

“Reaching people with the love and teachings of Jesus Christ”

MARCH 2019
Volume 6, Issue 3

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grace notes

Hello Friends,

(This is the electronic version of the March edition of Grace Notes Pastor's letter. If you've received a physical copy, then you'll notice a different letter from me. That's because when I initially wrote my letter, it was before the vote at General Conference 2019 regarding the inclusion of LGBTQ people in the United Methodist Church. General Conference has since passed and as we were about to send the electronic version of Grace Notes, it seemed fitting that I used this medium to share the most up to date thoughts on the matter.)

As many of you know, of the plans presented before General Conference, the Traditional Plan was passed. So what does that mean? For some this may come as a surprise but the United Methodist Church has already been living in a version of the Traditional Plan. Currently there is language that excludes LGBTQ people in the ordained ministry and clergy are prohibited from performing same-sex marriages. What the new plan added was the penalty of a one year suspension without pay for a first offence and defrocking after a second offence of officiating a same sex marriage. There is further language about examination about who can be on the Board of Ordained Ministry and who can be ordained.

I understand that at Grace United Methodist Church we represent people across the theological, political, and social spectrum. It's what I love about our church. It's what I love about you.

I think there is room for healthy disagreement but to spend the amount of time and money to simply add punitive accountability doesn't feel like love and grace. We can disagree without punishing each other. Sadly we are human and that's what we do to our theological, political, and social opponents. We punished Jesus for inviting us into the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of unconditional love and acceptance, especially for the marginalized. We couldn't handle that 2000 years ago, the church still isn't ready in 2019.

This is sad time for the United Methodist Church. If you are rejoicing over the vote at General Conference, there is still sadness because your brothers and sisters in Christ as mourning over their exclusion. If you are angry and disheartened at the vote, then you are further feeling the walls that continue to divide the church.

Please continue to pray with me for our church and the denomination. We will have further church-wide conversations at a time to be determined.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Paul

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

Volunteers are needed for serving evening meals at the Rescue Mission Family Center on South Cedar. Several of our volunteers have had to stop. We need the following:

Subs are always needed for Southside Kitchen, during the day, and Rescue Mission Family Center, evenings. Contact Mona at 323-3779 or mmorgan1226@yahoo.com if you can help!

THANK YOU! Thank you!

South Lansing Ministries is so thankful for all the support we have received from Grace, the Reverse Advent bags brought 431 food items and 398 personal need items this year. Since partnering with Grace almost 3 years ago, it has been amazing to see how many people are willing to donate, and give of their time, we are so blessed. Thank you! I love my church family! – Vicki Nichols

MEALS FOR MISSION

The missions team will be starting a quarterly fundraiser dinner.

Save the date for the Annual Pancake Supper to benefit the Mansfield Mission Trip Team. This will be the second quarter Meals 4 Missions opportunity.

Date: Friday, April 26th, 2019 from 4:30-7:00pm
Questions? See Jim Kleiver

5th ANNUAL MANSFIELD MISSION TRIP

Dates: July 14 – July 20th, 2019. If interested, attend the meeting on 4/7/19 at 10:30am. Contact Jim Kleiver: 517-282-6157 or kleiver@sbcglobal.net if interested and/or have questions. The deadline to commit is 5/5/19.

GIVING TREE

COLLECTING IN MARCH

Each quarter we focus our collections on one ministry or organization that is making a difference in our community.

During March we will be collecting items to fill exit buckets for those who are leaving **Haven House** and receiving their own housing. More details to come on this.

In addition, we will continue to collect items for the **Small Household Needs Bank**. These can include small appliances, pots and pans, kitchen utensils, sheets and pillowcases! Small Household Needs Bank (housed at Mt. Hope UMC) distributes these items to low income families in need.

MAKE THE CHANGE OFFERING

Beginning in 2019, the **Make the “CHANGE” Offering**, formerly known as the Noisy Can Collection, will be collected the 2nd Sunday of each month

MARCH

March's collection will be for Haven House and Small Household Needs Bank.



Give generously and...

Make the CHANGE!



SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

-explore the resources to grow and mature in faith-
"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." - 2 Peter 3:18

NURSERY NEWS

We offer care in our nursery for infants through 3 year olds. Our staff people Miss Emma and Miss Lisa care for our kids in addition to our rotating Grace volunteers.

If you feel God calling you to work with our infants and toddlers, contact Opal at: 517-490-3218. Once your application is complete (including background check), she will be able to add you to the schedule.

Willing hands and hearts make this ministry possible!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

This class will be exploring the book of Romans.

Join us Sundays in the green room from 11:00-12:00am

Led by: Sallie Franks.

ENERGIZE!

E! Jr. – Grades 4th – 7th E! Sr.– Grades 8th – 12th

WE ARE ALL ABOUT:

Relationships... with Christ & Each other
Authenticity... Being Real
Service... Giving Back
Faith... Understanding & Sharing
Excellence... Doing & Being Our Best **and.... FUN!!!**

For more information – lgraceumc@gmail.com

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

As in years past we are partnering with Mt. Hope UMC for our Ash Wednesday service. This year they are hosting us at their church. Pastor Paul will be delivering the message.

WORSHIP SERVICE DETAILS

Wednesday, March 6th, 2019

7:00pm

Mt. Hope UMC
501 E. Mt. Hope Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910



Come with us to have fun learning! We begin in the 11:30 worship service and leave for Kids on the Move at 11:45.

ORANGE ROOM: Kids on the Move Jr.
Preschool children 4 years old thru 2nd graders

BLUE ROOM: Kids on the Move
3rd graders through 6th graders

SEE YOU SOON!

TEACHERS

We delight in teaching and serving the next generation of leaders. Please join us as a teacher of Kids on the Move this summer! Contact Stephani Davis – our new Teacher Scheduler (stephanidavis65@comcast.net) for more information and to sign-up. We can't wait to hear from you!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Circle Meeting: Grace United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be Prayer and Self Denial. All women of any age are welcome to attend. In April, Keep Making Peace will be at University United Methodist Church. Watch for registration information. Please be sure to look at the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall to see what is happening in the District and Conference for United Methodist Women.

BIRTHDAY LIST

MARCH

Esther Burruss – 3/2
Gerald Gunn – 3/3
Pam Hill – 3/4
Amy Simmons – 3/5
Brittany Garza – 3/8
Julie Prevo – 3/8
Bette Jo Brubaker – 3/9
Carole Chubb – 3/9
Jim Kleiver – 3/11
Clayton Hull – 3/12
Joyce Miller – 3/12
RJ Williams – 3/16
Calvin Carter – 3/21
Sandra Flanigan - 3/23
Carissa Hedley – 3/24
Missy Bush – 3/24

ANNIVERSARY LIST

MARCH

March 31
Lynn & Linda Reik

Garden Club of Greater Lansing

Where: Grace UMC – Fellowship Hall

Date: Monday, March 11th

Time: 9:30am – 2:30pm

Speaker: Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park Garden House manager with tips and tricks to grow successful plants from seeds and cuttings.

Questions: Please see Joanne Bauer



LOVE WELL

YOUTH 2019

YOUTH 2019 IS FOR ALL UNITED METHODIST YOUTH, GRADES 6-12, AND THEIR LEADERS FROM JULY 10-14th 2019.

What is Youth2019? It's 4 days of discipleship, worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and life-changing fun! Expect inspiration, support, and challenges to grow authentically as a world-changing disciple of Jesus Christ.

The YOUTH Event is the National Gathering for United Methodist Youth. YOUTH 2019 will provide youth and their leaders with chances to connect with each other, denominational leaders, and connectional agencies to help them discover the wide variety of ministries of the United Methodist Church.

Our ENERGIIZE! Youth Ministry Program has a group of 14 committed to attending. The conference will be in Kansas City, Missouri. Four years ago we took a group to Youth2015 and they were greatly impacted by the experience – three teens came back and asked to be baptized! God is Good! We are excited to see how God works in this group. Please keep this group and all the young people attending in your prayers!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) Staff Highlight

Meet Justine and Cole!



