



Grace United Church of Christ
128 E. Baltimore Street
P.O. Box 448
Greencastle, PA 17225

♪ ♪ GRACE NOTES ♪ ♪

May/June 2025 Issue

Sunday Worship Service:

9:30am in the Sanctuary

(Or join us on YouTube or Facebook to watch live-streaming)

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

9am – 12noon

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

8am to 2pm

(Closed on Memorial Day)

Grace's Free Closet Hours

Monday & Wednesday

9:30am to 12:30pm

(Closed on Memorial Day)

Office Phone: 717-597-2983

Email: gucc128@outlook.com

Website: www.graceuccgreencastle.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/>

YouTube Channel: Greencastle Grace UCC

From the Pastor's Desk.....

May is going to be a special month in the Ruzicka household because my son Jacob is graduating from Chambersburg High School at the end of the month. He plans on going to Messiah University to study psychology in the fall. His goal is to become a counselor.

In June, most of the extended family will be going on vacation for about 3 weeks. Therefore, I will be off from church work from June 12th through 30th. While I am gone, these are the people who are substituting for me on Sunday mornings:

June 15: **the Rev. Douglas Wagner** (friend of the congregation and current chaplain at Homewood Homes in Williamsport, MD.)

June 22: **Pastor Kevin Elsworth** (a former pastor at Grand Point Church in Chambersburg who now works in leadership development and with a Non-Profit Organization called Sparrow Village Initiatives).

June 29: **Jim Roberts**, a long-time leader in the local "Night to Shine" events. "Night to Shine" is a prom-style event for our friends with special needs.

Should a pastoral emergency arise, please contact the following people:

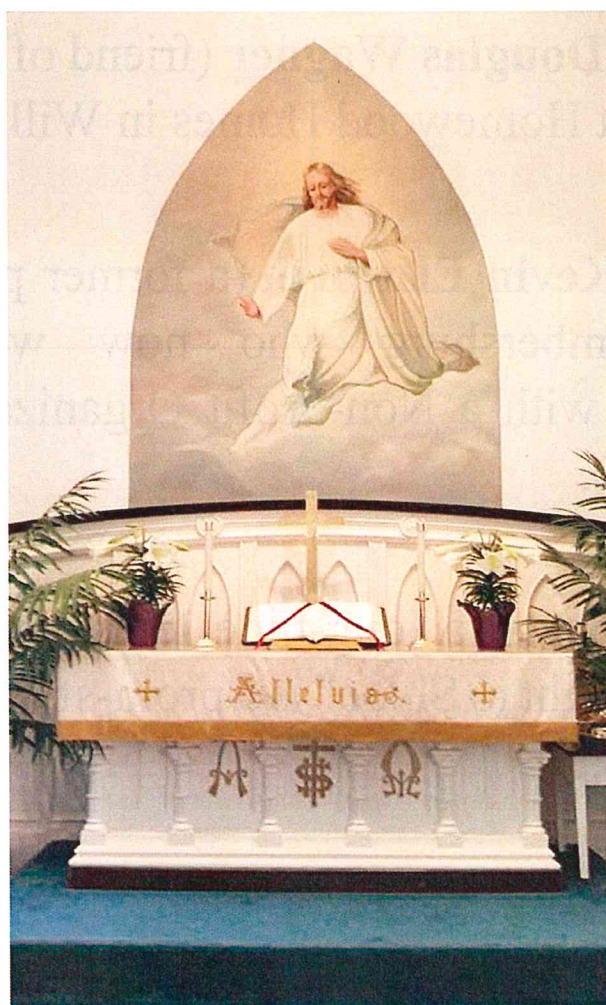
For June 12 - June 19: the Rev. Irene Pouliot, Pastor of Trinity UCC in State Line (call her cell 240-707-1290)

For June 20-28: the Rev. Caroline Saxton, Pastor of St John's UCC in Chambersburg (call the St John's office at 717-263-8593)

For June 29-30: I'm traveling home or will be home, so just call my cell.

I hope you all have a great beginning of summer!

Pastor Mark



Activities & Fundraising Committee

This committee helps plan our fundraisers and other ministries of our church. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for the summer months. Our Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale is our next big fundraiser which will be held in July. We will need additional volunteers to help us with this event. If you would like more information about volunteering with us, please contact Chet or Marg.

