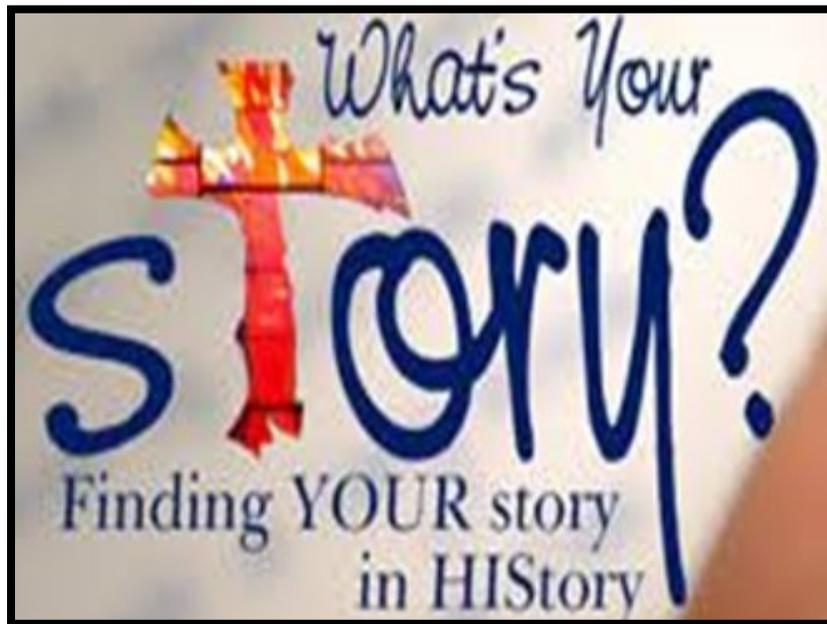


# Grace United Church of Christ



**March 26th, 2023**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
**Worship**

Today's Theme:  
Death - Breath of Hope

## WE GATHER

*During this Lenten worship, we encourage you to know and to remember that this is a **Quiet Meditative Space**, that this is a **Safe and Loving Place, a Sanctuary**, for worship, praise and reflection; and to remember that **'No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You are Welcome Here!***

Prelude Spirit of the Living God arr. Malcolm Archer

Welcome

Preparing Our Hearts

Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit Breathe on Me, Breath of God  
text, Edwin Hatch; music, Robert Jackson

\*Call to Worship

Leader: The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again? We ask: can we live through these scary times?

**ALL: O God, you know!**

Leader: We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, illness, loss and grief?

**ALL: O God, you know!**

Leader: The gift is sure and unmistakable:

**ALL: God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!**

Leader: Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

**ALL: And seek to worship God in joy and gratitude!**

\* Opening Hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #190

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I gladly take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty Rock  
within a weary land;  
a home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus  
With-in my mine I see  
the very dying form of One  
who suffered there for me:  
and from my grieving heart  
with tears two wonders I confess,  
the wonders of Christ's glorious love  
and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of Christ's face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss;  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.

**\*Invocation (Unison)**

**We have come to be with you, O God; to be with each other in the final phase of our Lenten Journey. We continue to search for those stories of Jesus and his followers, especially Mary and Martha and their brother, Lazarus: stories that become our stories, but only if we are open to their claim on our lives. May your Spirit enliven our worship and our lives this day. Amen.**

\* Passing of the Peace (Let us pass the peace with a Covid-Friendly smile, wave or some other sign of Christ's love)

**We Listen**

**Call to Confession**

Pastor: Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom, and what looks to us to be death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Let this be our prayer:

**ALL: Revitalizing God, your power goes far beyond our own, and yet we still act as though the pains of this world have a final claim upon us, especially now. We give into the despair and hopelessness of death, not trusting in your ability to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives. Forgive us for doubting your power to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience. Forgive us for wanting to limit you to "the last day" or "the world beyond this one", not trusting you to move and act among us, within us, through us. Forgive us, and open our eyes to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst. Amen.**

**Words Of Assurance**

Pastor: Come out," Jesus calls, and his word unbinds us from the oppressive weight of our past and pushes away the rocks that close us off from love.

