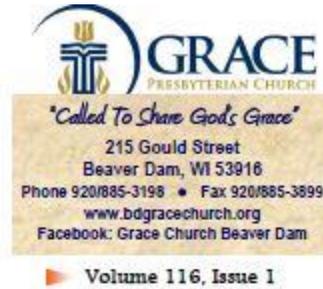


February 2016



Mission Trip!!

Who's going on Grace's mission trip to Mount Hope West Virginia?

We will be working near the outskirts of the New River Gorge National Park. Projects will range from painting, building, installing drywall & siding, and re-roofing homes.

Trip Dates:

Sunday

June 11-19, 2016

Evening Chapel each night with music, prayer, games, and devotionals together. We will be sleeping in cabins. Meals will be provided. Spectacular whitewater rafting is optional.

We're headed to the Appalachian Mountains!

Open to adults, middle-high school youth, & families

See Emily Shier, Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry

for age requirements & questions.

Final Date to Sign up is February 1

Recently, I attended the Mission Partnerships committee meeting at the Presbytery office in West Allis, a smaller community within the City of Milwaukee. At this meeting, we discussed ways the Presbytery is engaged in mission opportunities not only within the Presbytery but the world. We talked about our partnership with Ghana as well as partnerships between pastors, churches and leadership. Our meeting was long yet, the conversation was rich and fruitful.

A few days later, I attended a meeting at the Pilgrim Center - a local camp and conference center roughly 45 minutes away from Beaver Dam. Our topic of conversation within this meeting was to discuss a growing youth ministry event and how three Presbyteries can support the young people with quality and theologically rich events.

On January 31st, the young people will host an auction in which they hope to raise funds to offset costs of a mission trip to West Virginia. Even though this event will take place in two weeks from this writing, I am excited that this church is engaged in mission in a much broader context. In other words, I am so pleased that we are looking beyond the Beaver Dam region and "sharing God's grace" in other parts of the country.

And, as I move throughout this building, I see clothes donated to be given to those without the means to provide for themselves. Items range from infant clothing to adult jackets and shoes. Grace Presbyterian church is not a single entity rather we belong to a greater body of faith. As people of faith we are connected to those in Ghana as well as those in West Virginia as well as those in Milwaukee as well as those who are poor and in the shadows.

A number of days ago, I was visiting with a member who was homebound due to a medical procedure. Our conversation centered on how this person was overwhelmed with the response of care - cards - meals - prayers! Again, I was hearing witness to the body of Christ.

Years ago, I remember wrestling with what it really meant that Christ was alive. I remember thinking, I can't see Jesus, I can't feel Jesus, I can't really have a two way conversation with Jesus. Yet, Christ is very much alive in the world today. Through our relationships, through our partnerships with those beyond our vision, through our own reaching out to those homebound or homeless, we are the embodiment of Christ in today's world.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul reminds us that we are the body of Christ and individually members of it. If one member suffers, all suffer with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it! As Grace Presbyterian Church we are the body of Christ connected to others who call upon Christ as their friend. May you know that you are joined to a God who loves you and cares for you greatly. May you embody that love in all that you do!

Peace
Pr Chris

Annual Meeting February 7, 2016

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church has called for the Annual Congregational Meeting to take place on Sunday, February 7, 2016. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the annual report and elect new officers as well as approve the terms of call for the pastor.



February 10 @7:00p in the Chapel

Ash Wednesday. Have you ever wondered what this holy day really is all about? Well, here is a brief excerpt from the PCUSA website. Hope this makes sense and helps in your understanding.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession and contrition. Acknowledging that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, we stand in solidarity as fellow creatures before our Creator, acutely aware of our mortality. In the face of our transience, we pledge ourselves anew to live unto God's Word in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word that remains forever.

Historically, Ash Wednesday was a time when penitents were presented for church discipline during Lent, culminating in reconciliation on Maundy Thursday. In some traditions, Ash Wednesday is a fast day, beginning the Lenten time of fasting and preparation for the Great Three Days that culminate in Easter.

Join us for worship on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 @ 7:00 pm in the chapel. We will listen to readings - make time for silence - and receive the imposition of ashes. All are welcome!



✝ Our condolences to the family & friends of **Faye Schultz**, who passed away on December 19, 2015. Her funeral was held here at Grace Church on Wednesday, December 23.

✝ Also to the family & friends of former member **Marion Schroeder**, (recently resided in DeKalb, IL) who passed away December 30.



