

# Grace Vine

## Grace United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

25 East 2nd Street

Historic Downtown Frederick, Maryland

## JUNE 2017

In this issue:	Page:
Birthdays & Anniversaries	10
Calendar	Center
Caring and Sharing	5
Congregational Life	4
Daily Lectionary Readings	Insert
Finance & Property	11
From the Pastor	2
Leadership Directory	15
Music Notes	13
Outreach	12
UCC News	13
Worship & Education	13

### Important Dates at a Glance

Saturday, June 10th

Choir Fundraiser at  
Uno Pizzeria & Grill  
*Details on page 13*

Sunday, June 11th

Spring Fling  
*Details on page 4*

Sunday, June 18th

Grace Church volunteers serve  
at the Soup Kitchen

Saturday, June 24th

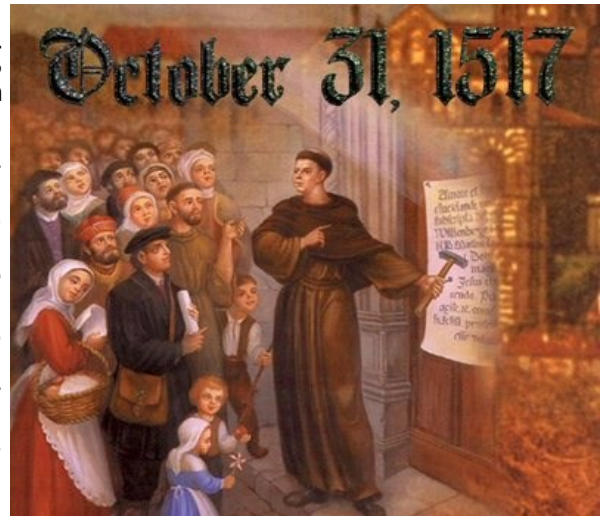
11:00 a.m.  
Frederick Pride Worship Service  
2:00 p.m.  
Ordination of Guy S. Johnson

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I am preparing to head off to Germany to present at a conference and to participate in Kirchentag, a church-wide celebration like our General Synod, which also happens every two years in various cities throughout Germany.

This year's celebration at Kirchentag will be special as it commemorates the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation when Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the Church doors in Wittenberg, Germany. We will no doubt be talking about this more as we approach the date of the event on October 31<sup>st</sup> and as our Choir prepares for its tour in August.



As we celebrate this important anniversary, it is also important to remember what it is that we celebrate. We are NOT celebrating our break as Protestants from the Roman Catholic Church. What we are celebrating is the power of the Holy Spirit to call the Church to reform. *Semper Reformanda* Martin Luther said: the Church is always reforming. In the Reformed Christian Tradition, we in the UCC celebrate change! We realize that the Church is to be apostolic in its ministry, but that doesn't mean we are to safeguard the traditions of the church from the influence of modernity. Like I told you in a sermon a few weeks ago, if the Apostles had sung "Give Me That Old Time Religion," we would all still be Jews! It means that we take the faith we inherited and we frame it anew for our generation. We look for the ways the Holy Spirit speaks in and through our faith to reveal God to us again in our day.

And so the church reforms itself over and over again. We see things differently. We understand God differently. Social issues are wrestled with and the church struggles with how best to adapt to changing times while still being faithful to what we know of God's call. These issues continue to chal-

lenge us as they have in generations past. And I suspect generations to come will struggle in much the same way.

The trick is not to wall ourselves off from culture and society around us, but to speak truth to power and look for the Spirit of God in and through our world. And to challenge it when we see our culture veering off the track and deviating from what we believe is God's will. The church is reformed and reforming! May we continue to look for the Spirit active around us and may we, like Luther, have the strength to speak the truth in the face of a culture that sometimes needs to be reminded of what is right and loving.

Have a great month!

Pastor Rob†

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: **A Pastoral Care note:** Due to the current HIPAA (Privacy) laws, hospitals are :  
: not permitted to contact churches on behalf of patients. If you know of a :  
: church member who is hospitalized, please inform the church office. In the :  
: case of an emergency hospitalization (whether yourself or a family member), :  
: please call Pastor Rob at 240-217-2767. :  
:.....

**FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE**



**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 Friday updates, please email the church office to be added to the list.

**Mark your calendar now!** The submission deadline for the July issue of the *Grace Vine* newsletter is Monday, June 19th. The newsletter will be ready for pickup from the Narthex on Sunday, June 25th.

If you currently receive a paper copy of the *Grace Vine* newsletter, but would prefer to receive the newsletter by email, or read it online, please call or email the church office so that we can save the postage. Thank you!