**ALL: We are made free in the spirit of God, and forgiven all our sins. May God's name always be praised from our lips! Amen! Amen!**

Children's Moment

## Scripture Readings

### *Ezekiel 37:1-14 The Valley of Dry Bones*

**37** The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. **2** He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. **3** He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." **4** Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. **5** Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. **6** I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

**7** So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. **8** I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. **9** Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." **10** I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

**11** Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' **12** Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. **13** And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. **14** I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

### *John 11:1-45 The Death of Lazarus*

**11** Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. **3** So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." **4** But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." **5** Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, **6** after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. **7** Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." **8** The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" **9** Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. **10** But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." **11** After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." **12** The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." **13** Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. **14** Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. **15** For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." **16** Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

### *Jesus the Resurrection and the Life*

**17** When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. **18** Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, **19** and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. **20** When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. **21** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." **23** Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." **24** Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." **25** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, **26** and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" **27** She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

### *Jesus Weeps*

**28** When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." **29** And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. **30** Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. **31** The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. **32** When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." **33** When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. **34** He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." **35** Jesus began to weep. **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

### *Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life*

**38** Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." **40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" **41** So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." **43** When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" **44** The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Anthem

Kyrie Eleison

words and music by Dana Mengel

Sermon: A Conversation Between Two Theologians:

"Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead"

-Pastors Gerry and Guy

### **We Respond**

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Dedication (In Unison)

**All good gifts come from you, O God. You have given us life and sight and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to each other, even as Jesus taught and lived. Amen**

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 (In Unison)

**Even as we see the first ray of sunlight outside this sacred space or the space where we live outside our virtual space, lead us to the place where our worship will show through to others. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

“Jesus Keep me Near the Cross”

# 197

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross;  
there a precious fountain,  
free to all, a healing stream,  
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain:

In the cross, in the cross,  
be my glory ever,  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.

2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
love and mercy found me;  
there the bright and morning star  
sheds its beams around me. [Refrain]

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
bring its scenes before me;  
help me live from day to day  
with its shadow o'er me. [Refrain]

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand,  
just beyond the river. [Refrain]  
Pastoral Blessing for the Journey

Choral Benediction

Amen

John Stainer

Postlude

Prelude in D minor  
Johann. Sebastian. Bach

(BWV 539)

### Grace goes LIVE!

Please know that today's service is being live-streamed for those who can not worship with us in person.

**If you prefer NOT to be in the live stream video, please sit in pews behind the center pillars.**

**NOTE: If today's service contains a processional (check bulletin) and you do not wish to be in the live stream video, please see an AV Team member or an usher.**

The children's moment will be on camera as well. If you would like your child NOT to be on camera, please speak to our AV team or an usher.

(Note: Communion and the offering will NOT be live-streamed for privacy reasons.)



*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.*



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# Welcome

We are delighted that you joined us for worship this morning. Those 18 and under are invited to join us for Children’s Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, snacks and fun activities in room 13. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children’s Message. For children 5 years old and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.



## Grace Announcements

### THIS WEEK AT GRACE UCC:

- Sunday : 03/26:** 11:00 AM - Worship Service
- Tuesday: 03/28:** 7:00PM - Church Council Meeting
- Wednesday 03/29:** 7:00PM - Book Club (zoom)
- Thursday 03/30:** 7:00PM - Lenten Bible Study (zoom)
- Thursday 03/30:** 5:30-7:30PM Health Department Meeting
- Sunday : 02/02:** 11:00 AM - Worship Service



# GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TURNS 125!

Have you seen the new banner hanging in the front of the church?  
Grace United Church of Christ turned 125 on March 6th!



*Grace United Church of Christ*  
Celebrating 125 years

Follow us!

 Gracelivefrederick  
 GraceUCCFrederick

We would like you to take this opportunity to invite your friends and family to join us for service on Sundays! Also invite them to join our Lenten Bible Study on Thursdays, or to join the book club that meets Wednesdays– both via Zoom.

Our monthly pancake breakfast is an awesome day for you to bring a friend, or during one of our many gathering moments (like Mother's Day and Fathers Day ice cream socials, or our annual picnic service at Rocky Ridge park)

Also be reminded that we have Communion on the first Sunday of each month, plus you can invite a friend to any service! Children are encouraged to come as well!

