

Grace Messenger

MAY 2022

equipping the saints
for the return of Christ



REVIVE OHIO IS COMING TO SPRINGFIELD

The week of August 7-14 will be the most significant spiritual experience in the city of Springfield in many generations. For the past two years, a team of pastors and lay leaders have been meeting and praying that God would bring a revival to our city. We have partnered with Time to Revive ministries to help us strategically create an environment where this can happen. (www.timetorevive.org)

Time to Revive (TTR) partners with the local Church in each community, bringing believers together across denominational lines and inspiring them to obey the Great Commission to go in the power of the Holy Spirit and make disciples. Through dynamic hands-on training, the TTR team empowers the saints to leave familiar church walls and walk by faith to share the Gospel in authentic and life-changing ways.

Funded entirely through donations, Time to Revive invests heavily in the local Church, spending a week or more in each partnering community. In addition to partnering with the Church, TTR also works with civic leaders, the business sector, schools and universities, media outlets, the arts and the family unit to bring the entire community together to see city transformation through the message of the Gospel.

Right now, community-wide prayer meetings are underway. These meet on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m. on the third floor of the former Wallace and Turner building, now home to many of our cities outreach ministries. Enter through the back door where the green awning is.

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

I am really excited about our summer here at Grace! Here are just some of the highlights.

We plan to kick off the summer by once again participating in Springfield's Memorial Day parade. As of this writing, we are still watching for the application process to make everything official. We will be inviting you to join us by either riding in the wagon or by passing out information to parade goers. We see it as a great way to raise the visibility of our congregation to a large audience.

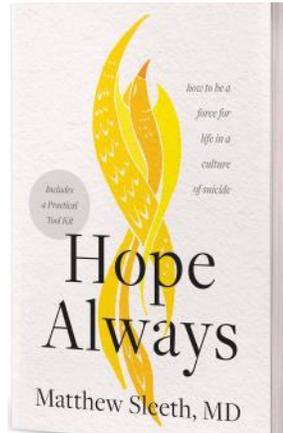
The week of June 19th we will send approximately 30 young people and adult chaperones to Port Huron, MI for the annual youth mission trip. This is a life-changing event for our teens, so please be praying for them before and during their experience.

July 22-29 will find us at the Clark County Fair. We have already reserved our booth space, and will be looking forward to seeing you there. You will also be invited to spend a couple of hours in the booth, talking with the fair's patrons. More details on that to come.

The following week, August 1-3 (Monday – Wednesday), will be our Vacation Bible School. The theme this year is "Hay Day: Growing in Friendship with Jesus." You will begin to hear more about that once the youth mission trip is over. The calendar is full! God continues to move in our midst, and we are eager to see where else He leads.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Two new and exciting Adult Sunday School classes will launch in May. The first will run May 1 – 22. It is titled "Hope Always." In it, Dr. Matthew Sleeth, helps the church make sense of America's burgeoning suicide and overdose epidemic. Sleeth is one of the nation's most trusted voices in this area. He will invite us into his home to learn sound medicine, practical helps and biblical truths.



Participants will find out why committed Christians are four to six times less likely to die by suicide than atheists. They will learn how to start a conversation about suicide and explore nine practical ways to protect your loved ones from a worldview that says suicide is just another option.

This four-part series will equip you to become an advocate for the sanctity of life in a culture of suicide! Pastor Brodbeck will facilitate this important and timely session.



Then, beginning May 29, Sam Poston will facilitate a six-week series titled "Kingdom Heroes."

Each of us must daily choose between giving in to the world's pressure to trust in ourselves or yielding control of our lives to God. While following God's directions when we don't see immediate results can be difficult, the payoff will always be tremendous.

In this six-session series, we will join Dr. Tony Evans as he looks at the people in the Bible's Hall of Faith: Old Testament heroes, such as Abraham, Noah, and Moses, who let God lead their lives. Learn how their journeys can help you understand what it means to walk in faith.

Join us each Sunday morning at 9:15.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Since the writing of last month's Messenger article, members of Grace's Call Committee finished their review and update of the Congregational Profile for submission to the NALC. As mentioned previously, this document describes the ministries, goals, mission and vision of our congregation and shares the specific gifts that we are seeking in Grace's next Associate Pastor. We also included a brief introduction to Grace for distribution to pastors within the NALC through a regularly updated Congregational Vacancy List.

We have begun to receive responses from persons who have expressed interest in the Associate Pastor position. The Call Committee will prayerfully look at and discuss these in the near future, determining which candidates we would like to consider further. This will likely take place through phone conversations, virtual meetings and, ultimately, in-person meetings. We will eventually narrow the group being considered to one candidate who will be proposed to the Congregation Council.

The Council will then schedule a visit for this candidate to come to Grace – see our congregation and our community, meet with our Council, meet privately with Pastor Brodbeck, lead/preach at worship, be in conversation with Grace members, etc. If the Council votes to move forward, a special Congregational Meeting will be held in which our membership will vote to extend a call to this candidate, and the candidate will then have 30 days to respond in writing.

While much of the Call Committee's work is confidential in order to protect candidates who express interest, we encourage you to approach any of us with questions regarding the call process and where we are in that process at any point in time. We are blessed with a wonderful team – Elaine Bucey, Lori Fain, Leah Fraker, Steve Garrett (Council President and Ex-Officio Member), Mark Grimes, Stacey Laux (Secretary), Eric Leeth (Co-Chair), Su-Ann Newport (Co-Chair), Mike Ray and Matt Rugh – all of whom feel honored, humbled and called to serve in this ministry. While not a regular attendee of the committee's meetings, Pastor Tom Brodbeck continues to be a valuable resource to the committee.