Monthly Refreshments & Fellowship

On the second Sunday of each month we have volunteers who provide and serve refreshments in the social hall following service. This is a wonderful time for everyone to enjoy good conversations and fellowship. If you would like to volunteer to provide refreshments, please see the sign-up sheet on the welcome table in the front vestibule or contact Carolyn Shoemaker for further information.

GRACE'S FREE CLOSET

The Closet offers free clothing to the community, ranging from infants to adults. They also offer other free items such as home decor, dishes, glassware, utensils, books, sheets, baby toys, books, plus lots more. They are open twice a week, Monday and Wednesday, from 9:30am till 12:20pm. (They will be closed on Memorial Day.) Nancy and our volunteers keep the Closet running smooth. They accept donations during their open hours. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Myers.

Called to Care Committee

This committee helps with the pastoral care of our members.

They have been trained in caregiving and visitations to help meet the needs of our church family. Quarterly meetings are held.

If you would like additional information about joining this committee to help with the needs of GUCC, contact Pastor Mark or Sydnae Vanner.

NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY:

Join us on Sunday, May 11th, for our worship service as we welcome new members into our church family.

CHURCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

The sign-up sheets for May and June have been placed on the welcome table in the front vestibule. Please check your calendars and sign-up. We have open spots for greeters/ushers, readers and communion servers. We thank all our Sunday volunteers and encourage anyone new to join us! Contact the church office or any board member for further information about volunteering.

Worship & Spiritual Life Committee

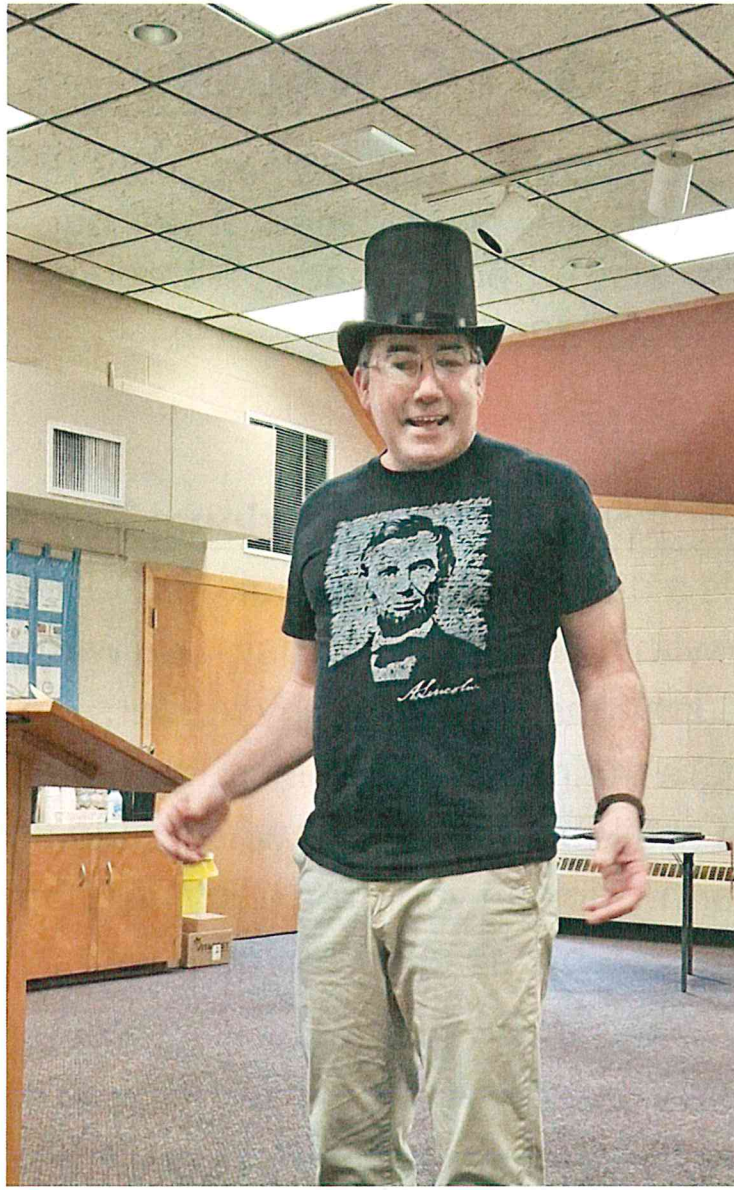
This committee works with and supports the pastor to provide meaningful worship, social events, and meet the needs of the congregation. Meetings are held bi-monthly or as needed.