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## 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

We are looking for a few volunteers to help plan our  
**125<sup>th</sup> year celebration!**

If you like planning parties and other special events we need you!!!

If interested please contact  
Sam Swann [sswann@themtglink.com](mailto:sswann@themtglink.com)  
Tony Hemler [tonyhemler0@gmail.com](mailto:tonyhemler0@gmail.com)  
Mike Davies [fluidmosaic@gmail.com](mailto:fluidmosaic@gmail.com)  
Pastor Gerry [pastorgerrygrace@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgerrygrace@gmail.com)

**WE ♥ OUR  
VOLUNTEERS**

.....

# OUTREACH BEYOND FREDERICK

## **Attention members of the church who participate virtually, or otherwise aren't in Frederick!**

Although most of our outreach and mission opportunities are local, this Lenten season the Outreach Commission would like to challenge those who worship with us virtually to do something to further Grace UCC's mission in your own community.

Our motto is God is Still Speaking – do what God inspires you to do!

### **Some ideas are:**

- Help with refugee resettlement, translation or otherwise helping recent immigrants become Americans
- Volunteer at school, or after-school activities at the school or library
- Serve at the soup kitchen
- Be part of a book drive for shelters or classrooms
- Contribute your time, new or gently used clothes, or other donations to the Rescue Mission
- Donate towels, food, etc. to the animal shelter
- Trash pickup in your neighborhood!
- Any other donations to local charities, cash or otherwise

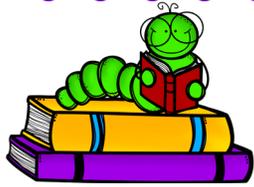


Please send in a short description of how you're contributing in your community. And a photo if possible!

**V**olunteers  
**MAKE IT HAPPEN**

Michael Davies  
Grace UCC Outreach chair  
[michael.davies.psu@gmail.com](mailto:michael.davies.psu@gmail.com)





# Grace UCC (Virtual) Book Club

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm

Join us if you'd like to *socialize, stretch your mind, or just leave the daily grind of life behind for a bit!*

Hi All,

We are reading through the first 39 chapters of our book, *Sooley*, by John Grisham for this Wednesday. Here are some thoughts on the reading so far:

1. I am always amazed by the long process involved in becoming a naturalized US citizen. See the link below for that process outline. Do you know anyone who has become a naturalized citizen of the US and their experience in doing so?
2. In 2021, 13.6% of the population in the US was foreign-born, nearly three times higher than in 1970. This is a fact from the link listed below, which has lots of other significant statistics on immigrants in the US and our spending on border control. Warning, hot button question (I know we can handle it): How do you think immigration, legal and illegal, affects our country's society?
3. I like how the author draws the parallels and contrasts between Sooley's experience in the US and his family's in the refugee camp. What do you think of as you read these descriptions?
4. College Athletics: In our country, and even the entire world, athletes seem to be the closest thing to superheroes (Superman, Spiderman, etc) that we have in our human population. The adulation and stress that comes with this status is immense for young people. Your thoughts on this? Do you personally know of anyone who has experienced this?

Pathway to US citizenship:

<https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/guides/M-685.pdf>

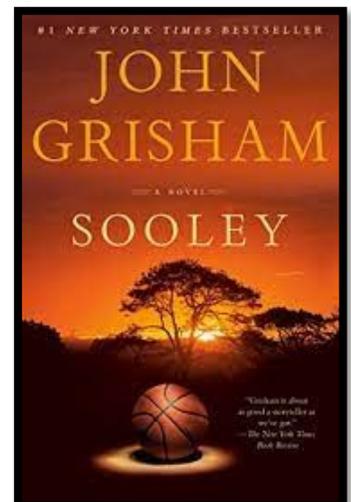
Immigration Statistics

<https://usafacts.org/topics/immigration-border-security>

Thanks,

Missy

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89654486377?pwd=T1VGSWWh2NFVkrRHhVVFk1cm1BUUppZz099>  
(passcode is 726495 if needed)



# CHURCH POTLUCK AND A WEINBERG SHOW

Frederick Symphony Orchestra – “Broadway and Beyond”