Thank you for your continued prayers as we work to discern God's will for Grace!

... Mark Grimes



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

"Let Heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!

Let the sea and everything in it roar!

Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate.

Then, all the trees in the forest, too, will shout out joyfully!" Psalm 96: 11-12

You've experienced our creation celebrating. Go outside on a warm Spring morning; can you hear a variety of birds rejoicing? Walk along the beach and listen to the music of the ocean tides rushing into the sand. Walk through a park pathway lined with trees and listen to the rustling leaves; hear the rat-a-tat-tat of a wood-pecker's song. God's creation makes music, the message of joy, to celebrate the Creator.

SO, if all of Creation can sing for joy, we, too, are encouraged to do the same.

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His Presence with singing". Psalm 100:1-2

AND, doesn't God's Word bring music to mind often? (With a name like Melody, it happens.)

Melody Leonard



NEW MEMBER CLASS

On the afternoon of Sunday, May 1, we will offer a New Members' Class. This two-hour session will begin at 3 p.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. Following the class, a guided tour of the Grace facility will be offered to those interested. This is presented as a "seeker" session, with no obligation to join afterward.

Those interested in becoming members will be received on Sunday, May 15, during the 10:45 a.m. service.

To register for this class, please use the Grace app or call the Grace office at 399-6257.

OUTREACH CORNER

Blessings In A Bottle

Every year, the Pregnancy Resource Clinic organizes their Blessings in a Bottle campaign which provides a way for local churches, schools, and other organizations to support the ministry of the PRC. The Pregnancy



Resource Clinic of Clark County is a Christ-centered organization that provides trusted care, support, and resources to all people regarding pregnancy and sexual health. They will be using a QR code again this year for their fund-raising campaign. You can scan the code that will be available at Grace through the month of May, to make an online donation or you can send a check to PRC directly. Watch for more information or see Sandy Thompson.

St. John's Food Pantry

May is another of our months to serve at St John's Food Pantry on Wednesday mornings. If you are interested in helping to distribute food, please contact Judy Fredrich at 937-925-1177. St John's could also use bread and pastries, toiletries and soap. Place donations in the shopping cart in the Community Center.



CELEBRATION CORNER



CELEBRATING ADULT EDUCATION

This year's Lay Ministry theme is "Celebrate!" This month we pause to celebrate the adult educational ministries of our congregation.

A great description of the believers in the early church of Berea is recorded in Acts 17:11:

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

A healthy, vibrant church is composed of Christians who love the word of God and find ways to study and grow in it as a regular part of their discipleship journeys.

At Grace, we celebrate all who participate in one of our many Bible-focused educational opportunities, from Sunday School classes, to weekly Bible studies, to Life-to-Life discipleship groups and much more. Be like a Berean! Find (or start!) a group where you too can eagerly examine the Scriptures. See Pastor Brodbeck for more details.



MAY EVENTS

Sunday, May 1

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Contemporary Worship
12:15 pm Financial Stewardship

Monday, May 2

1:00 pm Essence of Grace rehearsal

Tuesday, May 3

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed

Wednesday, May 4

4:00 pm SCYM Manpower
7:00 pm 9-12 grade youth group
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

Thursday, May 5

7:00 am National Day of Prayer
Breakfast
11:00 am Adult Bible Study
1:00 pm Service Quilt Guild
1:00 pm Brass group rehearsal

Friday, May 6**Saturday, May 7**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, May 8***Mother's Day***

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Worship

Monday, May 9

7:00 pm Endowment Committee

Tuesday, May 10

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed
2:00 pm Joy Guild
6:00 pm Executive committee

Wednesday, May 11

9:30 am Hope Guild
1:30 pm Charity Guild
4:00 pm SCYM Manpower
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm 9-12 grade youth group

Thursday, May 12

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
1:00 pm Service Quilt Guild

Friday, May 13

Deer Creek Youth retreat

Saturday, May 14

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
Deer Creek Youth retreat

Sunday, May 15

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Worship
12:15 pm Diamond Luncheon

Monday, May 16

1:00 pm Essence of Grace rehearsal
6:00 pm Prayer Support Team

Tuesday, May 17

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed
7:00 pm Grace Council meeting

Wednesday, May 18

4:00 pm SCYM Manpower
7:00 pm 9-12 grade youth group
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

Thursday, May 19

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
1:00 pm Brass group rehearsal

Friday, May 20**Saturday, May 21**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
1:00 pm Irene Benne visitation
2:00 pm Irene Benne Funeral

Sunday, May 22

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Worship

Monday, May 23

6:00 pm Stephen Ministry C.E.

Tuesday, May 24

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed

Wednesday, May 25

4:00 pm SCYM Manpower
7:00 pm 9-12 grade youth group
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

Thursday, May 26

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, May 27**Saturday, May 28**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, May 29***Ascension of Our Lord***

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Worship

Monday, May 30***Memorial Day***

Grace office closed

Tuesday, May 31

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed

DIAMOND LUNCHEON



TO BE SERVED



All adults, ages 75 and over, are invited to attend a luncheon on Sunday, May 15 at 12:15 p.m. featuring a delicious home-cooked meal and live entertainment.

Reservations required through the Grace app or by calling the Grace office at 937-399-6257.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



www.grace-nal.org 937.399.6257

Springfield, OH 45504

1801 St. Paris Pike

Evangelical Lutheran Church



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Springfield, OH
Permit #158