

Grace Messenger

JULY 2022

Everyone should be quick to
listen, slow to speak and
slow to become angry.

JAMES 1:19B



PASTOR'S REFLECTION

I write these words a few days before Karen and I leave for a two-week vacation in Germany, because the deadline for this article will be immediately upon my return. Experience tells me I will have many other things clamoring for my attention at that time.

Our travels will take us into a different culture, still western in its approach, but different. There will be a different language, different foods, different currency, and different customs. We've had that experience before in our travels to Iceland and Belize, so different won't be totally new. But German different will be different than Icelandic or Belizean different.

The truth is, I don't need a passport to experience "different." The things happening in our country these days highlight how different my daily experience is from that of many other residents in this same country and in my own community.

Part of living with that which is different is seeking to understand the reasons for the differences. That is especially important for Christ-followers. Yes, different might be sinful, but sometimes different has a far more understandable cause. In James 1:19-20, we are encouraged to "be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

That's good advice. And as I hear and read the latest news headlines, I plan to follow it. I hope you will too.

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24



When things are going well and the sun is shining, we receive positive news whether its for us or for a loved one. It is in these circumstances of unexpected wonder and joy that we can proclaim and rejoice in the positives of our daily lives. "Let us rejoice and be glad in it." Those words come easy on the good days we are blessed with. What about the hard days, the days of pain, disappointment, when relationships sour, and when we are tormented with sadness. This is also the day the lord has made, and he stamped it into the schedule he has produced for our lives. He gives us all kinds of days filled with a plethora of emotions that are all weaved together. These are the days I feel like we are truly put to the test. These are the days we should rejoice and be glad in him for the many blessings and wonders he has done for us and still has in store for us. As this world passes away, let us all remember that the hope in Christ remains throughout eternity.

My prayer: Father in heaven, may I rejoice in ALL the days of my life that You give me, no matter what the circumstances of life. Father, how we long for THAT glorious day when Jesus comes to set up his kingdom on earth to reign forever in righteousness. Amen!

- Jake Rembold, Financial Stewardship Committee

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce that the projects that have been funded for this year.

Ministry	Project	Award
Joy Guild	Joy Garden	\$741
Springfield Community Outreach	Group Mission Trip to Springfield	\$2,500
Parish Care/Property	Parlor Upgrade	\$2,300
Outreach Ministry	Naomi's Heart Mission	\$1,800
Outreach Ministry	Family & Youth Initiative (furnace)	\$2,500
Outreach Ministry	Kids Around the World Meal Packing Event	\$4,550
	Total	\$14,391



Grace's Congregational Profile has been shared with all the NALC churches in our denomination and with the LCMC denomination for a Grace Associate Pastor.

In response to the NALC's request to include a video with our profile, the committee has tabled a plan to provide a video. Our group has conducted several interviews and have conducted second interviews with some candidates. The Call Committee will continue to submit monthly Messenger articles to keep everyone up to date. Please continue to pray for us as we keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, acknowledging his presence in this process, and staying open to his guidance.

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 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 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.

Please continue to pray as we work to discern God's will for Grace. -Su-Ann Newport

CULTS AND ISMS SUNDAY SCHOOL COURSE

Have you ever wondered what those nicely dressed people on your porch really believe? Have you ever heard someone say "we all worship the same God" and wonder if it is really true?

The Adult Sunday School class will be studying the beliefs and practices of seven "Cults and Isms" from July 17 through August 28. Pastor Brodbeck will facilitate this learning experience. Among those to be studied will be the Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Judaism and Islam. You will not only learn what they believe, but will also be strengthened in your Christian beliefs as well.

Join us at 9:15 a.m. in the fellowship hall each Sunday morning.

OUTREACH CORNER

Come Join Us Sunday, July 10, 2022. Our Breakfast Break will feature Ken and Penny Ekegren from the Malawi Orphan Care Project. The orphan project began in 2005 in Kanyenyeva, Malawi by providing lunch to 125 children once or twice a week. It now is providing lunch to approximately 800 children 6 days a week and sending 70 teens to high school. Come and learn more about all they have been able to do and how to support this wonderful ministry.

Meal Packing Party. On Saturday, July 30th at 10:30 a.m., come to Grace and join us. "Kids Around the World" empowers groups to be a part of the solution of childhood malnutrition. OneMeal food is packed and sponsored by partners and volunteers at their own packing events throughout the US. They are shipped overseas to serve malnourished children in orphanages, schools, homes, churches, and community feeding centers. Our event here, at Grace, will pack meals that will be sent to Ukrainian refugees overseas. Please come out and help us pack meals to help feed these people who have been forced out of their homes. Watch for a sign-up sheet to sign up to come and help on that Saturday. We will need a set up crew, 45 meal packers, and a clean-up crew. See Sandy Thompson for more information: spnrj@yahoo.com or 937-605-0416.

