

# Grace Messenger

2017 Mission Trip to Racine, Wisconsin

July 2018



## 2018 Youth Mission Trip Bound For Uniontown, Pennsylvania

On Sunday morning, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Grace group consisting of seventeen high schoolers and three chaperones, will be heading to Uniontown PA to participate in another GROUP "Work Camp" Mission Trip. This is our third consecutive year attending what has become a landmark event for our youth. It's a great group of kids including high school graduates who have done all three trips, freshman on their inaugural journey, and everything in between.

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## 2018 Youth Mission Trip Bound For Uniontown, Pennsylvania

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Our goal will be the same as in previous years:

- Provide community service on a large scale, joining 400 other high schoolers and youth leaders from around the country, as we paint and repair homes of older or disabled folks who met the GROUP criteria for assistance.
- Strengthening our relationships with each other and with all the new friends we will make, building common bonds that will in many cases, last a lifetime.
- Growing our faith by participating in worship, bible study, and multiple activities that are interwoven throughout our week long stay.

There will be opportunities for the congregation to donate financially and materially towards this cause in July. A car wash and a coffee fundraiser (date TBA) will help offset some of the \$454 fee each person is responsible for. In addition, we'll be asking supporters to borrow or purchase tools and supplies before the 22nd, since we are responsible for taking all of our own equipment to PA (specifics TBA). Keep an eye out for a Mission Trip display table in the Narthex **after** Vacation Bible School.

It's impressive in this day and age to be surrounded by teenagers who are willingly giving up a week of their summer, to sleep on the floor of a high school classroom for a week, getting up at 6:30 AM to spend the day in a labor of love. They deserve and appreciate your support and prayers.—Matt Rugh, Dir. of Child/Youth Ministry



**SPRINGFIELD CITY  
YOUTH MISSION**

### Outreach Break to Feature SCYM

On Sunday, July 15 adults participating in Sunday School are invited to join in this quarter's Outreach Break. Our guests for the morning represent a ministry most of us know as SCYM. Previously those letters stood for "Springfield Christian Youth Ministry" but they were recently changed to represent "Springfield City Youth Mission." The name change hopes to alleviate some confusion about whether they are associated with Springfield Christian Schools. (They are not.)

SCYM's mission is to help city school students grow in healthy directions spiritually, educationally, socially, and physically by:

- Following the teachings of Christ
- Building bridges between local churches and urban children and youth
- Developing creative, excellent programs
- Fostering environments where students are known and listened to

The ministry operates several different programs including the GirlPower and ManPower afterschool programs, Biz Ba\$ics Entrepreneurship program and the Camp Boost Summer Reading program, as well as many others.

Our congregation was instrumental in launching this ministry back in 1998 and we have remained a strong supporter of it ever since.

Make plans to be present during this presentation and ask God to speak to you about how you might be able to support SCYM beyond your dollars and prayers. The Adult Sunday offerings for July, August and September will be directed to the support of SCYM.

## Coming Attractions:

### Sundays:

July 15:	Outreach Break: SCYM
Jul 22-Sept 2:	A Case for Christ (Pastor Brodbeck and others) (Community Center)
Sept 9:	Stewardship (Community Center)
Sept 16:	Wax Museum
Sept 23:	Outreach Fair (Community Center)
Sept 30:	Stewardship (Community Center)
Oct 7:	Outreach Break, Ministry TBD
Oct 14 – Dec 23:	Ten Commandments (Pastor Powell) (Fellowship Hall)
	Birth Narratives of Jesus (Dr. Swanger) (N108)
Dec 30:	Cookies and Carols (Community Center)

### Midweek:

July 9 – Aug 13:	Women's Bible Study: Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed (featuring Priscilla Shirer, Beth Moore and Kay Arthur), facilitated by Leslie McKinney (Community Center)
Aug 22 – Nov 14:	GriefShare, facilitated by Steeg and Diane Hertz (Parlor)
Sep 19 – Nov 14:	Wednesday Night dinners, 6 – 7 (Fellowship Hall)
	Bible Study on 1 Peter (Pastor Brodbeck) (YW102)
Sep 19 – Mar 27:	Disciple Fast Track, facilitated by Sam Poston and Leslie McKinney (N108). Class will not meet on 11/21, 12/19, 12/26, 3/6.

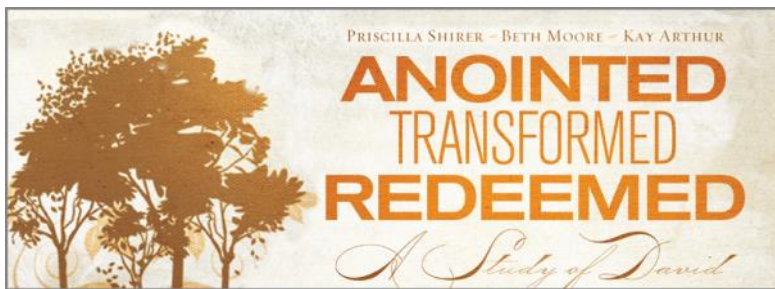
# THE CASE FOR CHRIST

Beginning July 22 and running through September 2, the adult Sunday School class will be watching and discussing the award winning video series "The Case for Christ." The series focuses on this question: "Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God?"

Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, cross-examines a dozen experts with doctorates from schools like Cambridge, Princeton, and Brandeis who are recognized authorities in their own fields. Strobel challenges them with questions like: How reliable is the New Testament? Does evidence for Jesus exist outside the Bible? Is there any reason to believe the resurrection was an actual event?

Strobel's tough, point-blank questions make this a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure. What will your verdict be in *The Case for Christ*?