If you would like further information about this committee, please contact Pastor Mark or Marg Stouffer.

Social Seniors Group

Our next **Social Seniors** gathering will be held at Trinity, in Waynesboro on Wednesday, May 14th from 2-4 PM in Harbaugh Hall. Our speaker will be Linette Mansberger, who will entertain us with information and stories about birds. She is a member of the well-known Audubon Society and is knowledgeable about species and habits of birds all over the world. Her talk and slides with us will focus on birds well known to us locally. In addition, we will have a "Bird Table" to display any statues, pictures or other bird memorabilia that you would like to bring for us to enjoy. There will be light refreshments and drinks after the program. We invite all seniors from GUCC to join us!

"Abraham Lincoln" was at Social Seniors in April!



GUCC Website

Church updates, scholarship applications, newsletters and weekly worship programs can be downloaded from our website anytime! Donations can also be made through our website.
<https://www.graceuccgreencastle.com>

Upper Room Daily Devotional Brochures

The Upper Room is a daily devotional booklet published 6 times a year.

They guide you with daily prayers to help you with your devotional practice. The meditations are written by readers of the magazine and others who share their faith experiences through writing. These brochures are available for anyone who would like to get more connected in faith. Pick up your free copy after Sunday's worship service or stop by the church office during the week.

Scholarships:



The scholarship committee is currently reviewing all submitted applications. Recipients will be announced on **Educational Sunday, June 8th**. Join us for refreshments and fellowship in the social hall after service. It will provide you with an excellent opportunity to meet the recipients and their families. Any questions, please see Lorna Thomas.

Grace Snyder Circle

Meetings are not held during the summer months.

Family In Christ Banquet

Grace Snider Circle is hosting the Family in Christ banquet. It is being held on Tuesday, May 13th, in our social hall. Long's Catering will provide the food. The menu includes pit beef, chicken cordon bleu, mashed potatoes & gravy, glazed carrots, tossed salad, fruit salad and desserts. Entertainment will be provided. Doors open at 5pm, with dinner being served at 6:30pm. Contact Nancy Myers by May 4th if you plan on attending. Adults: \$25, Children 6-12: \$12, Children 5 and under: free.



1st Saturday Free Community Meals

Free meals are held on the first Saturday of each month, with the exception of the summer months (no meals in July or August).

Meals are served from 11am to 1pm, in our social hall.

Contact Chet or Lorna if you would like to volunteer with us!

1st Saturday **FREE** **COMMUNITY LUNCH**

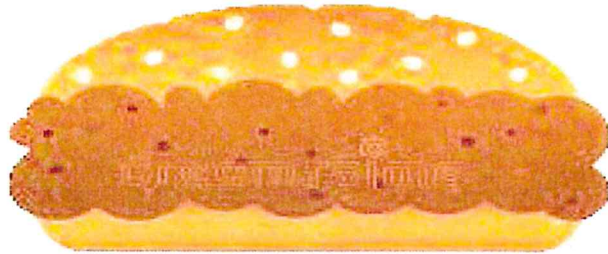
May 3rd

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

MENU:

Sloppy Joe on roll, Tater Tots,
Apple Sauce & Bottled Water
(Limited Quantities)

Grace United Church of Christ
128E Baltimore St., Greencastle, PA 17225
717-597-2983 www.graceuccgreencastle.com



ALL WELCOME! DONATIONS ACCEPTED. EAT IN OR TAKE-OUT!

Menu for June 7th:

Choice of ham or turkey hoagie, chips, pie & bottled water

Everyone Welcomed * Donations Appreciated * Limited Quantities

Men's Breakfast & Fellowship

The men of Grace UCC are invited to join the men from the Church of the Apostles at their monthly breakfast. They meet the First Saturday each month at 9am at the Velvet Café in Waynesboro.

All men are welcomed to join them! Bring a friend!

Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings, at 7:15pm, in the sanctuary through the end of May. We thank our choir for sharing their musical talents with us this past season. No rehearsals or choir anthems will be held during the summer months. If you have any questions, or would like to join the choir, please contact Patty Stepler!