On January 24, 2016, we celebrated the baptism of **Brady Michael Eilbes**, son of member **Andrea Zimmerman & Kevin Eilbes**. Welcome to the Grace Church family Brady!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION @ GRACE

SECOND TUESDAY BOOK CLUB will meet February 9 at 9:00am. All are welcome!



CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER (Meditation) meets Wednesday mornings from 8:30-9:45 in the chapel. Join this group that meets to nurture and sustain spiritual vitality in contemporary life. New faces are always welcome.



The Grace Church Sunday School Children & Youth Challenge the entire rest of the congregation to a Food Drive Competition! If you can raise more items of non-perishable food and/or Dollars (in \$1 increments) than we can, we will host a Fellowship Hour - with treats - for you in March! Items may be placed in the Narthex. \$ to Church Office or Emily Shier. Final count: Monday 2/8/16 9am



Mystery Box & Silent Auction

GET READY FOR SOME GOOD, HEALTHY COMPETITION!!!

GREAT DEALS FOR SMART BIDDERS!

Sunday January 31st, Grace Church, 11:30a
Proceeds go to Mt. Hope Mission Trip



FEBRUARY 7TH WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM APPAREL TO CHURCH!



INCOME & EXPENSES:

<u>December - Income</u>		<u>December- Expenses</u>	
Offering Envelopes	\$ 41,508.00	Missions	\$ 879.37
Loose Offerings	\$ 1,020.00	Session	\$ 593.20
Per Capita	\$ 0.00	Worship	\$ 1,828.33
Housing Allowance	\$ 500.00	Christian Education	\$ 3,055.28
Building Rental	\$ 50.00	Administration	\$ 9,167.23
Fellowship	\$ 75.45	Property	\$ 3,042.26
Interest Earned	\$ 5.61	Deacon	\$ 0.00
Scrip Fund	\$ 6,000.00	Pastoral	<u>\$ 8,374.08</u>
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 276.00		
Hillside Hospice	\$ 20.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 49,455.06	EXPENSES	\$26,939.75

"Make stewardship your way of life."

SCRIP PROFIT REPORT

January 2015	\$ 324.02	July 2015	\$ 386.72
February 2015	\$ 263.34	August 2015	\$ 274.24
March 2015	\$ 318.41	September 2015	\$ 353.19
April 2015	\$ 410.57	October 2015	\$ 373.68
May 2015	\$ 363.71	November 2015	\$ 548.97
June 2015	\$ 324.13	December 2015	\$ 797.10

THANK YOU to all who support Grace Presbyterian Church by purchasing Scrip. Be sure to check out the Scrip order forms and continue to purchase and support our church throughout the year!

2015 YEAR- END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The year-end contribution statements have been mailed out to those who have given to the church in 2015. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your statement, please call the church office and talk to Paula.

Supporting the church is a way to put Christian values and your faith into action. Your personal contributions make a difference and are greatly appreciated!

2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2016 Offering envelopes are now available for you to pick up. Please be sure to start using your new envelopes in 2016! For those who are on our Direct Contribution Plan or (EFT), there will not be a box of envelopes with your name on it since your offerings are paid electronically. Thank you!



PER CAPITA

"What Per Capita Means to You"

You should have received a letter and an offering envelope to be used for your Per Capita payment in the mail last week. We need each other as we witness and work in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Per Capita is an opportunity for all members to participate in the operating of the Presbyterian Church USA. Presbyterians are connectional people whose presence is felt locally and around the world. Per Capita enables the Presbyterian Church USA to manage the offices and to hold the meetings so that ministry and mission can happen. It also pays for Books of Order, phone systems and Executive Presbyter searches among other things.

The 2016 Per Capita is \$30.00 per confirmed member. Remember, this includes both spouses and your confirmed children in your family. Once your child is confirmed into the church, they are full members and would need to fulfill the per capita assessment.

The Stewardship Committee's goal is to facilitate the ministry of Grace Church. We will continue to use the resources of this congregation wisely and welcome any interest or questions regarding the church's finances.

2015 Memorial Gifts

Grace Presbyterian Church received cash memorial gifts in memory of church members who passed in 2015. Here is a listing of those who have been remembered with gifts in their memories:



Verna Kellom	Theodore Elhart	Faye M. Schultz
Austin Reifsnider	Gladys M. Maryott	Carol R. Boviall
Sally Puleo	Louis W. Ganske	Elmer J. Kikkert
Mary K. Welch	Ardelle Friday	Veda Frinak
Tammy A. Desjarlais	Ernestine W. Kindy	

Gifts to the church are a wonderful way of honoring the memory of those we love and cherish. We are very grateful for these gifts in memory of loved ones.