GRACE CHARITY AUCTION

Our charity auction will be back this year and we are once again looking for items from all of our "crafty people." We are hopeful you will support this year's charity, Young Life. Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 3, 2022 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and join us in the community center for a morning of fun.



JUNE 19 BLESSING THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO PORT HURON, MICHIGAN

A MISSION TRIP IN SPRINGFIELD

For the past seven years, we have all witnessed the great things our Grace youth have been doing in other communities through Group Mission Trips. Now, Group Mission Trips is coming to Springfield, Ohio. Official trip dates are June 25 – July 1, 2023. Imagine the impact 400 visiting youth will have on our community and Springfield residents. You can get involved. An informational kickoff event will be held at Grace on August 23rd at 9:00 AM. All are welcome. If you want to get involved and can't be present, then reach out to Kim Fitzgerald at edandkimfitz@gmail.com or 937-631-0685.

TWO FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

In case you haven't noticed, prices are going up all around you. This is putting a major stress on the budgets of many people, so we thought it would be helpful to remind you of two financial opportunities available through Grace Church.

The first is called FaithWorks. This fund allows members of Grace to receive up to \$750 every 12 months to cover emergency expenses, like housing, utilities, and car repairs. Applying for these funds is 100% confidential and requires only the completion of a simple, one page form that explains the need. This fund is maintained by gifts from members of the congregation and through your use of your KrogerPlus card and the Amazon Smile program.

The second is the Grace Benevolence Fund. This fund was created for larger financial needs, such as hospital or long-term care expenses, rehabilitation needs, adoption costs, and other major expenses. A conversation with Pastor Brodbeck initiates this process. Once a specific project is known, an appeal is made to the congregation and beyond for funds to meet the need.

The Body of Christ specializes in helping its members through tough times. If you are experiencing one of those moments, please let us know so we can show the love of Christ to you.

JEFFERSON STREET OASIS GRILLING IN THE GARDEN EVENT

Saturday, July 30 10am– 2pm

1100 W. Jefferson St.

Sample veggies · Visit our pollinator garden, herb garden, children's gardens, chickens and polyhouse
· Learn about our food/nutrition classes & preservation of the garden produce

HAYDAY VBS IS HERE!

AUGUST 1-3, 2022

6-9 P.M.

SIGN-UP ON THE GRACE APP OR WEBSITE

GET MOOVIN' & INVITE YOUR FRIENDS !



JULY EVENTS

Friday, July 1

Saturday, July 2

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, July 3

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

Monday, July 4

Grace office closed

Tuesday, July 5

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

Wednesday, July 6

Thursday, July 7

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

Friday, July 8

Saturday, July 9

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, July 10

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for youth
9:15 am Outreach Breakfast Break
10:45 am Worship

Monday, July 11

Tuesday, July 12

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

Wednesday, July 13

Thursday, July 14

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

Friday, July 15

Saturday, July 16

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, July 17

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

Monday, July 18

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

Tuesday, July 19

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

Wednesday, July 20

Thursday, July 21

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, July 22

Clark Co. Fair begins

Saturday, July 23

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, July 24

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

Monday, July 25

6:00 pm Stephen Ministry CE

Tuesday, July 26

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

Wednesday, July 27

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

Thursday, July 28

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, July 29

Clark County Fair ends

Saturday, July 30

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
10:30 am Kids Around the World
Packing Event

Sunday, July 31

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

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

We are excited to be continuing Christmas in July again this year. This is an important ministry for our Grace Family who are homebound. Last year, due to Covid, we bought the cookies from GFS. They are high quality cookies and we received favorable reviews.

You will be able to sign up to volunteer in Sign-Up central to help deliver the cookies to our home bound members. We will be asking for donations to purchase the cookies. Each box contains 40 cookies and cost approximately 13 \$ a box, but you can donate any amount you wish. Some covid stipulations may remain. Check beforehand if the resident prefers us to visit or just drop off the cookies. Some of our nursing facilities will require a 24-hour notice before we will be delivering and visiting. The cookies will be ready for delivery on the July 22-23 weekend.

We wish to thank all our past volunteers and future volunteers. Our homebound residents appreciate this ministry and look forward to it each year. If you have questions call, text, or email Mary Beth Stelzer at 937-215-8805, marybstelz@sbcglobal.net.



Let's Go To The Fair

Grace will have a booth at the 2022 Clark County Fair, Friday, July 22 - Friday, July 29. We will have a tent where we will have the opportunity to meet and talk to people, share the gospel, pray with those who want/ need prayer, and sell our Grace Centennial Cookbook. We will also have some Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church giveaways. We are looking for people to man the tent. We will be having 2 shifts, 12- 4 p.m. and 4 - 8 p.m. Use the Grace app to sign-up or call the church office, 937-399-6257.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



www.grace-nal.org 937.399.6257

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Evangelical Lutheran Church



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