



Grace United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701 ~ www.grucc.com

The Grace Vine May 2022

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Grace UCC Community Events



Mother's Day Hotdog &
Ice-cream Soda
Take Away Social!

Grace Church Family and Friends, Join us for a **Mother's Day Hotdog & Ice-cream Soda Take Away Social** on Mother's Day, **May 8th, 2022**, to begin immediately after church service. On your way out, hotdogs

will be prepared and you will a choice of flavors for your Ice-cream Soda take away. We look forward to you joining us May 8th for the Mother's Day Hotdog & Ice-cream Soda Take Away!



FROM PASTOR ROB'S DESK

Dear Friends

In about 2 weeks I will drive past St Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Hagerstown and the large statue of Mary will be surrounded by flowers and adorned with a floral crown. May is the Month of Mary in the Roman Catholic Tradition. While we certainly don't have a devotion to Mary in the same way that Roman Catholics do, I love to see that statue because Mary is one amazing woman. I think we do our own theology and our children a disservice by only bringing her out with the nativity and then packing her safely up again in January. Mary is one strong, prophetic woman!

Mary has been called the First Christian. Think about it. What does it mean to be a Christian? It's someone who says yes to a relationship with Jesus Christ. Who's the first person ever to say yes to a relationship with Jesus? That would be Mary.

Mary was the model of discipleship. At the wedding of Cana, when the wine runs out Mary looks at Jesus. "What is that to me?" Jesus asks. "My time has not yet come" Mary looks at the wine steward and says "Do whatever he tell you." She prodded Jesus to start his journey. In my office I have a picture of the Theotokos (Mother of God) from the Orthodox tradition. It shows Mary holding Jesus and she's pointing to him. All depictions of Mary in the Orthodox tradition depict her with Jesus. Why? Because Mary is only important in that she points us to Jesus. "Do whatever HE tells you" she seems to be saying.

Mary is the model of constant abiding love. At the Nativity we are told Mary "Pondered all these things in her heart" At Christmas we hear the beautifully moving song "Mary did you know?" well, in short, the answer is yes. Mary did know. Mary knew from the start, and she still stayed by his side all the way to the end. In the Vatican I saw the pieta, the statue from Michelangelo, where Mary is cradling the body of her crucified son, in the same way she had cradled him in Bethlehem 33 years before. When everyone else deserted him, it was Mary and the other women who stayed by his side. The Pieta is even more moving when you remember the words in Luke that foretold that a sword would pierce her heart too as her love for Jesus led to unimaginable grief as she cradled his body that day.

Mary has been a central figure in the spirituality of the poor and the oppressed throughout history. Why? Because in her we see God choosing the poor lowly girl from a nobody family in a nowhere town called Nazareth. God surely could have chosen someone with more power or standing, and in Mary, God chose to honor the one society didn't.

I wonder then, how our faith would be different if we were able to lift up Mary in healthy ways for ourselves and our children? A woman of strength and character. A woman who said yes to God even knowing that her yes would be anything but easy. *Be it done to me according to your word.* May my faith be that bold.

Have a great May!

Pastor Rob +



GRACE HAPPENINGS

We're going to New York!

Wednesday, June 29th 2022. We will take a bus ride together and be dropped off in Manhattan to explore at our leisure. At the end of the evening, a bus will take us back to Frederick. More information to come. Please contact Tony Hemler if you have any questions regarding this trip. He can be reached at tonyhemler0@gmail.com



Please note, the original date of April 27th has been changed due to unforeseen circumstances. We're hoping a summer date will better accommodate those that are interested.

GET READY FOR GERMAN MOVIE NIGHT

The 3 Penny Opera by Bertolt Brecht (1928)

Story of "Mack the Knife."

German Language with English Subtitles. 110 minutes long.

Date: Friday, June 10, 2022.

Time: Doors open at 7 PM movie shown at 7:30.
(History of film shown after movie for those interested.)