Please join us for our first-ever

## Spring Fling!

*a gathering of members and friends from Grace Church and  
our sister church, Veritas UCC in Hagerstown*

**Sunday, June 11th** following worship

We will enjoy a potluck luncheon and some wonderful fellowship!

Please RSVP to Joan Princler and let her know what dish you plan  
to bring. Thank you!

### **Greeters and Fellowship Hosts**

Volunteer greeters are needed every Sunday morning to welcome our members and guests to worship. Volunteer fellowship hosts provide snacks and drinks after worship on the first and third Sundays of each month.

On the last Sunday of every month, the Congregational Life Commission will host a birthday party for everyone who celebrated a birthday during that month. (Please be sure that the church office has your birthday on file so that we can recognize you!)

If you would like to serve as a greeter or host the fellowship time one Sunday, please sign up on the sheet in the Good Shepherd Room or speak to Rob Apgar ("Cop Rob").

## Caring and Sharing

The following is a list of members and friends of our Grace Church family who are currently ill, home-bound, recovering from an injury or surgery, or hospitalized. If you know of anyone who should be added to this list, please call the church office or speak to Pastor Rob. If you would like to get involved in the **Lay Caring Ministry** by sending cards, making phone calls, or visiting anyone on the list, please speak to Mike Stockman.

Harold Wenner  
615 Biggs Ave.  
Frederick, MD 21702

Millie Davis  
801 Pine Ave.  
Frederick, MD 21701

Joe Free  
1117 Rocky Springs Rd.  
Frederick, MD 21702

Betty Linton  
814 Trail Ave.  
Frederick, MD 21701

Paul and Miriam Himes  
9810 Masser Rd.  
Frederick, MD 21702

Pam Kehne  
1632 Wall Dr.  
Pasadena, MD 21122

Bill Failor  
Meadows Health Ctr.  
7407 Willow Rd.  
Frederick, MD 21702

Karlene Kaufmann  
2501 Driftwood Ct.  
Apt. 1B  
Frederick, MD 21702



## Church Directories

Do you need an updated copy of our member directory? Please contact the church office or speak to an usher on Sunday morning. Due to privacy concerns, we do not publish our directory on the church website.



### Free Blood Pressure Screenings

On the first Sunday of every month, our Faith Community Nurse, Mike Stockman, will provide free blood pressure screenings during fellowship.



Join us on Thursday evenings at 6pm for our **FREE** drop-in Zumba class! Men, women and teens of all fitness levels are welcome!

# SILENT AUCTION

**50% of proceeds for the choir trip to Germany**

**50% of proceeds for Richelle Schmitz**

The final bids will be accepted after church on June 4<sup>th</sup>

Winners will be announced on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

(You do not need to be present to win!)

KUDOS TO JOAN PRINCLER –

SHE HAS COLLECTED MORE PRIZES THAN EVER BEFORE!!

## **Clothing, Accessories and Services**

- Girls' dresses
- Women's clothing
- Gift cards from clothing stores
- Jewelry and purses
- Shampoo / Hair Cut / Style

## **Automotive**

- Coupons for oil changes

## **Décor**

- Antiques
- Handmade quilt
- Star light

## **Food / Candy**

- Grocery gift cards
- Restaurant gift cards
- Cakes, pizza
- Starbucks...

**...AND MUCH, MUCH MORE !**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT TEDDI GARRISON –  
TEXT 301-800-8181 OR EMAIL T\_GARRISON19@COMCAST.NET

A note from Richelle -

**To My Friends at Grace Church**

*You have all been so supportive of me but especially so in the last few years. I enjoy coming to church when I can for the worship service and to see all of my friends. I do miss singing in the choir but unfortunately my voice is not as strong as it used to be. I have many health issues that were caused by the cancer including a very low immune system and I tire very easily. I do not let my health issues prevent me from doing the things that I like to do but they do slow me down at times. Unfortunately, I can no longer work which is why we struggle financially. We are so very thankful for any help we receive and for all the help we get from Patty Pollatos.*

---- **Richelle (Ricki) Schmitz**

**Volunteer Opportunities at Grace Church**

Are you ready to get more involved in your church? We have plenty of opportunities for you! With only 5 part-time staff members, Grace Church relies heavily on volunteers to keep the church running smoothly.



