

♪♪ GRACE NOTES ♪♪

**November/December 2020**

## From the Pastor's Desk.....

If the Advent -Christmas season is like the rest of 2020, it will be and feel **completely different than usual**. In times like these, we can look back to our history at other times of upheaval and unrest, like the Civil War. This year, I am drawn to the famous poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow called simply "Christmas 1863." He wrote it as he was helping nurse his son's battle wounds...both grateful for his survival and wondering what the message of Christmas meant in "such a world as this." May we all experience THIS Christmas with gratitude and maybe even a deeper sense of Christmas' Message.

In Christ, Pastor Mark Ruzicka

## Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Christmas 1863

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!*

*And thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along  
The unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!*

*Till, ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day,  
A voice, a chime,  
A chant sublime  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!*

*Then from each black, accursed mouth  
The cannon thundered in the South,  
And with the sound  
The carols drowned  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!*

*It was as if an earthquake rent  
The hearth-stones of a continent,  
And made forlorn  
The households born  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!*

*And in despair I bowed my head;  
"There is no peace on earth," I said:  
"For hate is strong,  
And mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:*

*"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!*

*The Wrong shall fail,*

*The Right prevail,*

*With peace on earth, good-will to men!"*



## Activities & Fundraising Committee

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month in the social hall starting at 7pm. Please come out and join us or contact Marg for more information. We need more volunteers to help with our upcoming events! Our next meeting is scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## *Fundraisers*

We are happy to announce the profits we have made through our fundraisers to benefit our church.

**Chicken Barbeque Fundraiser** profits go toward Relay for Life, as we have a team, the Grace-ful walkers who participate in the relay each year. Profits: \$870.06

During our **Pork and Sauerkraut Fundraiser** we raised \$803.54 from meals sold, and we received additional donations of \$280.00 which brings us to a total of \$1083.54 which will go towards our organ fund.

We thank everyone for their help and donations during these two fundraisers! We also thank everyone who purchased meals to help support GUCC!

## **GRACE'S FREE CLOSET**

Grace's Free Closet is open on Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 am till 12:30 pm. We are still practicing social distancing and asking all the volunteers and shoppers to wear masks (covering nose) for everyone's health and safety. We are limiting the number of shoppers in each room and will continue temperature checks at the door. Currently we are not accepting donations, as we are full of Fall and Winter items. Everyone welcome to stop by and shop! Please 'like' our Facebook page 'Grace's Closet Greencastle' to keep updated on any changes or contact Nancy Myers.

## **Chancel Choir**

Rehearsals are back in session! We are meeting every Wednesday evening, at 7:15pm, in the sanctuary. We will be keeping social distancing during practice. Everyone welcome to join us!

# APPLE DUMPLING SALE

Grace United Church of Christ will be holding their annual Apple Dumpling Fundraiser on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$4 each. Order forms and boxes to accept orders will be placed in the front entrance of the church and by the elevator area in November. Copy of the order form can be found towards the back of this newsletter. Deadline to order is Monday, November 30 by 12 noon. You can drop off orders at the church office, call us, or place your orders in the boxes that will be provided in the vestibules. Pick up for pre-orders is Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3 to 6 pm in the social hall. Any extras or orders not picked up will be placed on sale on December 4<sup>th</sup> during Heritage Christmas on the square starting at 5:30pm until they are all sold. Payment is due at time of pick up. Cash or checks (with photo ID) will be accepted. Checks can be made payable to Grace UCC. There will be a sign-up sheet placed in the front vestibule if you are able to help us out. Proceeds benefit GUCC. Contact Marg Stouffer with any further questions at (717) 860-7935.



## First Saturday Community Lunch

Free community lunches will be served during the first Saturday of each month, from 11am till 1pm, in the social hall area. We are serving grab-n-go brown bagged style lunches till at least the end of this year. Lunches are free to all community members, families and friends. Everyone welcome to grab a lunch! Contact Lorna or Marg if you can volunteer your time to help us or donate any food items. Free offerings are accepted.

Our Thanksgiving community bagged lunch will be held on November 7th. Menu will include: turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, corn, cranberry sauce, pie and bottled water.