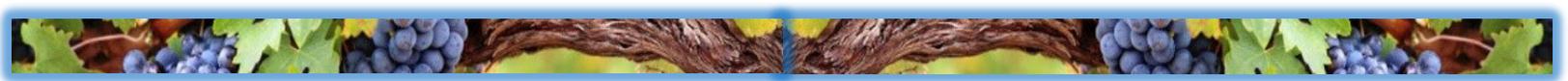
Place: Grace United Church of Christ,
25 E. 2nd Street
Frederick, MD 21701

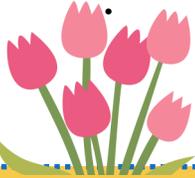
No Admission Fee (Donations Appreciated)

German Baked Goods and Drinks will be available for purchase.

This event sponsored by the Frederick Sister Cities Association and Grace United Church of Christ.

Contact Ronnie at 301.682.6174 Or Kelly at 301.662.3312 for more information



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>1 <i>Virtual Worship</i> 11:00 AM</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>SALVATION ARMY DAY CENTER PROGRAM 8:30 AM—4:30 PM DAILY</p>		
<p>8 <i>HAPPY Mother's DAY</i> <i>Virtual Worship</i> 11:00 AM <i>Hotdog & Ice-cream Soda Take Away Social!</i></p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> 
<p>SALVATION ARMY DAY CENTER PROGRAM 8:30 AM—4:30 PM DAILY</p>		
<p>15 <i>Virtual Worship</i> 11:00 AM</p>	<p>16 7:00 PM Property & Finance Meeting</p> 	<p>17</p>
<p>SALVATION ARMY DAY CENTER PROGRAM 8:30 AM—4:30 PM DAILY</p>		
<p>22 <i>Virtual Worship</i> 11:00 AM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>SALVATION ARMY DAY CENTER PROGRAM 8:30 AM—4:30 PM DAILY</p>		
<p>29 <i>Virtual Worship</i> 11:00 AM</p> 	<p>30</p>	<p>31 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting</p> 
<p>SALVATION ARMY DAY CENTER PROGRAM 8:30 AM—4:30 PM DAILY</p>		



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>4 7:00 PM  AV Ministry Meeting</p> <p><i>Wonderful Wednesday</i> 7:00 PM Virtual Book Club</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Health Department Meeting</i> 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> 
<p>(Sunday through Saturday) IN GRACE UCC'S GOOD SHEPHERD ROOM</p>			
<p>11</p> <p><i>Wonderful Wednesday</i> 7:00 PM Virtual Book Club</p> 	<p>12</p> <p><i>Health Department Meeting</i> 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>(Sunday through Saturday) IN GRACE UCC'S GOOD SHEPHERD ROOM</p>			
<p>18</p> <p><i>Wonderful Wednesday</i> 7:00 PM Virtual Book Club</p> 	<p>19</p> <p><i>Health Department Meeting</i> 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>(Sunday through Saturday) IN GRACE UCC'S GOOD SHEPHERD ROOM</p>			
<p>25</p> <p><i>Wonderful Wednesday</i> 7:00 PM Virtual Book Club</p> 	<p>26</p> <p><i>Health Department Meeting</i> 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p> 
<p>(Sunday through Saturday) IN GRACE UCC'S GOOD SHEPHERD ROOM</p>			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold;">MAY</p>			
<p>(Sunday through Saturday) IN GRACE UCC'S GOOD SHEPHERD ROOM</p>			



FOR ALL THE SAINTS

JOAN OF ARC–VISIONARY, 30 MAY 1431

Joan of Arc (Jeanne d'Arc) was born in France, near the border of Burgundy, on 6 January 1412. In her time the King of England claimed the crown of France by the laws of inheritance, and English troops were fighting in France to support that claim. (The English King inherited through a woman, and the French claimants, the House of Valois, asserted that French law did not allow the crown to be inherited by or through a woman.) Henry V of England won a decisive victory at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415 and signed an agreement with the Valois monarch Charles VI, providing that Charles should keep his crown during his lifetime, that his daughter Catherine should marry Henry, and that Henry should be the next king. Charles VI had a son (the Dauphin), but the Queen took an oath that she had been unfaithful to her husband, and that the Dauphin was not the King's son, and therefore had no right to inherit the throne. In 1422, Henry V died, leaving an infant son who became Henry VI of England. England claimed the throne of France in his name. The Duke of Burgundy supported the English claim, and was allied with England. The French claimant, the Dauphin (later Charles VII), had not been crowned. Since many Frenchmen thought that his mother the Queen might be telling the truth about his illegitimacy, the story largely paralyzed the national will to fight for Charles.

