



## August Meetings and Gatherings

**Baptism Sunday:** August 25

**Bible Study:** August 8 and 22 (2nd & 4th Thursdays), 6:00—7:30 PM

**Children's Church:** Each Sunday following the Children's Message

**Choir Rehearsal:** Mondays, 5:15 PM

**Church Office Closed:** August 23 and 26

**Hands of Hope Crafters:** Mondays at 6:30 PM

**Korean Sunday School Class:** Sundays at 9:30 AM

**MaTT Club Kick-Off:** August 25, 4:00 PM, Pool Party at Kenny & Phyllis Fisher's home

**Praise & Prayer Small Group:** Sundays at 9:30 AM

**Staff Meeting:** Tuesday, August 6 and 20, 9:00 AM

**United Methodist Men:** Saturday, August 10, 7:30 AM breakfast meeting, Murphysboro UMC fellowship hall

**Young at Heart:** Tuesday, August 13, 10:15 AM leave MUMC parking lot for Grecian Seafood and Steakhouse in Pinckneyville

**Victory Dream Center Youth:** August 28, Wednesday, 5:30 PM

**Women's Bible Study:** will resume September 4 at 9:30 AM

**Worship:** every Sunday at 10:30 AM

### Grace Mission Statement

*"Love God, love people, make disciples of Jesus Christ."*



## Grace Notes

News from Grace United Methodist Church  
Carbondale, Illinois 618-457-8785  
Web site: [www.carbondalegrace.org](http://www.carbondalegrace.org)

Veronica McMichael: Pastor of Christian Education & Discipleship  
Michelle Parker-Clark: Pastor of Congregational Care  
Marty McMichael: Sr. Pastor

## PROMISES AND BAPTISMS

We are in the sermon series "The Promises of God". If we were to choose one word, phrase, or idea concerning our God it would respectively be: 'promise', 'standing on the promises of God', and 'His promises are sure'... The promises of God permeate our faith formation, it is the axis upon which the manifestation of the Messiah rotates. Although an axis may be an imaginary point, God's promises and the manifested Messiah are real. God has kept all his promises. Subsequently, as Christian, our job is to bare witness to those promises yet to be revealed.

*<sup>4</sup>And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: <sup>5</sup>Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; <sup>6</sup>Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; ... (2 Corinthians 3:4-6a)*

I am intrigued by the promises of God. How He has intricately woven promise after promise into a tapestry of a coming Savoir, empowering us toward sanctification, and giving us hope for a good end. Know this church, we are indeed children of the promise. Furthermore, we are obliged to respond to these love enriched promises of God with fervent expectation and joyous anticipation. He has given us hope that will preserve us in this life and sustain us in the one to come.

*<sup>11</sup>For I know what I have planned for you,' says the LORD. 'I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)*

Continued on page 2

## Promises and Baptisms continued from page 1

Our response is a sharing of that hope which is borne of the promise. Our response is the sharing of God's word in letter and spirit with the stranger, our faith community, and family. The response to the promise is the gift and empowerment given us by God to extend His personified love to one another and the world. This gift and promise of empowerment is our 'Great Commission'. A commission that invites this congregation into the performance of holy rites; the signs and acts of Baptism!

<sup>18</sup> *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.* <sup>19</sup> *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:* <sup>20</sup> *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)*

I ask that you begin to pray and fast as our congregation prepares to baptize those that the Holy Spirit will draw unto Himself. Prepare in fasting, prayer, meditation, reading of the Word, and Holy Communion. Baptism comes with a promise of the acts of the Holy Spirit. This is first and foremost the work of that holy rite. But it also comes with our promise to nurture, care, and correct those called to that water. It is a sacrament to us, a great expression of God's love!

<sup>5</sup> *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. (Romans 5:5)*

So, rejoice and thank God for the blessings that will be birthed through the water. May the God of peace be your refuge, joy, and strength. Amen.

Sincerely yours,

*Marty McMichael*

Marty McMichael  
Sr. Pastor

## August Birthdays

8/5 Thyra Russell  
8/6 Marilyn Black  
8/6 Meungguk Park  
8/8 Justin Lasko  
8/16 Linda Egner  
8/17 Kingston Shade  
8/18 Malina Wyatt  
8/19 Eric Morti  
8/20 Shirley Richer  
8/20 Griffin Vale  
8/23 Debbie Ditch  
8/23 Kaden Langin  
8/26 Rick Steudel  
8/29 Kay Eckiss  
8/29 Rev. Brian Manigold  
8/29 Jaci McDole  
8/29 Seungjoo Moon  
8/31 Jill Blessing  
8/31 Rev. Bob



## Early September Birthdays

9/5 Donna Biggs  
9/5 David Hake  
9/7 Brenda Davis



8/2 Larry & Barb Dunlap-Berg  
8/16 Gary & Holly Chamness  
8/25 Eric & Nina Morti  
8/25 Herb & Thyra Russell (56 years)  
8/26 Rick & Debbie Ditch (52 years)  
8/30 Rick & Connie Steudel (55 years)

**Join Us for  
In-Person Worship or  
Online**

**Worship on Sundays 10:30AM**

To watch the recorded service through  
Facebook video visit our website at  
<https://www.facebook.com/CarbondaleGraceUMC>.





