



GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1333 FREEPORT ROAD
NATRONA HEIGHTS, PA 15065
Address Service Requested
DATED MATERIAL

Especially for

Community Events:

- **WELCOME, SONRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH**—Grace Church welcomes the members of Sunrise Community Church, who will be sharing our facility for their 11 a.m. worship services and 6 p.m. Friday Bible studies. Sunrise pastor is the Rev. John Neyman.
- **Documentary Premiere: Thursday, March 14th @ 8:00PM** WQED is proud to announce production of a new documentary and multimedia initiative that explores one of America's most treasured biking destinations. Consisting of two connecting trails, the C&O Canal Towpath and the Great Allegheny Passage, cyclists from all over the world are enjoying 335 uninterrupted miles of breathtaking scenery and fascinating history. The UMC team that biked to DC is featured in this documentary. **Pastor Raphael has an interview in this documentary.**
- **Lay Servant Ministry School** – Sunday afternoons 2-5 pm, March 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7 @ WPAUM Church Butler District Office 1204 Freedom Road P. O. Box 5002 Cranberry Twp., Pa 16066 RSVP to Thelma 724-252-3198
- If you know of a family in need **Building Blocks – Every Block Matters** will provide taxed items for the in need on the **3rd Saturday from 11-1 pm at the Knights of Columbus, 28 Garfield Street, Natrona, PA 15065**
- **Easter Egg Hunt** - Grace UMC will be providing 500 eggs and candy for the Natrona Comes Together Easter Egg Hunt. Please donate plastic eggs, candy, or cash/gift card for the purchase of these items. Let's make this event a success for the community. The hunt will be April 13th.

1333 Freeport Road, Natrona Heights, PA 15065
graceumchurch@hotmail.com

724-224-7663
<https://www.gracechurch-today.org/>



GRACE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

March
2019

NEWS from the Pews

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I was struggling to find something to write, when someone said, "Write something happy. The world is too depressing right now." And it is. Life these days is filled with negativity, conflict, and tragedy. But life has *always* been this way. The fragility of life and the sinfulness of humanity make it inevitable—and *all creation* suffers. Therefore, in Romans 8 the Apostle Paul says the whole of creation is in "bondage to decay" and waits with longing, even groaning, for its redemption, which can only come at the resurrection on the last day.

Lent begins this month, which means Easter is quickly approaching. The victory of Christ over sin and death offers the supreme happy word regardless of our current circumstances. If we choose to live our lives focused on the risen, victorious Jesus Christ, we always have reason to rejoice. The world around us can be going to heck in a hand basket, yet we can remain unmoved and filled with hope and joy. Christ has redeemed us from slavery to sin and death. Christ has gained for us an inheritance in the kingdom of God. Christ has defeated once and for all the powers and principalities of this present evil age. There is no more positive message I can imagine.

This message is not for us only, though. Christ calls us to share this joyous news with all. We do so by telling people what Christ has done for us. We do so by speaking out against injustice and oppression. We do so by working to alleviate suffering, whether physical or emotional or spiritual. And we do so by meeting the needs of others as we are able. When we fulfill this purpose, we discover the meaning of our lives. Happiness is the result.

Keep this happy word before you every moment of every day, and the ills of this world will fade into the background. "In the world," says Jesus, "you will have suffering. But take heart! I have conquered the world" (John 16:33, REB).

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Andy

COMMUNION STEWARD

March – Joanne Maeder

April – Susan Parker

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COUNTERS

Date	Volunteer
3/03	Sue Herman/ Justin Tinnemeyer
3/06	Lois Gigler/Susan Parker
3/10	Jamie Tinnemeyer/Schrecengost
3/17	Carolyn Rutkowski/M. Ruediger
3/24	Schrecengost/ Walter Rutkowski

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LAY READERS

Date	Volunteer
3/03	Joanne Maeder
3/06	Rich Caugherty
3/10	George Reese
3/17	Howard Russell
3/24	Linda Schaefers

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Acolytes

Date	Volunteer
3/03	Ariel Rhine
3/06	Sadie Brown
3/10	Skylar Brown
3/17	Sierra Brown
3/24	Haiden Ball