We have many volunteer opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, and interests, such as:

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

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

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

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

Offering Counters - *please speak to Lloyd Taylor*

Outreach and Missions - *please speak to Sarah Travis*

**SUNDAY****MONDAY****TUESDAY**

**DR = Dining Room**  
**GSR = Good Shepherd Room**  
**S = Sanctuary**

# June 2017

**4 Pentecost**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 9:45 a.m. - Choir rehearsal (Room 12)  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship and Holy Communion (S)  
 Following worship - Silent Auction  
 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)

**5****6**

7:00 p.m. - TFC Young Adults (2nd)  
 7:00 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (13)

**11 Trinity Sunday**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 9:45 a.m. - Choir rehearsal (Room 12)  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)  
 Following worship - Spring Fling  
 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)

**12**

7:00 p.m. - Finance & Property (Rm. 3)

**13**

7:00 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR)

**18 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Father's Day**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 9:45 a.m. - Choir rehearsal (Room 12)  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)  
 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)

**19**

7:00 p.m. - TFC Mrktg Comm. (3)

**20**

7:00 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR)

**25 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 9:45 a.m. - Choir rehearsal (Room 12)  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)  
 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)

**26****27**

7:00 p.m. - Council (Room 3)  
 7:00 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR)



<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>SATURDAY</b>	
		<b>1</b> 6:00 p.m. - Zumba class (GSR) 6:30 p.m. - GAM-MA (2nd floor)		<b>2</b> 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		<b>3</b>	
<b>7</b> 6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (GSR) 7:00 p.m. - PFLAG (Room 3)		<b>8</b> 6:00 p.m. - Zumba class (GSR) 7:00 p.m. - TFC board meeting (3)		<b>9</b> 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		<b>10</b> 3:00 p.m. - Private piano recital (S)	
<b>14</b> 6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)		<b>15</b> 6:00 p.m. - Zumba class (GSR) 6:00 p.m. - FCHD support group (DR)		<b>16</b> 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		<b>17</b>	
<b>21</b> 6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)		<b>22</b> 6:00 p.m. - Zumba class (GSR)		<b>23</b> 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		<b>24</b> 11:00 a.m. - Frederick Pride Service (S) 2:00 p.m. - Guy Johnson Ordination	
<b>28</b> 6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)		<b>29</b> 6:00 p.m. - Zumba class (GSR)		<b>30</b> 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)			

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3 Lana Cross  
6 Judy Tobery  
12 Guy Johnson  
13 Tom Tobery  
25 Jean Gaver



26 Kameron Conley  
27 Joe Kula  
29 Roger Minnick  
Chloe Reed  
30 Betty Erwin

# JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

*Rob Apgar-Taylor and Rob Apgar*  
*June 3rd*



*Austin and Karen Miller*  
*June 10th*

*Tom and Judy Tobery*  
*June 19th*

*Bill and Julie Ridgley*  
*June 23rd*

## **Volunteers needed for 2017 Frederick Pride Festival**

We are looking for volunteers from Grace to man our booth at Pride on Saturday, June 24th. The worship service takes place at 11:00 a.m. here at Grace, followed by the festival along the Carroll Creek Linear Park. Please speak to Pastor Rob as soon as possible if you can help.



Dear God,  
I thank you for my baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy.

- Scottie, age 7

## FINANCE AND PROPERTY



### **A LOOK at the BUDGET**

### Treasurer's Report

#### April 2017

Income: \$17,519.89  
Expenses: \$23,734.26  
Difference: - \$6,214.87

#### 2017 Year-to-Date

Income: \$64,812.72  
Expenses: \$83,813.53  
Difference: - \$19,001.81

### **Giving Options at Grace Church**

Boxes of 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 would rather give electronically, we offer 2 options:

1. You can sign up for our super-convenient *UCC e-Giving* program and have a regular, recurring donation drafted out of your checking or savings account, or charged to your credit card. (To get started, simply pick up an authorization form in the Narthex or the Library, or call the church office.)

or

2. ***You can now make donations on our website using PayPal!*** Simply click the button at the bottom of the home page - [www.grucc.com](http://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.

### **IMPORTANT SECURITY REMINDERS:**

The side and back doors will be locked during worship on Sunday mornings, in order to prevent people walking through the building while everyone is in the Sanctuary.

Following the fellowship time on Sundays, please be sure to exit through the side doors, as the Narthex doors are locked after worship. Thank you!

## OUTREACH



### THANK YOU!

Our Grace Groceries collection for May was  
**58 items!**

*Thank you for your continued support of this  
vital local mission project!*

### FOODBANK NEEDS

The Frederick Foodbank, operated by the Frederick Community Action Agency, is in need of non-perishable food items such as peanut butter, pastas, rice, spaghetti or tomato sauce, cereal, canned fish like tuna, and canned meats. The Frederick Foodbank serves 700 to 750 families each month.