Our Christmas community bagged lunch will be held on December 5th. Menu will include: hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, dessert and bottled water.



## Heirloom Mirrors Fundraiser

Our long-time member, Jeff Stouffer, has been making high quality custom hardwood mirrors for over 35 years. Jeff has a long background creating custom wood projects. Jeff is donating his talent, time and materials by selling his custom heirloom mirrors to benefit GUCC. Please visit our website for more details about Jeff's talents and ordering information about these beautiful custom mirrors. You will find this information on the Groups & Activities page, under Jeff Stouffer Heirloom Mirrors. Feel free to call Jeff or the church office with any further questions, or to place your order.



## Laundry Love

Postponed till further notice

## Coffee & Refreshments

Postponed till further notice

## Single Ladies Luncheon

Postponed till further notice

## CHURCH DECORATING

Following service on Sunday, November 22, we will be decorating our church for the Christmas season. We will be practicing social distancing and wearing masks for everyone's protection. After decorating, we will gather in the social hall for a spaghetti luncheon provided by GUCC. Everyone invited to join us in the joy of decorating and fellowship!



## **Angel Tree**

Our Angel Tree helps children in the Greencastle community to have a brighter Christmas. Nancy Myers will be organizing our Angel Tree this year.

We will be placing a Christmas tree in the vestibule decorated with numbered Angel ornaments. Each numbered Angel will have a child's name, age, gender and some gift suggestions. We ask that you take an Angel and do some shopping to help a child. When you take an Angel from the tree, please write your name next to the number on the list which will be located near the tree. (This helps us keep track of the Angels.)

After shopping is done, kindly return your gift package and place it under the tree with the Angel attached to the package. You may wrap your gifts or use decorative bags.

The families will then pick up the gifts on a given date.

As soon as we hear back from the school district, we will announce the dates of this special gift giving event.

Feel free to contact Nancy with any further questions.

We thank you personally for helping the Greencastle Community by making the children happy!

## **Christmas Poinsettias**



If you wish to place a Christmas Poinsettia in dedication or in honor of a loved one, we will be accepting orders during worship service on November 8, 15 & 22. The cost is \$9.50 for a 6 1/2" potted red poinsettia (1 plant per pot). An order form can be found towards the back of this newsletter, and additional forms will be available in the vestibule and by the elevator area along with envelopes. You can drop your orders in the collection plates during the above listed services or drop them off to our church office during the week. Please make checks payable to Grace UCC. Deadline to order is November 24. The poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for dedication during our Christmas Cantata service on Dec 20 and will be kept in place for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service on Dec 24. You will be able to pick-up your poinsettias after our Christmas Eve service or call the church office to make other pick-up arrangements. Feel free to contact the church office if you have any further questions (717) 597-2983.

# Reverse Advent Calendar

Grace Snyder Circle invites you to take part in a Reverse Advent event. The idea is to set aside food items to donate to our two local food pantries. The list below provides ideas of items you can collect. Personal care items are also in need. We are suggesting that you bring one or more items each week to donate. We will be collecting donations during the Advent season, November 29th, December 6th, 13th, and 20<sup>th</sup>. Collection basket will be in the front vestibule and near the elevator for you to place your items.

Canned Vegetables

Rice

Toothbrushes

Peanut Butter

Pudding

Toothpaste

Canned Fruit

Jell-O

Soap

Pasta Sauce

Applesauce

Shampoo

Canned Tuna

Boxed Meals

Hair Brushes

Pasta

Cereal

Paper Towels



# **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

Mark your calendars for our special Christmas Cantata service being held on Sunday, December 20, at 10am, in the sanctuary. 'Come to the Manger by Joe E. Parks' will be performed by our Chancel Choir. Please invite family, friends and neighbors to enjoy this beautiful program!



# **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Candlelight Service will be held on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Please join us!  
Poinsettias can be picked up after our service. Merry Christmas to all!



## **Advent Season**

Advent Season will be upon us soon! Starting November 29<sup>th</sup> we will need volunteers to light the special advent candles and lead a small reading part. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the front vestibule if you would like to participate in these special services.