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Date	Volunteer
3/03	No Sunday School
3/10	Linda Schaefers
3/17	Carol Peters
3/24	Jamie Tinnemeyer

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ANNIVERSARIES

None

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BIRTHDAYS

Logan Thimons 3/2

Amy Bowen 3/3

Linda Schaefers 3/4

Randy Bargerstock 3/9

Dawn Scanga 3/14

Julia Reese 3/15

Cynthia Pusateri 3/18

James Maeder 3/24

Hunter Wolfe 3/25

Kathy Russell 3/28

Adam Szish 3/28

**If we did not include your birthday or anniversary, it is because we do not have the date on file. If you want your birthday and anniversary published, be sure that the office is informed.

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GRACE EVENTS

- **Summer Lunch and Arts Program** - volunteer meeting for both churches at Grace UMC on March 4th at 11:30 am in the Andre room. If you are thinking about volunteering this summer or just want to see what the churches are doing for the children of the community, plan to attend this informational/planning meeting. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Grace UMC secretary by calling 724-224-7663 or emailing graceumchurch@hotmail.com.
- **Ash Wednesday dinner and service** will be held at Grace UMC on Wednesday, March 6th. Dinner will be at 5:30 pm in the Social Hall, followed by service at 7:00 pm, also in social hall. Grace UMC will provide ham, beverage, and dessert; those attending are asked to bring a side dish.
- Grace's Council has concluded to suspend the **Scrip program** due to declining interest. The final orders will be placed on **March 10 and delivered on March 17th**. Forms are next to the bulletins in the narthex.
- **Administrative Council Meeting** – March 26, 2019 at 6:30pm
- **Just Lunch** – Monday, March 25th, Location to be determined (see bulletin)

MEMBERS AT HOME

Find time to send a card/letter or visit these members of our church family.

Date	Name and Address
3/10	Vivian Watts 327 Red Pump Road Bel Aire, MD 21014
3/17	Vie Riemer 522 Cumberland Woods Village Allison Park, PA 15101
3/24	Lucy Croker 598 Parker Road Sarver PA 16055
3/31	Maxine Kish 1330 Twelfth Avenue Natrona Heights PA 15065
	Margaret Jezik 100 Vernon Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15228
3/3	Sherry and Gary Cullen 139 Clarendon Avenue Lower Burrell PA 15068
3/10	William Murdock 214 Vista Drive Apollo, PA 15613
3/17	Lois Gaskell 2503 Buchman Street Natrona Heights, PA 15065
3/31	Deborah Davidowski 1456 Donnellville Road Natrona Heights, PA 15065
	Elizabeth Johns 1514 Neely Street Natrona Heights, PA 15065
	Gay Dequinze 200 Sylvan Drive, Apt. 415 Lower Burrell, PA 15068
	Keith and Norma Henry 207 Norman Drive Lower Burrell, PA 15068
3/3	Lenora Reese 460 Monroe Road Sarver PA 16055
	Betty Jean Gray 139 Clarendon Avenue Lower Burrell PA 15068
3/24	Dorothy Freehling 1330 Broadview Boulevard Natrona Heights, PA 15065
	Pat Nowikowski 1521 Third Street Natrona Heights, PA 15065

FINANCE REPORT

Effective 02/27/2018

Starting Balance	\$18,345.03	
	Credit	Debit
General Fund	\$5,270.00	\$163.00
Building Fund	\$267.00	\$575.74
Connectional Apportionment	\$208.00	\$718.00
Utility	\$295.00	\$2,658.48
Parsonage		\$535.72
Thrift Shop	\$130.25	
GL Scrip	\$160.00	
Special Offering		
Other	\$5.00	
Pastoral Salary		\$2,014.88
Pastor Reimbursement		\$114.17
Salary/Payroll Tax		\$1,927.94
Summer Lunch		
Office Expenses		
Totals	\$6,335.25	\$8,707.93
Ending Balance	\$15,972.35	
Funds that are designated	\$14,619.81	
Remaining in General Fund	\$1,352.54	

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