Into this situation came Joan. When she was thirteen, she began to hear voices telling her that she was called to save France. Eventually she identified these voices as those of Michael the Archangel (mentioned in the Bible in Daniel and Jude and Revelation), and Catherine of Alexandria and Margaret of Antioch, two early virgin martyrs about whom little is known historically (the accounts of their lives as we have them contain many blatant improbabilities, they are widely thought to be fictional persons), but who were popular in France at that time. Acting, as she said, under direction from her voices, she persuaded a local baron to send her to the castle of Charles at Chinon, where she spoke with the Dauphin (French word for the heir to the throne until he is officially crowned king) and con-

vinced him that her message was genuine. The city of Orleans was under siege by the English. Joan and an army marched to the scene and raised the siege (8 May 1429). She then proceeded to win other battles, and to bring Charles to Rheims to be crowned king. However, the king refused to take her advice that he should press the military advantage. When she attempted to recapture Paris from the English, he denied her adequate support, and the attempt failed. In May 1430 she was taken prisoner in battle and tried on an accusation of sorcery and heresy. Charles made no effort to ransom her or rescue her, although her first captors would almost certainly have accepted a ransom. She was convicted and burned at the stake on 30 May 1431, being a little less than nineteen and a half years old.



FOR THE ALL SAINTS – CONTINUED

The French, however, eventually went on to win the war and to expel the English from France. King Charles, perhaps because it was not to his advantage to have it said that he had been crowned by a witch and a heretic, and that he owed his victories and his kingdom to a pact with the Devil, pressured the Church courts for a review of the verdict against Joan, and got her condemnation annulled in 1456. She came to be regarded as a French national hero and was eventually canonized by the Pope in May 1920. Her day (or a Sunday close to it) is a French national holiday. She is ranked with Denis of Paris and Remi of Rheims as one of France's three great national saints. She is honored by the Church, not for winning military victories, or even because her visions were necessarily authentic, but because, being persuaded of the will of God for her life, she responded in faith and obedience to that will as she understood it.

SPECIAL NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



On April 10th, we welcomed Ida Jeanne Brown into the family of God through the sacrament of Baptism. Ida is the daughter of Sebastian and Mary Jeanne Brown. Welcome Ida Jeanne!

On May 1st, we welcomed Luciana Rose Tabbachino into the family of God through the sacrament of Baptism. Ida is the daughter of Vincent and Elizabeth Tabbachino, and the goddaughter of Chris and Catherine Jeffcoat. Welcome Luciana Rose!



Congratulations to Shannon Miller on receiving her Masters in Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire University! Mat and Shannon are away this weekend as Shannon graduates. Congratulations Shannon!



THE UPPER ROOM

Please note: For many years we have supplied The Upper Room Devotional for those who are interested. We have cancelled that service as they are not being used. If you would like a daily devotional reading the daily scripture reading list is included in the newsletter each month and a daily devotional is available online and delivers to your email inbox every morning from the United Church of Christ. Please visit <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/> to receive this free service!



THINKING BIBLICALLY

JOHN R. BREHMER, CHAIR WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

Commission To understand Christianity, one has to understand Judaism. To understand the New Testament, one has to understand the Old Testament. When Jesus enters Jerusalem on what Christians refer to as Palm Sunday the crowd greets him with Palm branches, according to the gospels.

But did you know that during the Jewish festival of Sukkot (festival of booths) celebrated in the month of October observant Jews tie together three types of branches called a lulav and one type of a citrus called an ethrog and wave them in a special ceremony? This seven day harvest festival is mentioned in Exodus and mandated in Leviticus.