Direct Contribution Plan or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

For Your Sunday Offerings

The advantages to you would be:

- You never have to worry if you "forgot" your offering each Sunday.
- You will always be up to date and never behind with your offerings.
- One less check/payment you have to deal with.
- You decide how much and when the transfers will occur.



An authorization form will have to be set up and signed for those who are interested. **You** decide on the frequency and amount being transferred. We will take care of the rest! Please call the church office and ask for our bookkeeper, Paula Bartelt, to get set up.

MISSION NEWS

PAVE Wish List: For the month of **February**, PAVE wishes for **face cloths & towels, combs and brushes, makeup (eyebrow pencils, lipstick, etc.) or paper towels.**

The **food pantry** always needs donations to help area struggling families. Please continue to support this mission! Items are picked up monthly by the food pantry. Bins for all are located inside the main south doors. Thank you!

February Birthdays

- 1 - Nancy Jung, Ana Miller
- 2 - Justin Rake
- 3 - Barbara Gregg, Betty Litscher, Brenda Propst
- 4 - Karen Bradley, Ramona Ehrhardt
- 5 - Andrea Zimmerman
- 6 - Peyton Apel, Audrey Bartell
- 7 - Todd Janssen
- 8 - Mason Janssen, Becky Kikkert
- 9 - Delores Ellcey, Kasey Klug, Lowell Peck
- 10 - Sam Uhrich
- 11 - Carol Timm, Sharon Titus
- 12 - Ann Peck
- 14 - Cody Infalt
- 15 - Kathy Mason
- 16 - Sofia Infalt
- 17 - Jim Olson
- 19 - Jack Bartholmai
- 20 - Pat Kroeze, Marla Noordhof, Penny Pohle, Lauren Wernimont
- 21 - Aaron Ganske, Tim Spinler, Thomas Zoller
- 22 - Maya Puleo
- 25 - Scott Miller
- 27 - Alexander Lord, Henry Westergaard

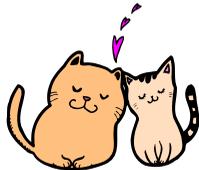
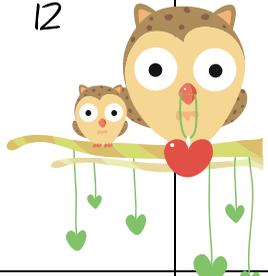


Thank you!

Thank you so very much for the Thanksgiving dinner you delivered to us. It make a big difference as I was not able to prepare a meal due to effects of chemotherapy. God bless you and your mission. It is much appreciated. Peace, Pat Kurykendall

Grace frequently uses images from church activities and events on our website, Facebook page, in the newsletter, and for promotional purposes. If you do not wish for us to use your image please contact the office.

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  Groundhog Day 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee 7:00p Youth Ministry Meeting	3 8:30a Meditation 10:00a New Testament Adult Ed Class & Committee Meeting 6:00p Committee Night	4	5	6 1-4 Painting Fundraiser for Louis Westergaard
7 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship – Communion Annual Congregational Meeting 10:30a CE for Children, Youth & Adults 10:30a Confirmation Class 11:00a Children's Ministry sub-committee 7:00p Middle/High School Groups	8	9 9:00a Mom's Group 9:00a 2 nd Tuesday Book Club 9:30a Senior Coffee 12:00p Ministerium Meeting 7:00p Youth Ministry Meeting	10  ASH Wednesday 8:30a Meditation 10:00a New Testament Adult Ed Class 1:30p Charleston House Communion 5:30p Session Meeting 7:00p Ash Wednesday Worship	11	12  13	7:00p Choir Rehearsal
14  8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a CE for Children, Youth & Adults 10:30a Confirmation Class 7:00p Middle/High School Groups	15  March Newsletter Deadline 1:30p Hillside Manor President's DAY	16 7a-8p Spring Primary Election 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	17 8:30a Meditation 10:00a New Testament Adult Ed Class	18	19	20
21 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a CE for Children, Youth & Adults 10:30a Confirmation Class 7:00p Middle/High School Groups	22	Courier 23 9:00a Mom's Group 9:30a Senior Coffee	24	25	26	27
28 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Worship 10:30a CE for Children, Youth & Adults 10:30a Confirmation Class 7:00p Middle/High School Groups	29  Leap Day					