Congratulations to Jamal and Nika Kinchen who welcomed Adelaide Isla Kinchen into this world on July 4 at 9:52 pm. Their daughter was 21.5 inches long and weighed 8 pounds six ounces. Jamal served as pianist and choir accompanist at Grace from August 25, 2019 to February 19, 2023. God bless Jamal, Nika, and their little miracle.

**Announcement**

**United Methodist Men**  
Saturday, August 10, 2024  
7:30 AM Breakfast Meeting  
Murphysboro UMC



We extend prayers and sympathy to Lee Ann Grief and Zach Ballard in the sudden death of their brother Eric Brannock.



**Comments from Bike the US for MS  
regarding their July 4-6 stay at GUMC.**

Thank you Grace UMC! Fantastic place to rest!  
A nice home away from home!

Thank you for sheltering and showering the team for 2 days and helping us help others. Thank you for the hospitality!

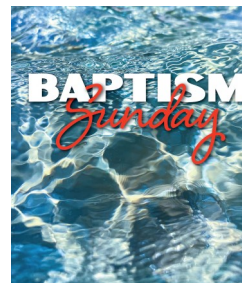
Thanks for hosting us. Thank you so much!

Thank you for your amazing hospitality! Mt. 25:34-40

Thank you to everyone who dropped off canned goods for the church's food donation bin. We are in much better shape now to help people with emergency food needs.



**Food Donations**

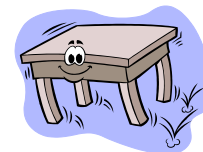


**Baptism Sunday**  
**August 25 during Morning Worship**

Please contact Pastor Marty if you are interested in baptism.

## *MaTT Club -*

*a place for kids and adults to gather with friends, old and new, at the table with Jesus.*



MaTT Club will kick off its 17<sup>th</sup> year with a swim party at the home of Kenny and Phyllis Fisher on Sunday, Aug 25 at 4:30pm. At that time parents will fill out or update registration forms and sign up to provide snacks. This is a family event so parents and siblings are invited to join us. Food will be provided. Be sure to RSVP, by August 20, to Flossie (or the church office at 618-457-8785) so I know how much food to bring. Come in your swimsuit and bring a towel and sunscreen.

All children in kindergarten through fifth grade are eligible for MaTT Club. We meet on the first and third Sunday of most months September through May. We gather at 4 p.m. and try to be done by 6 o'clock. We have a snack, play games, hear and discuss a Bible story/scripture and make a craft.

This year our theme is Fruit of the Spirit - Living Healthy. We will discover the spiritual fruits God has gifted us. Our first meeting will be September 15.

Happy August birthday to Melina, Ms Merit, Ms Jennifer and Ms Kay.

Looking forward to another "Tree-mendous" year at MaTT Club!

Flossie





## VBS Mission Project Delivered

Our mission project for VBS 2024 was to collect food items and money for Gumdrops, a not-for-profit food program based in Carterville, Illinois. During the school year Gumdrops provides a weekend package of child-friendly food to help enhance the quality of life for at-risk children throughout Southern Illinois. They have helped as far north as Sesser and as far south as Metropolis and Cairo.

Our VBS theme this year was miracles Jesus performed. The planning team which included Pastor Veronica, Kay and myself, chose 4 miracles to tell the children. The first one was The Big Picnic; about Jesus feeding over 5000 people starting with 2 fish and 5 bits of bread donated by a child. It was a miracle!

We had a small group of 14 children attend VBS. But with God's help we performed a miracle of our own by collecting **\$433.44** and 49 boxes of food. Each box is opened and the individual servings are packaged in a bag for each child. Those 49 boxes provided **413 servings!**

We couldn't have done it without your help. Thank you to the many who donated food or money to make this possible. We created a miracle of our own! Thank you Lord. Thank you, Grace Church.

-Flossie



Food and funds were delivered to Gumdrops on July 17.



## 5 Year Food Safety ServeSafe Managers Class

August 3, 9am – 5pm

Murphysboro UMC

Cost is \$100 payable day of class.

Call 618-687-2317 or

email [murphysboroumc@gmail.com](mailto:murphysboroumc@gmail.com) to signup.



**Young at Heart** will be back on the road on Tuesday, August 13, traveling to the Grecian Steak & Seafood House in Pinckneyville, IL. The Grecian is known for reasonable prices, excellent service, pleasant surroundings, an extensive salad bar and amazing steaks. The church bus will leave the MUMC parking lot at 10:15 am for 11:00 am reservations. Please join us for another fun-filled outing with great food and fellowship, and don't forget to invite a friend!

## Early August Worship

### Sermon Series: The Word of God

**August 4**

“We Are Required to Judge One Another”

Hebrews 10: 23-25

Rev. Marty McMichael

**August 11**

“The Word of God is Alive”

Hebrews 4:12

Pastor Michelle Parker-Clark