Fundraiser Profits

We are pleased to announce the profits of our spring Ham Sandwich & Soup Sale. We successfully sold 450 sandwiches and numerous containers of soup. The profits of \$3151 generated from this fundraiser benefited our church ministries. We extend our gratitude to Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe for donating the potato rolls and matching that donation. Our sincere thank you also goes out to our members who contributed soup ingredients and volunteered their time. We appreciate everyone's support and contributions toward this fundraiser. Additionally, we express our thanks to all who purchased meals in support of GUCC!

Consistory Board Meeting

Next board meeting is scheduled for June 22nd, at 8am, in the small meeting room. No board meeting are scheduled during the summer months of July or August. Impromptu meetings will be called if any issues arise. Board members are always available for any questions or concerns. Enjoy the summer!

Lunch Bunch

Lunch fellowships are scheduled on the last Tuesday of each month at various local restaurants. The group meets at the restaurant at 11:30am. The restaurants are chosen by the group. Everyone is invited to join them for great food and fellowship. If you would like further information, please contact Glenda Stenger or Joanne Snider.

Facebook & Live Streaming



If you have access to Facebook, please 'like' our page, Grace United Church of Christ, it will help keep you updated on events and stay connected with the church. 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 9:30am on Sunday mornings for a live stream of our service. You can also watch us on our YouTube Channel. This is a great way to stay connected with everyone!

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreencastle/>

YouTube Channel: Greencastle Grace UCC

Hello!

Mom and Dad would like to thank everyone for the cards and visits. They enjoy living at Heritage. They call their room their “house.” They love playing bingo, putting puzzles together and participating in the entertainment that comes there. One time they had a pig visit that loved to be cuddled and could also do tricks!

They really enjoy Sundays that have a variety of church related activities. They especially liked when Pastor Mark held a service there.

Sincerely, Mark and Kate



Penn Central Conference UCC

We appreciated your donation of \$20 for One Great Hour of Sharing, which was received in March. It has been sent to PUCC.

Their next mission we help support is Strengthen The Church Offering.

This offering helps support the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. We will receive these offerings on June 8th.



Municipal

Primary

Elections

GUCC is a voting facility in Franklin County. The 2025 Municipal primary elections will be on Tuesday, May 20th, from 7am to 8pm at our social hall.

Newsletter Deadline

Submit your announcements, joys, news, articles, or photos to share with the church family by June 12th for the July/August issue of Grace Notes. You are welcome to drop off articles at the church office or submit through our email of gucc128@outlook.com Thank you.

Member Birthday's

May

5/13 – Tom Stine

5/17 – Betsy Green

5/18 – Roy Thomas

5/23 – Joann Snider

June

6/12 – Ron Myers

6/13 – Stacy Schweitzer

6/17 – Kate Kennedy

6/17 - Barry Shoemaker

6/18 – Lorna Thomas

6/19 – Kermit Hicks

6/21 – Deb Homer

6/21 - Rashaw Alston

6/22 – Ben Thomas

6/26 – Joseph Koons





MEETING MINUTES

CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Meeting called to order at 8:02 a.m. by President Lorna Thomas.

ROLL CALL: Lorna Thomas, Ron Shafer, Deb Homer, Mark Stahl, Steve Miller, Lu Miller, Tim Bryan, and Pastor Mark. Larry Stepler, Treasurer, and Barry Shoemaker were absent.

DEVOTIONS: Pastor Mark read from the book of Luke the Sermon on the Plains and had a prayer.

CHURCH WORK:

1. Pastor Mark is working on a pastor rotation for pastors to do services at Heritage Hills Retirement Home in Antrim Township, they currently do not have any services there.
2. We are having a joint Maundy Thursday Service with the Presbyterian Church in Greencastle.
The service will be held in our church, with a joint choir singing.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. The January minutes were approved with a correction that Tim Bryan was in attendance on a Tim/Lorna motion.
2. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a Lu/Ron motion.

INFORMATION AGENDA UPDATES:

Activities/Fundraising – 1st Saturday meal is going well, menus for March and April are planned

Building and Grounds:

1. The Shop next door doesn't want the edges of blacktop painted yellow.
2. Elevator pressure inspection must be witnessed.
The bill for the inspection was \$690.00.
3. Insurance is going up this year, and there were some questions about if the umbrella policy was needed and all said yes on a Tim/Lorna motion.

Worship & Spiritual Committee:

1. There is a delay with the start date of the organ refurbishment. It is now postponed till April or May, the job they are working on now is taking longer than they expected.