## **Daylight Savings Time**

Daylight savings time ends on November 1st. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour, so you're on time for worship service.

## **Presidential Election**

GUCC is one of the facilities that Franklin County uses for voting purposes. Presidential elections are being held on November 3. Our social hall will be open from 7am to 8pm for those who use this location to vote.

## **CHURCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS:**

We need greeters/ushers and readers for November and December. Please see the sign-up sheets on the front table in the front vestibule. Thank you.

### **Grace Snyder Circle**

Next meeting will be held on Monday, November 9, 1pm, in the meeting room. Christmas Party will be held on December 14, at 1pm, in the social hall.



## **Church Weeding Volunteers**

We thank all the volunteers who signed-up to help with the weeding of the front flower beds during our summer months! Your help was greatly appreciated. Everyone did a great job keeping the flower beds beautiful! Thank you Sydnae Vanner, Carolyn Shoemaker, Jack Shoemaker, Lorna Thomas, Gladys Doyle, Ed Doyle, Larry Stepler, Chet

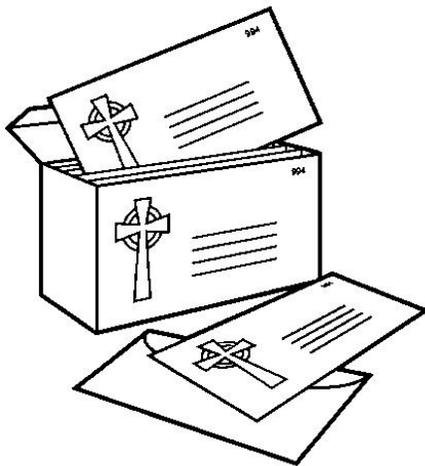
**Nye, Mildred Minnich, Jeff Stouffer, and Jim Thomas and anyone else who gave us a helping hand!**

## *Congregational Group Email*

Don't miss any church news or updates! Contact the church office if you are not currently on our email list so we can add you today! If you don't use email, that's okay, we will still get in touch with you by phone or snail mail.

## **2021 Boxed Offering Envelopes**

Look for your new 2021 offering envelopes toward the end of December. They will be placed on the table in the front of the vestibule when available. They will be labeled with your name and address on the outside of the box. Please verify that everything is spelled correctly on the label. Contact church office if any corrections are needed.



## **Thank-You Notes:**

Mildred Minnich thanks everyone for all their thoughts and prayers during her surgery. It was really appreciated and helped her feel better! Thank you! (Thank-you card is pinned to the bulletin board by church office.)

We thank Marg Stouffer for all her help organizing our fundraisers and church events.

We thank Kate Kennedy for all her help designing our flyers to help advertise our fundraisers and upkeeping our website.

We thank Debi Pirtle for taking the time to post the flyers around town.

We thank all our volunteers who helped us during each of our fundraisers and everyone on our activities committee!

We appreciate all your help and couldn't have done it without you!



## **Newsletter Distributions**

You can view and download the newsletters any time from our website. A few extra copies will be available on the table in the front vestibule and by the elevator area, or call the church office if you want to stop by and pick up a copy.

## **Facebook**



If you have access to Facebook, please 'like' our page, Grace United Church of Christ, it will help keep you updated on events and changes. If you are out of town, or want to watch our worship service from the comfort of your home, please gather on our Facebook page at 10am on Sunday mornings for a live stream of our service. This is a great way to stay connected with everyone!

## **GUCC Website**



Look us up on the web! Check out the history of our M.P. Moller Organ, which can be found under the tab 'Our Rich History'!

Our weekly worship programs along with our newsletters can be downloaded from our website at anytime!

You can also make donations through our website. Just click on any DONATE button, use drop down box to choose where you would like your donation to be used. You will need your credit card. Once you submit any contributions, you will receive an email receipt for your tax purposes. Any questions with this new donate button, please contact Kate Kennedy or Elaine in the church office.