**The Best of Broadway and the Silver Screen! Your very own Frederick Symphony Orchestra performs your favorite tunes!**

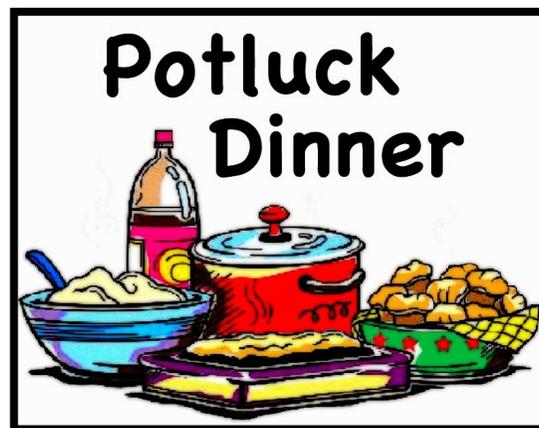
**SUNDAY APRIL 30, 2023 | 3:00 PM**

Performing your favorite tunes from Broadway classics such as *The King and I*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* and music selections from big screen favorites like the *James Bond* movies, *The Lord of the Rings*, and many more.

The Frederick Symphony Orchestra is a community orchestra composed of professionally trained musicians performing a series of concerts each year which include classical masterworks, music by contemporary composers, pop concerts, and educational programs.

Tickets are \$35 each. Please make checks payable to Grace United Church of Christ and write in the memo FSO tickets. Anyone purchasing tickets can turn their checks into Missy Moxley or put in the offering plate or mail to the church. If purchasing tickets via our online payment option on the church website, please make a note during payment of how many tickets are being purchased, your name and phone number. **Deadline for purchasing tickets is Sunday, April 16.** Any sales past that date must be purchased directly from the Weinberg and won't be in the same section as our church group.

Directly following church service on Sunday, April 30 we will have a potluck dinner in the Good Shepherd Room.



*Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share.*

Sign-up sheets for the pot luck will be located in the narthex and Good Shepherd Room. The church will provide fried chicken and ham as meat options.

**Everyone is welcome to share in the potluck whether they are planning to attend the show later or not. We hope to see everyone there!**

# TODAY at 3:00 pm!

CASOF

## CATHEDRAL CLASSICS

Transport yourself to Westminster Abbey for the coronation of King George II, and stay for the return of Handel's Messiah to the Hood College Chapel.

Featuring full orchestra, and the combined Choral Arts Society of Frederick and Hood College choirs, treat yourselves to a glorious afternoon of Baroque music, and of course, a surprise or two!



Save  
the  
Date

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 @ 3 P.M.

COFFMAN CHAPEL HOOD COLLEGE

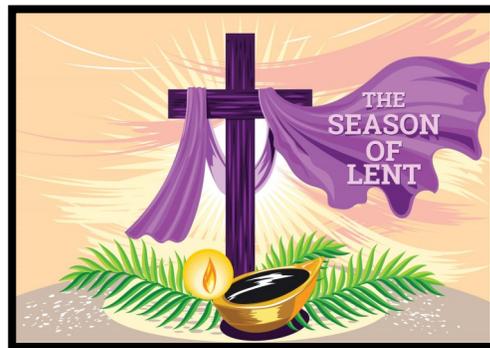
FREE CONCERT

CASOF.ORG

# Worship Schedule – Lent 2023

## April 2 -- Palm/Passion Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2:5-11;  
 Matthew 27:11-26 (Jesus and Pilate)  
 Sermon: “Accomplice OR Active Defender?”



## April 6-- Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19;  
 I Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
 Sacrament of Holy Communion  
 Homily: “Please, Let Me Wash Your Feet”

**April 7 – Good Friday-** Local Frederick events to be announced

## April 9 -- Easter Sunday Celebration

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4;  
 John 20:1-18 (The Resurrection of Jesus)  
 Sermon: “The Resurrection is for the Living” Pastor Gerry  
 Sacrament of Holy Communion

Lenten Bible Study Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89654486377?pwd=T1VGSWWh2NFVvRHRhVVFk1cm1BUUppZz099>

(passcode is 726495 if needed)

