

# Grace Vine

## Grace United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

25 East 2nd Street

Historic Downtown Frederick, Maryland

## SEPTEMBER 2017

In this issue:	Page:
Birthdays & Anniversaries	5
Calendar	Center
Caring and Sharing	9
Congregational Life	4
Daily Lectionary Readings	Insert
Finance & Property	8
From the Pastor	2
Leadership Directory	11
Outreach	9

### Important Dates at a Glance

#### Sunday, September 3rd

11:00 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion  
Join us in welcoming Pastor Rob and  
the choir back from Germany!

#### Tuesday, September 5th

Back to school!



## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I am at a loss for words right now. Our country is divided and there is a funeral for a young woman who lost her life in a protest against White Supremacy groups. Even our leaders are divided on whether they should stand up against known hate groups. And I am just at a loss for words and very, very sad. I know that I am not alone in this sadness.

Last month I had the joy of attending a reunion with old friends from 35 years ago. It was a year that I was honored to travel with a singing group called *Up With People*. It was a group that started during the race riots of the mid-1960's when a group of people decided that if we could just get people to see each other in a new way, we could change the world. Bringing people together through music and service, we learned to respect each other by learning to see things through the eyes of another. During that year, I travelled to 10 countries and stayed with 103 host families. While the concert was the main way we financed our tour, the heart of the experience was interpersonal relationships. We spent nearly every day active in the communities we visited. Visiting untold numbers of nursing homes, orphanages, veteran's hospitals, speaking in schools about our own culture and where we came from. Learning from our host families and they from us, we forged understanding and compassion through building relationships with people we otherwise might never have known. My cast alone had people from over 20 countries. We really believed that in order to change the world, we had to start one heart at a time. I guess I still believe that.

It's more than believing, it's knowing. It's that I have seen it firsthand. Hearts can be changed when we stop and listen to each other. When we learn to see things through someone else's eyes, we see both them and their world in a new way. We might still disagree, but we can do it respectfully. *Up With People* went to China and performed at the Great Wall in 1977. A cast went to Soviet East Europe in the 1980's and to South Africa in the 1990's. Today *Up With People* is considered "cheesy" and too Pollyanna to be popular anymore. And that's a shame, because from where I sit, the world looks a lot

less hopeful and kind than it used to.

My heart is sad today because I know it doesn't have to be like this. And so as the political forces continue to fight, as culture wars rage around me, I remain committed to the belief that love can change the face of hate and that hearts can change one at a time. If you are interested in knowing more about *Up With People*, watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Xx-85VdCcw>.

Have a blessed month and make the time to make a change in someone's life.

Pastor Rob†

**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 October issue of the *Grace Vine* newsletter is Monday, September 18th. The newsletter will be ready for pickup from the Narthex on Sunday, September 24th.

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!

## **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!!

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

### **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.

### **New Members Class**

For those interested in joining Grace Church, or just getting to know more about us, our next New Members Class will be held in September. Please speak to Pastor Rob if you would like to be a part of the class.

### **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 your birthday is on file with the church office so that you can be recognized!)

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").



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Sara Street  
11 Jenni Campbell  
13 Karen Brown  
Carrie Minnick  
14 Trish Abell



16 Bill Drenning  
21 Richelle Schmitz  
22 Linda Grone  
23 Beth Warren  
29 Paula Pendergraft

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## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

*Roxanne and Mark Saloky  
September 13th*



*Jerry and Joan Princler  
September 14th*

*Kevin and Kelby Conley  
September 20th*

*Adam Kerns and Matthew Wright  
September 20th*

*Melody and Lester Slick  
September 26th*

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### 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.

### Free Blood Pressure Screenings



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

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

# September 2017

**3 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship and Holy Communion (S)

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

**4 Labor Day**

Church office closed

**5**

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

**10 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)

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

**11**

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

**12**

7:00 p.m. - Man Kind Project (13)  
 7:15 p.m. - Church & Ministry (Hmwd)

**17 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)

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

**18**

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

**19**

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

**24 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)

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

**25****26**

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

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>DR = Dining Room</b> <b>GSR = Good Shepherd Room</b> <b>S = Sanctuary</b>			<b>1</b>  8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)	<b>2</b>
<b>6</b>  6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR) 7:00 p.m. - PFLAG (Room 3)	<b>7</b>  6:30 p.m. - GAM- MA (Room 13)	<b>8</b>  8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)	<b>9</b>	
<b>13</b>  6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)	<b>14</b>  7:00 p.m. - TFC board meeting (3)	<b>15</b>  8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)	<b>16</b>	
<b>20</b>  6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)	<b>21</b>  6:00 p.m. - FCHD support grp (DR)	<b>22</b>  5:00 pm.. - Wedding re- hearsal 8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)	<b>23</b>  1:00 p.m. - Harsh- man/Warfield wed- ding	
<b>27</b>  6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  2:00 p.m. - Oktober- fest Open House (Rob and Rob's)	

## FINANCE AND PROPERTY



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

### Treasurer's Report

#### July 2017

Income: \$15,034.90  
Expenses: \$28,248.78  
Difference: - \$13,213.88

#### 2017 Year-to-Date

Income: \$109,362.79  
Expenses: \$143,246.95  
Difference: - \$33,884.16

### **Offering Envelopes and Electronic Giving Options**

Boxes of offering envelopes are available in the Narthex for anyone who would like to use envelopes for regular giving. Simply 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 bank 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 make donations through our website ([grucc.com](http://grucc.com)) using PayPal!

If you decide to participate in our electronic giving programs, we offer "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.

After worship each Sunday, the main doors to the Sanctuary (the Narthex doors) are locked from the inside. If you stay for the fellowship time after worship, please remember to exit by the side doors rather than the Narthex doors. Thank you for your cooperation!



# OUTREACH

## THANK YOU!

Our Grace Groceries collection for August was **22** items!

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

## Food Drive



## 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.

## 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
Karlene Kaufmann 2100 Whittier Dr. Apt. 405 Frederick, MD 21702	Jean Gaver 7407 Willow Rd. AL 250 Frederick, MD 21702	

## DID YOU KNOW...

- Grace Church hosts the Emergency Family Shelter four times a year. The remaining host dates for 2017 are November 11th-18th. New volunteers to the program are always welcome! Volunteers must be over the age of 18, and a background check is required. (Please contact the church office or speak to Sarah Travis for an application.) In addition to the trained volunteers who work with the shelter guests, we welcome anyone who would like to help with the set-up before the families arrive, and the clean-up after they have gone.
- Volunteers from Grace Church serve at the Frederick Community Action Agency's Soup Kitchen on the 3rd Sunday of even months. It's a rewarding mission experience and we always have fun! **Our next service date is October 15th.** Won't you join us?

### 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 (see the list below), but **at this time we are especially looking for volunteers to serve in the Nursery**, so that we always have 2 adults supervising the children. We hope to get 6 people so that each person only has to miss church once every 6 weeks. Please speak to Pastor Rob or Jean Barrick if you can help. Thanks!

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

Stewardship Committee - *please speak to Eric Black*

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

Lay Caring Ministry - *please speak to Mike Stockman*

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*

# 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.

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