You can find us at: <https://www.graceuccgreencastle.com>



## Upcoming events in 2021:

January (date TBA)

Annual Congregational Meeting  
following worship service

February (date TBA)

Annual Cherry Pie Sale



# GRACE UCC

## Apple Dumpling Orders

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How many:    **Baked** \_\_\_\_\_  
                  **Baked, Sugar-Free** \_\_\_\_\_  
                  **Unbaked** \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is **\$4.00 per dumpling.**

Payment of cash or check (with photo ID) is due at time of pick-up.  
Checks can be made payable to Grace UCC.

**Cut-off date** for pre-orders is **Monday, November 30 2020 at 12 noon.**

**Pick-up for ALL pre-orders is Thursday, December 3, between 3 & 6 pm** in the Social Hall at Grace United Church of Christ, 128 E. Baltimore St., Greencastle. Extras will be sold during Heritage Christmas on December 4, in the square of Greencastle, starting at 5:30 pm until sold out.

*Any Questions?*

Contact the church office at (717) 597-2983 or Marg Stouffer at (717) 860-7935.

## 2020 Poinsettia Order Form



Anyone wishing to place a Poinsettia in dedication to a loved one needs to fill out this form. Place orders in offering plate (with envelope provided) during service on November 8, 15, 22 or return to church office by Nov 24. Please **PRINT**. Payment is due with your order.

**6 ½" Red Poinsettia      Cost: \$9.50 each**  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias

Name of Family Dedication is from:

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Contact Phone Number:

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In Memory Of

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In Honor Of

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**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

Checks can be made payable to Grace UCC

**Consistory Minutes of Meeting**

## **August 16, 2020**

**Roll Call:** Margaret Stouffer, Jeff Stouffer, Steve Miller, Mark Stahl, Carolyn Shoemaker, Mark Ruzicka, Larry Stepler, Lu Miller

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by President Margaret Stouffer.

**Devotions:** Prayer was given by Pastor Mark Ruzicka.

Motion by C. Shoemaker/M Stahl to add two items to the agenda. Passed unanimously.

**Work of the Church:** Reopening of the church remains the same with the guidelines established at the last meeting. Thermometers were purchased for Grace's Closet.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to accept/approve the consent agenda by M. Stouffer/ J. Stouffer passed unanimously.

**Information Agenda:** Information from Conference, Nora Foust – the interview with Pastor Brenda has happened. A report will be generated to be reviewed by Brenda, then submitted to the ministry.

**Building and Grounds:** Atlantic Security has repaired the faulty panel. Parsonage update – John Lehman is scheduled to start repairs to the parsonage in approximately 2 weeks. He also looked at the ceiling outside sanctuary. It was recommended drywall be hung, painted and trim. Cost of \$3075. A second estimate will be obtained.

**Church Picnic:** To be held Sept. 20 at Citizens pavilion. Chicken will be provided and those planning on attending are to bring their own bagged sides and drinks. There will be no activities this year, but bring lawn chairs for after the meal.

Penn Central Conference Annual Meeting is August 29. Pastor Mark and Margaret Stouffer will attend virtually. If anyone else is interested in attending, please contact Margaret.

Called to Care Training and Consistory Handbook: Tabled.

**Action Agenda:**

Building and Grounds: A computer will eventually need to be purchased to stream services. Currently we are using personal laptop of Steve Miller.

Finance Committee – Richard Holzapfel, CFP from Morgan Stanley, Hagerstown spoke to the group explaining the investments Grace Church has currently.

PPP Loan does not need to be applied for at this time.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by J. Stouffer/ C. Shoemaker at 9:30 with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting September 27 at 8:30. This is a week later due to the church picnic being on September 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Lu Miller

## Consistory Minutes of Meeting

September 27, 2020

**Roll Call:** Margaret Stouffer, Steve Miller, Jeff Stouffer, Carolyn Shoemaker, Mark Stahl, Sydnae Vanner, Larry Stepler, Mark Ruzicka, Lu Miller

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am by President Margaret Stouffer.

**Devotions:** Prayer was given by Pastor Mark Ruzicka.

**Work of the Church:** Reopening of the church guidelines remains the same.

Motion by M. Stouffer/C. Shoemaker to add the Parsonage Rental to the Information Agenda passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to accept the items in the consent agenda by J. Stouffer/S. Vanner passed unanimously.