### Special Offering for June: *Strengthen the Church*

Strengthen the Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. We will receive the Strengthen the Church offering on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017. More information can be found at [www.ucc.org/stc](http://www.ucc.org/stc).

### Mission Opportunities

Thank you to everyone who volunteered - in any way - with the Emergency Family Shelter during their stay here at Grace last month. The gift of your time is much appreciated! We will host the families again in August and November. Please speak to Sarah Travis if you'd like to help.

Volunteers from Grace Church will be serving at the Soup Kitchen at the Frederick Community Action Agency on Sunday, June 18th. It's rewarding AND a lot of fun - won't you join us?

## UCC NEWS

*Please join us on for the ordination of*

*Guy S. Johnson*

*Saturday, June 24th*

*2:00 p.m.*

*Grace United Church of Christ*

## WORSHIP AND EDUCATION



Have you peeked into the church nursery lately? Special thanks to Jean Barrick, Faye and Rob Zimmerman, Heather Tiner and Aubree Tiner for fixing our tree!

### Music Notes

Thanks to our fundraisers and some very generous donors, the choir has raised over \$8,800 for their trip to Germany in August to sing for the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation!

Please be sure to check out the Silent Auction after worship on Sunday, June 4th, and then plan to join us for lunch or dinner on Saturday, June 10th for our next "Dough-Rai\$er" at Uno Pizzeria and Grill. A flyer is included with this newsletter, and more are available at church. Don't forget to invite your friends - you can give away as many flyers as you'd like!

### **A friendly reminder from Pastor Rob:**

Are you planning an event at the Church? If so, PLEASE remember to call Tara in the church office and make sure to get on the calendar ASAP. This means BEFORE you make plans, invite people, advertise, etc... The Church is getting increasingly busy throughout the week and we have had a few events that did not get cleared through the office. Luckily none of them conflicted with scheduled events, but they came pretty close! Let's avoid embarrassing double bookings by making sure there are no conflicts with the building usage. Thanks so much!!

# *For All the Saints*

## **Alban**

June 22 (c. 304)

Alban is honored as the first martyr of Britain. Nothing is known of his life, and it is not even certain in which period of persecution he died. The account of his martyrdom is given by Bede in his *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, based on a lesser-known fifth-century 'Passion of Alban.' According to these accounts, Alban, a citizen of Roman Verulamium (near present-day St. Alban's in Hertfordshire) gave shelter to a Christian priest fleeing from persecution, and was so impressed by his continual prayer that he began to seek instruction and became a Christian. When soldiers came to search for the priest, Alban gave himself up instead and was eventually executed by beheading.

Alban typifies the convert who finds a new identity in the new faith community. When asked about his family he replied "What does it concern you. . . of what stock I am? If you desire to hear the truth of my religion, be it known to you, that I am now a Christian, and bound by Christian duties." He remained steadfast in his loyalty to the faith which he had so newly entered.

His story extends, however, beyond his death. By 429 a shrine was in existence at which, according to Bede writing in c. 730 "there ceases not to this day the cure of sick persons, and the frequent working of wonders." His place of execution is described in some detail as a smooth and beautiful hill, covered in wild flowers, and separated from the town of Verulamium by a rapid river. This description fits extraordinarily well with the site of the existing twelfth-century abbey church of St. Alban's, which is now the cathedral of a diocese. Associated Roman-British Christian burials testify to the site's ancient sanctity which persists to this day. So Alban speaks across the centuries not only of the martyr's steadfastness, but also of the continuity of the faith and the importance of sacred and numinous places in bearing that continuity.

- M. P. Jones

## Grace Church Leadership Directory

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Patti Flanders-Lombardi	301-865-2984
Vice President	Jerry Princler	301-898-3877
Secretary	Vonnie Crum	301-898-5755
Treasurer	Lloyd Taylor	301-898-9259
At-Large	Donald Toms	240-446-7378
At-Large	Lisel Powell	240-651-5380

### COMMISSION CHAIRS

Administrative	Steve Robeson	301-639-7039
Congregational Life	Matt Bonin	845-326-7468
Finance and Property	Eric Black	724-910-9295
Outreach	Sarah Travis	
Worship and Education	Jean Barrick	301-663-1203

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert Apgar-Taylor, Pastor  
Jonas Dawson, Director of Music and Organist  
Tammy Eyler, Nursery Attendant  
Tom Tobery, Caretaker  
Tara Plyler, Administrative Associate

Telephone: 301-662-3312  
Email: [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com)  
Web Site: [www.grucc.com](http://www.grucc.com)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

SUNDAY WORSHIP:  
11:00 a.m.

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

HOLD FOR BACK PAGE