Pastor Brodbeck will be the lead facilitator for this course which will meet in the Community Center. There will be no class session on August 5 due to the planned congregational meeting on that date.



The Women of Grace Bible study will start July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The new study is called **Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed: A Study of David** that features Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, and Kay Arthur. This six week study focuses on the life of David at different stages of his life: as a young man as a middle-aged man, and as a man facing the final third of his life. You'll laugh with them, cry with them, and learn to love God with them. Workbooks will be available at a cost of \$13.00. Sign up in Sign Up Central or call the church office, 399-6257.

### The Way to Begin

We continue our 10 week summer midweek worship series with the theme **The Way to Begin**. Our focus is upon how, in practical ways, we can begin a faith-story conversation and come alongside others as we introduce them to our Lord. Each 7:00 p.m. worship opportunity includes celebrating Holy Communion, sharing in prayer and scripture and song, and participating in a conversation (rather than a more traditional sermon) with our presiding Pastor on the topic of the evening. Upcoming topics are: July 5: Building Authentic Relationships, July 12: Going Deep, July 19: Loving and Living the Scriptures, July 26: Asking Questions, Telling Stories. All are encouraged to accept this discipline of midweek

### Financial Stewardship

Lord, speak to us! As we hear His message, how do we carry it forward to others? There are many approaches to carrying the message; they involve time, talent and treasure as a support system for reaching out to others, to share God's love. In our congregation, our outreach is almost beyond measure over what might normally be expected. We are able to accomplish this through spiritual, financial and geographical support, and the outreach follows many paths to glorifying God.

As we move through every year, we experience the volunteering commitments being honored by those who serve in almost uncountable ways in our congregation. This year, we intend to recognize all who volunteer their time and talents, on Consecration Sunday, September 30. There will be more information on that event from Janet Rice as we get closer to that time.

Thank you to all who volunteer in so many ways; you are carrying His message. You are an integral part of the support system we call stewardship. You have heard Him speak to you. We pray for continued growth of our blessings and how we are able to apply them to our daily lives and the life of our congregation. Thanks be to God! -Bill Birch

### Special Congregational Meeting

Mary Ellen Fulmer, a long time faithful member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, has remembered this congregation in her estate. Our Grace Church Council, in our commitment to be good stewards of the blessings bestowed upon us and to abide by our Grace Constitution, is calling a Special Congregational Meeting for 9:15 a.m. Sunday, August 5, 2018. The single agenda item for this meeting is a proposal regarding how we can most fully benefit from Mary Ellen's generosity. All Grace members, and guests, are encouraged to be in attendance for this August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. -Pastor Powell

### Senior Pastor Call Committee

God has constituted an 'A-List' Senior Pastor Call Committee to follow Him in guiding us toward welcoming our next Senior Pastor. With Pastor Powell retiring on Sunday, June 16, 2019, we beseech the prayers of our congregation on behalf of: Ty Craddock, Council President Sandy Thompson, Mark Grimes, Tom O'Neal, Michelle Kouse, Matt Rugh, Maxine Shroyer, Jane Kreider, and Ginger Hennig. They are spending time in individual devotions and time in God's Word during these summer weeks in preparation for their first meeting on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will strive to keep our congregation up to date each step of the way. Don't hesitate to ask our Call Committee members questions and to offer your encouragement. Our entire congregation is invited and urged to participate in a significant workshop (led by specially prepared leaders of our denomination) held here at Grace on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mark this date and be watching for more details.

### 2018 Nominating Committee

The Grace 2018 Council Nominating Committee would like to invite members, that have been active for a period of one year, to nominate potential candidates to serve on next year's Grace Council. Please be sure to obtain prior approval from the person being nominated and then forward your nomination in writing to one of the Nominating Committee members by the end of September. This year's Nominating Committee consist of: Donna Gainer (Grace Council rep), Mary Beth Stelzer (Grace Council rep), Sallie Stephenson, Mark Klopfenstein, and Matt Cline. Please contact one of us with any questions you may have.

### SummerFest 2018

SummerFest returns once again to wrap up our summer activities. The event is scheduled for 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 26. At 7:00 we will once again gather at the cross on the west end of the property for a worship service.

Summerfest, in addition to being a great way to enjoy fellowship with members of the Grace congregation, also provides you with an opportunity to invite your unchurched friends and family members to a "safe and fun" church event.

So get the word out! And watch your bulletin and the next issue of the Messenger for more details.



**1:00-6:00pm**  
**Saturday, July 14 &**  
**Sunday, July 15, 2018**

**WASSO Tour Coming to Grace**

This year's WASSO garden tour has selected the Grace Garden as one of its stops. It will be held on both Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 - 6:00 PM, July 14th and 15th.

This tour raises funds for Springfield Symphony Orchestra by selling tickets to a self guided tour of multiple homes within Springfield and showcases individual's landscapes, water features, and gardens. Traditionally it is a horticultural tour.

Last year, for the first time, WASSO decided to diversify and add interest. It included a stop at Jefferson Street Oasis Community Garden which is Springfield's largest "allotment" style community vegetable garden. This year we were approached and accepted an invitation to be on the tour. Obviously the added interest in community vegetable gardens is growing and this is our opportunity to show the public the value of our garden to the Springfield community.

The Grace Garden Ministry would like to invite the Grace congregation to take the tour. It will be a great chance to better acquaint yourself to all the workings of the garden and plenty of information will also be available to let the public know the benefits this ministry makes to the outreach community. Please let Judy, Jerry or myself know if any of you are available to help.

Thanks be to God! -Terry Fredrich

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