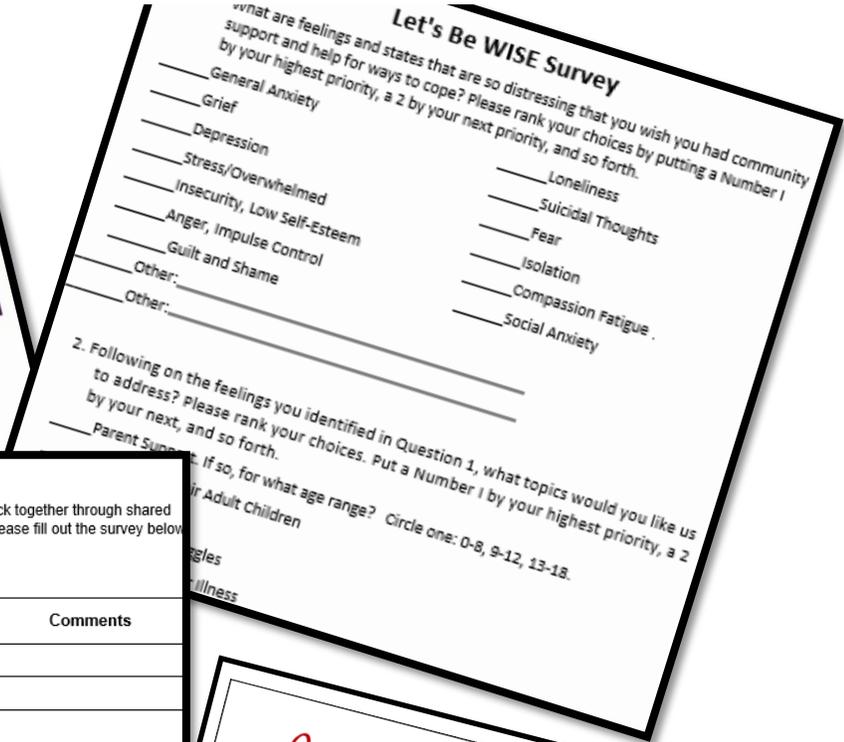
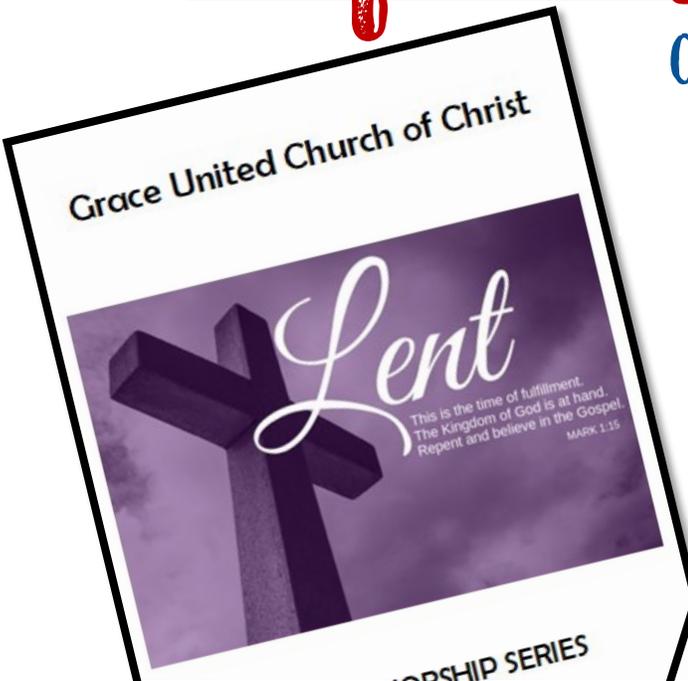
## Grace United Church of Christ Transition Team Members

Have you been thinking about the Pastor transition and have questions or ideas about it?  
 Please reach out to any Transition Committee Member and  
 share your concerns, thoughts, and ideas.