Justine Alexander and Cole Harvey are choir section leaders for the Adult Choir. We are delighted to have them! Below is more about each one.

Justine is a 20-year-old junior at MSU. Her major is Vocal Performance. When she completes her undergraduate work, she hopes to go to graduate school and eventually be a professional opera singer. She is in all the operas at MSU.

Justine comes from South Lyons, MI. She has an older sister who graduated from U-M in Computer Science. Justine is the only one in the family who looks to a career in music, although the family enjoys music. Outside of music, she enjoys reading plays and actually reading in general. She also just learned to knit. Being with friends is also a way she relaxes. As to her second mouth surgery, she is doing well!

Her favorite thing about Grace is the people. From the first time she came, she felt welcomed. People were so kind.

Cole is a freshman at MSU, majoring in vocal performance as a tenor. He is still undecided if he wants to concentrate on opera (classical singing) or musical theater. He's keeping his options open. This summer he will be going to Todi, Italy for a two-week study abroad program concentrating on learning to speak and sing Italian. Growing up Cole wanted to learn to play the drums, but his mom told him "no". Eventually he took piano lessons and became interested in singing, taking part in his high school musicals.

Cole lives with his mom and dad and two younger brothers (and 2 dogs, an English setter and an Irish setter) in Highland, Michigan. Both of his parents are from Canada, and all Cole's extended family lives there. His parents came to the USA when his dad (an engineer) was hired by General Motors (He now works for Nissan).

Cole's other interests are watching Netflix, and he recently started participating in intramural soccer. When asked what he liked about being at Grace, Cole replied that this is his first experience with "church". He felt very welcomed when he first came last fall, and he said this feels like a very close-knit, family type place.



Prayer Shawl Group 2019

Please join us, Monday afternoons, 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the choir room. Knitting and crocheting...

We've made and given over 500 shawls since we began in 2008.

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion 9:30am – Worship 10:30am – Fellowship Time 11:30am – Worship 11:45am – KOM 1-4pm P.A.L.M 5:00-7:00pm – E!YMP	4 4:30 – 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:30pm - Missions	5 7:00pm – UMW Executive Meeting	6 7:00pm-Ash Wednesday Service at Mt. Hope UMC 7:00pm – AA, Y.C.	7 7:00pm Choir Practice	8	9
10 <i>Daylight Saving Time Change</i> “Make the CHANGE” Offering 9:30am – Worship 10:30am – Fellowship Time 11:30am – Worship 11:45am – KOM 5:00-7:00pm E!YMP	11 9:30 – 2:30pm Garden Club of Greater Lansing 4:30 – 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm - Trustees	12 6:00pm Education Team	13 *GN Deadline* 7:00pm – AA, Y.C. 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	14 5:45-9:00pm Boy Scouts Round Table 7:00pm Choir Practice	15	16
17 9:30am – Worship 10:30am – Fellowship Time 11:30am – Worship 11:45am – KOM 5:00-7:00pm – E!YMP	18 4:30 – 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm – SPRC 7:00pm – Ad Council	19 7:00pm – UMW Circle Meeting	20 6:00pm Praise Band Practice 7:00pm – AA, Y.C.	21*GN Mailed* 7:00pm Choir Practice	22 Boy Scouts Venturing	23 Boy Scouts Venturing
24 9:30am – Worship 10:30am – Fellowship Time 11:30am – Worship 11:45am – KOM 5:00-7:00pm – E!YMP	25 4:30 – 6:00pm Prayer Shawl	26	27 6:00pm Praise Band Practice 7:00pm – AA, Y.C.	28 7:00pm Choir Practice		

2019

grace | "REACHING
PEOPLE WITH
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JESUS CHRIST"
united methodist church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Grace Notes is a publication of Grace United Methodist Church

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Paul Hahm, Pastor

Sunday Services

9:30am (*Traditional Worship*)

11:30am (*casual atmosphere - serious faith - praise music*)

Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (*Monday, Tuesday & Thursday*)

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM (*Wednesday*)

EDITION: MARCH 2019