

The Grace Vine

Grace United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East 2nd Street

Historic Downtown Frederick, Maryland

APRIL 2018

Important Dates at a Glance

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Sunday, April 1

11:00 a.m.

Easter Worship with
Holy Communion

Saturday, April 14

9:00 a.m.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Details on page 5

Sunday, April 15

Volunteers from Grace Church
serve at the Soup Kitchen
Details on page 9



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Change is inevitable. It's a natural part of life and the church is no exception. We are undergoing some changes here at Grace Church and you need to know what's happening. Tara Plyler, our Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper is leaving us after 7 years at Grace. As much as we hate to see her go, she is able to now be a stay at home mom and we are so happy for her. Her departure date has not been set yet. Let me just say a public thanks to Tara for the amazing things she has done for us at Grace Church. Without her, this office would not have been nearly as organized, efficient or fun. She has been my right hand colleague and a dear friend to many. I am so very thankful for the many gifts Tara has brought to us and I am happy for her in this new phase in her life, but I sure am gonna miss her like crazy! On behalf of all of us....Thank you, Tara. We love you.

A new administrative assistant is in the works as will be announced very soon. The committee has interviewed and chosen a candidate, but we are waiting for Council to make the final approval. On that topic, we received over 30 resumes for the position, many of which came from highly qualified people. There are some very impressive people out there! To be honest, I could easily have chosen 6 of them and we would have been very happy with any of them. It was a very positive process.

While we are talking about staffing issues, I am so happy to announce to you that James Taylor, a bass in the choir (no relation to me or to Lloyd, LOL) has agreed to come on staff as the new Director of the Bell Choir!! That's right...after many years of collecting dust in the closet, the hand bells are being polished and put to good use again. If you would like to know more about Bell Choir, please contact me at pastorrob@grucc.com or Jonas Dawson, our Director of Music at music@grucc.com.

We are still searching for a Director of Youth Ministry. I have had 3 recent applicants, but none of them were a good fit for a variety of reasons. If you know someone interested, send them my way!

Good things are happening at Grace Church! Blessings to those who are serving here and even more blessings to Tara as she moves on to new adventures with her family.

Have a wonderful and blessed month!

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.

Summer Is Coming!!

Well, not for a few months, but when it does, it will mean we are preparing for Pastor Rob's Sabbatical. We have pastors who are going to be with us on Sundays, and for emergencies, but we are also looking to put together a team of lay people who will be willing to visit people in the hospital and nursing homes as we have the need. Gary Johnson has agreed to coordinate this and be the contact person for this ministry while Pastor Rob is away. Before the summer, we will have a time to get together to learn about how to visit people in health care settings, i.e. praying with people, hospital visitation guidelines, etc.

If this is something that would interest you, please let Pastor Rob or Gary Johnson know. Thanks!

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The submission deadline for the May issue of the *Grace Vine* newsletter is Monday, April 23rd. The newsletter will be ready for pickup from the Narthex on Sunday, April 29th.

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. Thank you!

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.

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 building is getting increasingly busy throughout the week and we'd like to avoid embarrassing double-bookings. Thanks so much!!

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.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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.

Millie Davis
801 Pine Ave.
Frederick, MD 21701

Joe Free
1117 Rocky Springs Rd.
Frederick, MD 21702

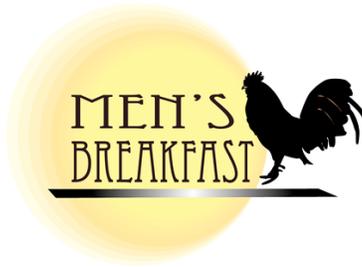
Pam Kehne
1632 Wall Dr.
Pasadena, MD 21122

Betty Linton *NEW*
990 Waterford Dr.
Unit 206
Frederick, MD 21702

Karlene Kaufmann
2100 Whittier Dr.
Apt. 405
Frederick, MD 21702

Jean Gaver
7407 Willow Rd.
AL 250
Frederick, MD 21702

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



Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday, April 14th

9:00 a.m.

Bob Evans on Route 40 (at the end of the Golden Mile)

All men are invited to join us!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 Steve Robeson

7 Sue Flanders-Lombardi

19 Rachel Kula

21 Michael Taylor



23 Austin Miller

26 Elizabeth Damazo

27 Jean Munshour

29 Tammy Eyler

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



Russell and Robin Haak

April 7th

Gloria and Raymond Gafney

April 20th

Joe and Debbie Kula

April 29th

Greeters and Fellowship Hosts Needed

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

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 we can celebrate you!)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>1 Easter 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes 11:00 a.m. - Worship and Holy Communion (S) 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)</p>	<p>2 6:30 p.m. - TFC Young Adult Group (2nd floor)</p>	<p>3 6:30 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR)</p>
<p>8 Second Sunday of Easter 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S) 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)</p>	<p>9 7:00 p.m. - Finance & Property (Rm. 3)</p>	<p>10 6:30 p.m. - Man Kind Project (DR)</p>
<p>15 Third Sunday of Easter 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S) 5:00 p.m. - Soup Kitchen 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)</p>	<p>16 6:30 p.m. - TFC Young Adult Group (2nd floor)</p>	<p>17 6:30 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR)</p>
<p>22 Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S) 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6:30 p.m. - Man-Kind Project (DR) 7:00 p.m. - Council meeting (Rm. 3)</p>
<p>29 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes 11:00 a.m. - Worship (S) 5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church (S)</p>	<p>30</p>	

WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
4		5		6		7	
6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)		6:00 p.m. - FREE Zumba class (GSR) 6:30 p.m. - GAM-MA meeting (2nd floor)		8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)			
11		12		13		14	
12:00 p.m. - Catoctin Ministerium (GSR) 6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR)		6:00 p.m. - FREE Zumba class (GSR) 6:00 p.m. - TFC Youth Comm. (3) 7:00 p.m. - TFC Board mtg. (3)		8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast (Bob Evans)	
18		19		20		21	
6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (GSR)		6:00 p.m. - FREE Zumba class (GSR) 6:00 p.m. - FCHD support grp (DR)		8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		8:00 a.m. - N.A. event (DR) 9:30 p.m. - Piano recital rehearsal (S)	
25		26		27		28	
6:30 p.m. - TFC Youth Group (DR) 7:15 p.m. - Church & Ministry (Homewood)		6:00 p.m. - FREE Zumba class (GSR)		8:30 p.m. - N.A. meeting (GSR)		7:00 p.m. - Piano student recital (S)	
April 2018				DR = Dining Room GSR = Good Shepherd Room S = Sanctuary			

FINANCE AND PROPERTY



A LOOK at the BUDGET

Treasurer's Report

February 2018

Income: \$13,084.37
Expenses: \$17,183.31
Difference: - \$4,098.94

2018 Year-to-Date

Income: \$25,400.00
Expenses: \$41,770.32
Difference: - \$16,370.32

Offering Envelopes and Electronic Giving

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 prefer to give electronically, we offer 2 options:

(a) the *UCC e-Giving* program allows you to have a regular, recurring donation drafted out of your bank account, or charged to your credit card. *(Contact the church office to get started.)*

(b) make donations through our website using PayPal! Simply click the button at the bottom of the home page - 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.

OUTREACH

THANK YOU!!!

Words cannot capture the anguish of people when they lose everything in a disaster or have to leave it behind while fleeing war or conflict. Through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. Thank you so much for your generosity! Our 2018 OGHS collection total was \$434!

Mission Opportunities at Grace

DID YOU KNOW...

- ⇒ 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 April 15th.** Won't you join us?
- ⇒ Grace Church hosts the **Emergency Family Shelter** four times a year. Our upcoming host dates are **May 12th-19th.** 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 set-up and clean-up - no experience or training necessary!
- ⇒ On the third Sunday of every month, we dedicate the "Grace Groceries" that have been collected in our little red wagon, and then deliver them to the Frederick Foodbank. Thank you for your continued generosity!
- ⇒ The Good Samaritan Fund of Grace Church is designated for emergency relief to members and friends of Grace Church. Only the pastor and person in need know who receives assistance. Donations to the fund are welcome at any time, in any amount. If you can help, please place a check in the offering plate made out to Grace Church with "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line. Thank you!

Food Drive



THANK YOU

for your continued generous support of
the Frederick Food Bank!

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 and canned meats.

For All the Saints

Martin Luther King, Jr.

April 4th (1968)

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a civil rights activist in the 1950s and 1960s. He led non-violent protests to fight for the rights of all people including African Americans. He hoped that America and the world could become a colorblind society where race would not impact a person's civil rights. He is considered one of the great orators of modern times, and his speeches still inspire many to this day.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, GA on January 15, 1929. He went to Booker T. Washington High School. He was so smart that he skipped two grades in high school. He started his college education at Morehouse College at the young age of fifteen. After getting his degree in sociology from Morehouse, Martin got a divinity degree from Crozer Seminary and then got his doctor's degree in theology from Boston University.

Martin's dad was a preacher which inspired Martin to pursue the ministry. He had a younger brother and an older sister. In 1953 he married Coretta Scott. Later, they would have four children including Yolanda, Martin, Dexter, and Bernice.

In his first major civil rights action, Martin Luther King, Jr. led the Montgomery Bus Boycott. This started when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. She was arrested and spent the night in jail. As a result, Martin helped to organize a boycott of the public transportation system in Montgomery. The boycott lasted for over a year. It was very tense at times. Martin was arrested and his house was bombed. In the end, however, Martin prevailed and segregation on the Montgomery buses came to an end.

In 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. helped to organize the famous "March on Washington". Over 250,000 people attended this march in an effort to show the importance of civil rights legislation. Some of the issues the march hoped to accomplish included an end to segregation in public schools, protection from police abuse, and to get laws passed that would prevent discrimination in employment.

It was at this march where Martin gave his "I Have a Dream" speech. This speech has become one of the most famous speeches in history. The March on Washington was a great success. The Civil Rights Act was passed a year later in 1964.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, TN. While standing on the balcony of his hotel, he was shot by James Earl Ray.

Grace Church Leadership Directory

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Missy Moxley	301-695-3852
Vice President	Jerry Princler	301-898-3877
Secretary	Vonnie Crum	301-898-5755
Treasurer	Lloyd Taylor	301-898-9259
At-Large	Oi Kettavong	240-457-2042
At-Large	Gary Johnson	240-460-0411

COMMISSION CHAIRS

Administrative	Steve Robeson	301-639-7039
Congregational Life	Matt Bonin	845-326-7468
Finance and Property	Mark Edwards	202-361-1559
Outreach	Sarah Travis	304-993-7233
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
Web Site: 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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