Name	Title	Email	Number
Missy Moxley	Chairperson	nehoneybee@gmail.com	301-305-9561
Gerry Hanberry	Pastor (Interim)	pastorgerrygrace@gmail.com	301-788-6546
Trevor Addie-Carter	Member	trevor.addie.1@gmail.com	240-784-7986
Jerry Princler	Member	jerryprin@comcast.com	301-898-3877
Anna Winegar	Member	annajwinegar@aol.com	703-801-5478
Jenna Schoettker	Member	schoettkerke1@gmail.com	email is best
Sam Swann	Ex Officio Member	sswann@themtglink.com	301-908-8415
Liz Tinker	Member	liztinker2@yahoo.com	301-693-0511

# Before You Go...

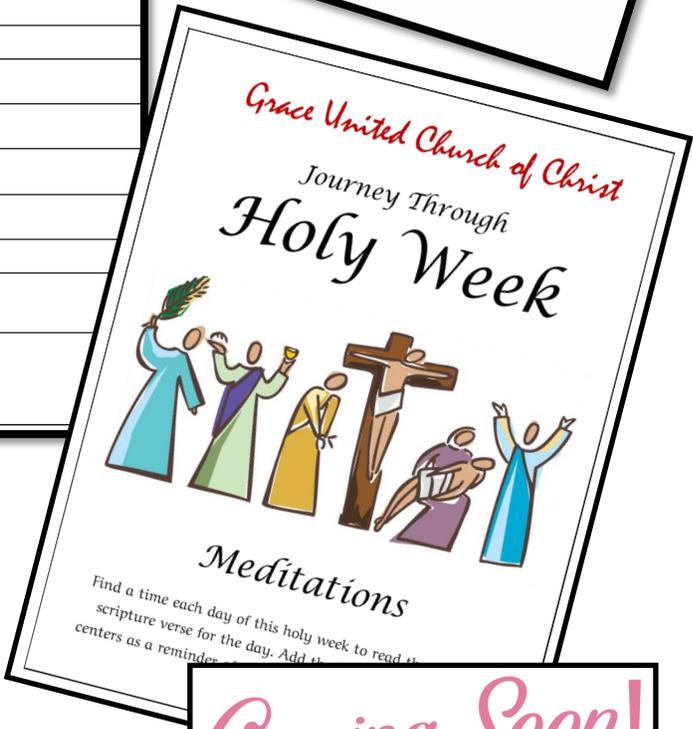
CHECK OUT THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX  
FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION



**Church Activities Survey**

In this post-Covid era, we face the challenge of bringing our congregation back together through shared activities. Help to fill up our church calendar with activities you would enjoy. Please fill out the survey below and liberally add comments as well.  
THANK YOU!!

Activity	Date/Time	Location	Yes	No	Comments
Ice/Dance lessons	TBD	Grace Church			
Wine Night	TBD	Grace Church			
Worship Night (start TBD)	TBD	Grace Church			
Travels to Charlestown Casinos & Casino	TBD	Charlestown, WV			
Travels to Eden Movie person	Thursday, April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30pm	Weinberg (downtown Frederick)			
Travels to Moose Production person	Sunday, May 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2pm	Spires (downtown Frederick)			
Lunch Dinners	TBD	Grace Church			
Wine Club	TBD	Various Restaurants or Homes of Participants			
Walking Tour of Frederick, various types for adults and seniors and kids	TBD	Mark all types that interest you: o Civil War o Art & Architecture o Historic Frederick			



Follow us!



Gracelivefrederick



GraceUCCFrederick



www.grucc.com

Coming Soon!

# Grace United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

25 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312 ~ Office Hours: 9AM-3PM/M-F

[Admin@grucc.com](mailto:Admin@grucc.com) ~ [www.grucc.com](http://www.grucc.com)



Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Gerry Hanberry

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

Clergy in Residence: The Rev. Guy S. Johnson

[Gsj612@aol.com](mailto:Gsj612@aol.com)

Director of Music: Nathan Strite

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

Bell Choir Director: James Taylor

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

Children & Youth Ministry: Kelly Pineda

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

Nursery Attendant: Joan Princler

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

Caretaker: Mat Lutman

[Trainhouse13@gmail.com](mailto:Trainhouse13@gmail.com)

Church Admin: Kelly Pineda

[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:

Vonnie Crum

Children's Message:

Gerry Hanberry

Children's Church:

Kelly Pineda, Joan Princler

Altar Guild:

Teddi Garrison

Greeters:

Sam and Susan Swann

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