This fall festival celebrated by modern Jews somehow makes it to the Christian spring Lenten (Passover) season, how? Did Jesus enter Jerusalem in October? If so, where was he from October to Passover? There is another Jewish holy day celebrated in October known as Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. The passion story of Jesus can be connected to this day as well which I will relate on my next contribution to the Gracevine.

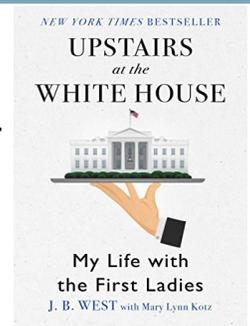
BOOK CLUB!!

Hi All,

We are moving right along in Upstairs at the White House: My Life with the First Ladies by J.B. West. We began discussing this book on Wednesday April 27. Below is a summary of the book.

Missy

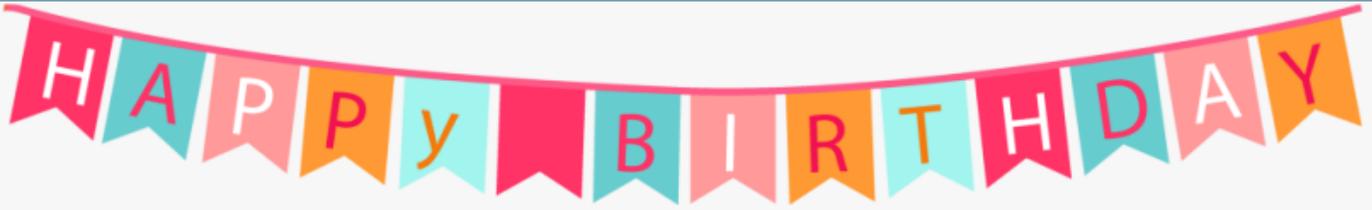
In this New York Times bestseller, the White House chief usher for nearly three decades offers a behind-the-scenes look at America's first families. J. B. West, chief usher of the White House, directed the operations and maintenance of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue—and coordinated its daily life—at the request of the president and his family. He directed state functions; planned parties, weddings and funerals, gardens and playgrounds, and extensive renovations; and, with a large staff, supervised every activity in the presidential home. For twenty-eight years, first as assistant to the chief usher, then as chief usher, he witnessed national crises and triumphs, and interacted daily with six consecutive presidents and first ladies, as well as their parents, children and grandchildren, and houseguests—including friends, relatives, and heads of state.



A note from Book Club: *You're encouraged to join us any time. Invite your friends and family that are book lovers, or want a moment to escape the daily routine. We are very friendly and super inclusive! You can contact us for questions at: Doris Moxley: Dorismoxley@gmail.com, or Missy Moxley: nehoneybee@gmail.com We can't wait to see you there!*



MAY 2022 BIRTHDAYS



Peter Abell—May 8th

Mark Edwards— May 24th

Ivy Stewart— May 8th

Terry Kaufman—May 24th

Catherine Bartgis—May 22nd

Anna Winegar—May 27th

Anne Meilleur—May 30th

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



Eric and Lisel Powell May 5th
Lucien and Anna Winegar May 9th



GRACE THANK YOU & CARE NOTES

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 contact Pastor Rob at 240-217-2768.

Millie Davis 801 Pine Ave., Frederick, MD 21701

Eleanor Free Citizens Nursing Home Rm 151B
1920 Rosemont Ave, Frederick, MD 21702

(Call the office if you'd like Eleanor's phone #)

Pam Kehne 1632 Wall Dr., Pasadena, MD 21122





DAILY READINGS

Dear Friends,

Two books that stick out to me on the reading list for this month are the books of Acts and the Revelation. Acts is commonly used in the season of Easter because it gives us a good glimpse into the life of the early church. The stories of Peter, Paul, and the other apostles as they go about building the new Church. The Revelation is a fascinating book that is a part of the genre known as “apocalyptic” literature, like the book of Daniel in the Hebrew Scriptures. The Revelation has been used throughout church history as a sort of roadmap to the end times, which is really not how it was intended to be interpreted. Revelation is a book of immense hope. In the midst of great turmoil and struggle, God’s people are help close to God and in the end, we win! Revelation, many scholars believe, is not a prophesy of the end times, but a symbolic imaging of the struggles of the fledgling church in the face of terrible persecution. Symbolic language is used to give hope to the persecuted people in ways they would understand, but others outside of their community would not. The message is clear: No matter what the persecution and suffering, hold fast to your faith. God is coming to save you! Enjoy the readings! - Pastor Rob+