Additional Topics for Discussion:

1. Looking for more help for Grace's Closet.
2. Think about ways to connect with more people.
3. Is there money left over from Laundry Love that we could use to connect with people?
4. Money from Grace Snyder Circle and Grace's Closet is going to be used to have the Ladies Rest Room painted in memory of Jean Rice.
5. We are still talking about striping the Social Hall floor and getting it waxed.
6. Financial Reports were distributed, and no one received any questions about it.

Adjourned meeting with Lord's Prayer at 8:50.

Next meeting - March 16, 2025.

Respectively Submitted: Deborah Homer, Secretary

Grace United Church of Christ
1st Quarterly Statement
Financial Income and Expense Report
October - December 2024

General Operating Account:

Beginning Balance	\$4,092.13
Income	\$28,191.64
Expense	\$30,857.18
Ending Balance	\$1,426.59

Building & Grounds Maintenance Account:

Beginning Balance	\$23,321.75
Income	\$3,063.73
Expense	\$2,815.63
Ending Balance	\$23,569.85

Organ/Memorial/Trust Account:

Beginning Balance	\$10,985.70
Income	\$27,980.81
Expense	\$19,575.00
Ending Balance	\$19,391.51

Special Account (Outreach/Other Non-Operating Funds)

Beginning Balance	\$26,951.25
Income	\$6,075.00
Expense	\$12,078.93
Ending Balance	\$20,947.32

* Please contact the Church office if you would like a detailed report of our income/expenses statement. Thank you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Please contact committee members, board members or church office for any questions or updates about any items listed below.)



- 3** Men's Breakfast/Fellowship at Velvet Café in Waynesboro at 9am
First Saturday Free Meal, 11-1pm, in the social hall
- 4** Worship & Spiritual Life Committee Meeting, 8:30am, meeting room
Sunday Worship with communion, 9:30am
- 5** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 6** Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
Activities & Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7pm, meeting room
- 7** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm, in the sanctuary
- 8** Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
- 11 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**
New Members Sunday, 9:30am
Refreshments & Fellowship in social hall following worship
- 12** Consistory Reports for April need submitted to church office
- 13** Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
Family In Christ Banquet, in social hall, doors open at 5pm, meal served at 6:30pm
- 14** Social Senior Gathering, 2-4pm, at Trinity UCC in Waynesboro
Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm, in sanctuary
- 15** Pastor's Office Hours, 9am-12noon
- 18** Consistory Board Meeting, 8am, in the small meeting room
Sunday Worship Service, 9:30am

- 19** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 20** Primary Elections in social hall, 7am-8pm
Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
- 21** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm, in sanctuary
- 22** Pastor's Office Hours, 10am-12noon
- 25** Sunday Worship Service, 9:30am
- 26 Memorial Day**
Grace's Free Closet and church offices closed
- 27** Pastor's Office Hours, 9am-11am
Lunch Bunch, meeting at 11:30am, location TBA
- 28** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm, in the sanctuary
- 29** Pastor's Office Hours, 9am-12noon



- 1** Sunday Worship with Communion, 9:30am
- 2** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 3** Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
Activities & Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7pm, meeting room
- 4** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 5** Pastor's Office Hours, 9am-12noon
- 7** Men's Breakfast/Fellowship at Velvet Café in Waynesboro at 9am
First Saturday Free Meal, 11-1pm, in the social hall
- 8 Educational Sunday**
Worship Service, 9:30am
Strengthen the Church Offering being received during service
Refreshments & Fellowship in social hall following service

- 9** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 10** Pastor's Office Hours, 9am-12noon
- 11** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Social Seniors Gathering, 2-4pm, location and topic TBA
- 12** Pastor's Office Hours 9am-12noon
Deadline to submit article to office for newsletter (Grace Notes)
- 15** **Happy Father's Day**
Sunday Worship Service with guest Pastor, 9:30am
- 16** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
Consistory Reports for May are due to church office today
- 18** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 22** Consistory Board Meeting, 8am, in the small meeting room
Sunday Worship Service with guest Pastor, 9:30am
- 23** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 24** Lunch Bunch, 11:30am, location TBA
- 25** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm
- 29** Sunday Worship Service with guest Pastor, 9:30am
- 30** Grace's Free Closet, 9:30am-12:30pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

July:

Called to Care Committee Meeting
Annual Hidden Treasures Yard Sale

August:

Old Home Week in Greencastle

SEPTEMBER

Bible Study

Ham Sandwich & Soup Sale

Church Picnic