### **Information Agenda:**

1. Margaret and Sydnae met with the conference committee regarding interview with Pastor Brenda. They were asked to clarify some questions the members had. The committee also informed Margaret and Sydnae that they could be relied upon for input and guidance moving forward. Nora Foust was unavailable for an additional update.
2. PPP Loan has undergone another cycle of changes. Applications are not being accepted yet. BB&T bank will let Larry know when to apply.
3. The insurance company offered to do a review of our policy.

4. Choir – The consistory has no objection to the choir starting practices and performances following social distancing policies.
5. Outreach programs that include food will continue as a “grab and go”. Congregational gatherings in the Social Hall involving the Christmas decorating luncheon on November 22 will still be held with proper social distancing and wearing of masks when up and walking around.
6. Margaret and Sydnae will resume reviewing of consistory booklets, rental and wedding policies.
7. Steve will follow up on the license for live streaming.
8. A laptop has been purchased and fully funded through donations for streaming the services and is being put to use currently.
9. Tabled for later: Called to Care training.
10. It was asked to consider having the church picnic for next year earlier in the year. This was tabled for a later meeting.
11. Parsonage sale/rental - There is a person interested in buying the parsonage. There is also a person interested in doing a “Rent to Own” option. Once the repairs are finished, the consistory will need to decide to either sell the parsonage or rent it or the “Rent to Own” option.

### **Action Agenda:**

1. Repair to the floors is to start on Monday, September 28.
2. Bills for Mt. Tabor Construction for repair to the walls totaled \$6531.20. The engineer’s report that needed to be completed before repair could start totaled \$3826.50. Jeff will be contacting Mt. Tabor regarding the engineer’s report which seemed high and ask for an itemized statement to better understand the cost. It was

decided this would need to be put to the congregation for transparency.

3. Repair of ceiling outside the Sanctuary – We received 2 quotes. A verbal quote from John Lehman (Mt. Tabor Construction) at \$3075. This involves putting drywall over the current tiles. The other quote from Artisan Drywall came in at \$11,690. This quote included removing the existing tiles, putting up new drywall ceiling, and painting. Artisan was asked for a quote for putting drywall over the existing tiles, however this would void any warranty. Mt. Tabor will be asked to have their drywall person look at the ceiling and give another quote with removing the tiles. Mark and Steve will follow up on these items.
4. The roof above the ceiling to be repaired was discussed. When the roof was repaired earlier this year, we were told it will eventually need to be replaced. Should the roof be repaired before the repair to the ceiling to prevent any more leaks? Steve and Mark will also follow up on this question.
5. The double car garage is available for rent, however, there is an interested party looking at it.
6. Pastor Mark wanted to make consistory aware that his call agreement will be up for renewal in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lu Miller

<p><b>Grace United Church of Christ</b>  <b>Statement of Financial Income and Expenses</b>  <b>3rd Quarter Ending: September 2020</b></p>
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*General Operating Account:*

Beginning Balance	\$2,943.39
Income	\$42,483.06
Expense	\$44,275.33
Ending Balance	\$1,151.12

*Building/Outreach/Fundraising/Grants Account:*

Beginning Balance	\$22,997.04
Income	\$2,270.16
Expense	\$8,789.83
Ending Balance	\$16,477.37

*Organ Fund Account:*

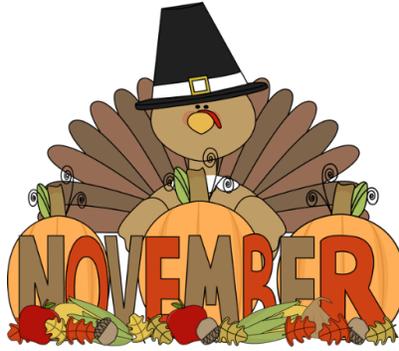
Beginning Balance	\$3,739.84
Income	\$250.09
Expense	\$250.00
Ending Balance	\$3,739.93

*German Reformed Cemetery Fund*

Beginning Balance	\$1,300.00
Income	\$0.00
Expense	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$1,300.00