Sunday, May 1, 2022: Third Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 2, 2022: Psalm 121; Ezekiel 1:1-25; Acts 9:19b-31

Tuesday, May 3, 2022: Psalm 121; Ezekiel 1:26-2:1; Acts 26:1-18

Wednesday, May 4, 2022: Psalm 121; Isaiah 6:1-8; Luke 5:1-11

Thursday, May 5, 2022: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 11:1-25; Revelation 5:1-10

Friday, May 6, 2022: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 20:39-44; Revelation 6:1-7:4

Saturday, May 7, 2022: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 28:25-26; Luke 12:29-32

Sunday, May 8, 2022: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 9, 2022: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 37:15-28; Revelation 15:1-4

Tuesday, May 10, 2022: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 45:1-9; Acts 9:32-35

Wednesday, May 11, 2022: Psalm 100; Jeremiah 50:17-20; John 10:31-42

Thursday, May 12, 2022: Psalm 148; Ezekiel 2:8-3:11; Revelation 10:1-11



Friday, May 13, 2022: Psalm 148; Daniel 7:13-14; Revelation 11:15

Saturday, May 14, 2022: Psalm 148; Daniel 7:27; Revelation 11:16-19

Sunday, May 15, 2022: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 16, 2022: Psalm 133; 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42; Acts 11:19-26

Tuesday, May 17, 2022: Psalm 133; 2 Samuel 1:4-27; Acts 11:27-30

Wednesday, May 18, 2022: Psalm 133; Leviticus 19:9-18; Luke 10:25-28

Thursday, May 19, 2022: Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:1-5; Acts 15:36-41

Friday, May 20, 2022: Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:6-8; Acts 16:1-8

Saturday, May 21, 2022: Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:9-15; Luke 19:1-10

Sunday, May 22, 2022: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 23, 2022: Psalm 93; 1 Chronicles 12:16-22; Revelation 21:5-14

Tuesday, May 24, 2022: Psalm 93; 2 Chronicles 15:1-15; Revelation 21:15-22

Wednesday, May 25, 2022: Psalm 93; 2 Chronicles 34:20-33; Luke 2:25-38

Thursday, May 26, 2022: Ascension of the Lord

Friday, May 27, 2022: Psalm 97; Exodus 33:12-17; Revelation 22:6-9

Saturday, May 28, 2022: Psalm 97; Exodus 33:18-23; John 1:14-18

Sunday, May 29, 2022: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 30, 2022: Psalm 29; Exodus 40:16-38; Acts 16:35-40

Tuesday, May 31, 2022: Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth

Tuesday, May 31, 2022: Psalm 29; 2 Chronicles 5:2-14; Acts 26:19-29

FOLLOW GRACE UCC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

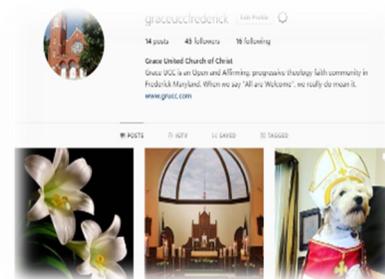


We are now on both Instagram & Facebook!

Want to see more of Grace Church Events & Community News? Have a great memory to share?

To see all of Grace UCC Happenings download and Install the app to follow all our photos and videos or click the link below! If you have any Grace community photos you would like to see featured on the Grace Church **Facebook** or **Instagram** Page, please e-mail them to photos.grucc@gmail.com

https://www.instagram.com/invites/contact/?i=1hf0joy0vqhi2&utm_content=kvt2rqo



@graceuccfrederick



Grace United Church of Christ

25 East Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE LABEL HERE

Join us every Sunday at 11 AM

for *Virtual Worship*



live streaming from the



Grace UCC sanctuary

Watch Live or at your leisure!

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceUCCFrederick/>



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