase school supplies. Go to this unique link and donate between today and Friday, July 12th when the virtual drive is collected.

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/StuffTheBus24/team/GraceUCC>

<https://www.unitedwayfrederick.org/stuffthebus>

Donations of any amount are most appreciated. Here are some examples of what different cash donations might purchase:

\$15 buys pencils, markers, and crayons for one kindergarten student

\$50 supports one elementary student with basic supplies

\$125 provides a middle school student with all necessary supplies

\$200 buys a high school student basic supplies, including a graphing calculator

\$500 provides 10 pre-k students with all necessary supplies



*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](mailto:admin@grucc.com) to register

ORGANIZED BY  
GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FREDERICK, MD





# Grace United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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Director of Music: Nathan Strite

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Bell Choir Director: James Taylor

[Bells@grucc.com](mailto:Bells@grucc.com)

Children & Youth Ministry: Amy Duray

[worshipgraceucc@gmail.com](mailto:worshipgraceucc@gmail.com)

Nursery Attendant: Joan Princler

[Joan.dancer@comcast.net](mailto:Joan.dancer@comcast.net)

Custodian: Hunt Hughes

[Admin@grucc.com](mailto:Admin@grucc.com)

Church Admin: Patricia Baptiste

[Admin@grucc.com](mailto: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:

Carol Garrison

Children's Message:

Pastor Chance

Children's Church

N/A

Altar Guild:

N/A

Greeter:

Carol Garrison

### Follow us!



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[www.grucc.com](http://www.grucc.com)

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OF CHRIST**