\* Please contact Church office if you would like a detailed report of the income and expense statement. Thank you.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- 1** 10am Worship with Communion  
Communion Servers: TBA  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Josh 3:7-17 and Ps 107:1-7, 33-37,  
1 Thess 2:9-13, Matt 23:1-12  
Daylight Saving Time ends, be sure to adjust your  
clocks  
Now accepting Apple Dumpling pre-orders. Place  
orders in boxes by entrance tables or drop off at  
church office.
- 2** Activities/Fundraising Committee, 7pm, social hall  
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Consistory reports for October are due to church office
- 3** Presidential Elections in social hall, 7am-8pm
- 4** Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary  
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 7** First Saturday Thanksgiving Community Meal,  
11-1pm, social hall area, grab-n-go meals will be  
provided

- 8** 10am Worship Service, in the Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25 & Ps 78:1-7,  
1 Thess 4:13-18, Matt 25:1-13  
Poinsettia Orders are being accepted during service,  
please place orders in collection plate
- 9** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Grace Snyder Circle, 1pm, meeting room  
Consistory agenda packets will be sent to board  
members via email this week
- 11** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 15** 8:30am Consistory Board Meeting, in social hall  
10am Worship Service  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Judg 4:1-7 & Ps 123, 1 Thess 5:1-11,  
Matt 25:14-30  
Poinsettia Orders are being accepted during service,  
please place orders in collection plate
- 16** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 18** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary

- 22** 10am Worship Service, in the Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24 & Ps 100,  
Eph 1:15-23, Matt 25:31-46  
Poinsettia Orders are being accepted during service,  
please place orders in collection plate  
Following service we are decorating church and will  
provide lunch for all the volunteers
- 23** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 24** Deadline to submit Poinsettia Orders to church office  
by 12 noon.
- 25** Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary  
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Church office may close early for the holiday, so  
please call ahead if you plan on stopping here.
- 26 Thanksgiving Day – church office closed**
- 29** 10am Worship Service  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Isa 64:1-9, I Cor 1:3-9, Mk 13:24-37
- 30** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Deadline for Apple Dumpling pre-orders at 12 noon



- 2** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 3** Apple Dumpling Sale, pre-orders can be picked up  
in social hall, 3 to 6 pm
- 4** Apple Dumplings will be for sale during Heritage  
Christmas in the square, starting at 5:30 till 8:30pm  
or sold out.
- 5** First Saturday Christmas Community Meal, 11-1pm,  
social hall area, grab-n-go meals will be provided
- 6** 10am Worship with Communion  
Communion Servers: TBA  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Isa 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mk 1:1-8
- 7** Activities/Fundraising Committee, 7pm, social hall  
Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Consistory reports for November due to church office

- 9** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 13** 10am Worship Service, in the Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Isa 61:1-4, 8-11, 1 Thess 5:16-24,  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
- 14** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Grace Snyder Christmas Party, 1pm, in social hall  
Consistory agenda packets will be sent to board members via email this week
- 15** Deadline to submit articles for Jan/Feb newsletter
- 16** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 20** 8:30am Consistory Board Meeting (will announce if meeting date is changed due to holidays)  
10am Special Christmas Cantata Service  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: 2 Sam 7:1-11 & 16, Rom 16:25-27,  
Luke 1:26-38  
Poinsettias displayed in the sanctuary are dedicated to our loved ones, they will be on display till Dec 24, and can be pick-up following our 7pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service  
Receiving Christmas Fund UCC offerings during service

- 21** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 23** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 24** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7pm  
Poinsettias on display are dedicated to our loved ones,  
please pick them up after worship  
Church office is closing early for the holiday
- 25 **Enjoy Christmas Day with your family & friends!****  
Church office closed
- 27** 10am Worship Service, in the Sanctuary  
Greeters/Ushers: TBA  
Reader: TBA  
Scriptures: Isa 61:10-62:3, Gal 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40
- 28** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm
- 30** Grace's Free Closet open 9:30am-12:30pm  
Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:15pm, Sanctuary
- 31 **New Year's Eve****  
Church office is closing early for the holiday

