



Grace Notes

News from Grace United Methodist Church
 Carbondale, Illinois 618-457-8785
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Church Office Hours : M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Pastor's Office Hours: M-W 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

February 3 “The Power of Positive Service”
 Memory Verse - Matthew 23:11

(Due to the weather related cancellation of church on January 20,
 the February 3 sermon is a continuation of January's “The
 Power of Positive Living” Series.)

Relationship SOS Series

February 10 “Build the Foundation”
 Memory Verse - Psalm 144:7

February 17 “How to Date”
 Memory Verse - 1 John 4:19

February 24 “Love That Lasts”
 Memory Verse - Ephesians 5: 31-33





Valentine's Day is around the corner, so what could be better than talking about relationships in February? We hope to have a relationship as sweet as almond chocolate, yet we also know that not all relationships are equal.

Dr. Robert Waldinger, a psychiatrist at Harvard Medical School, revealed a 75-year long study on human happiness and said, "the good life is built with good relationships." Whether you are in a good relationship or expecting it to be better, or starting one or in the midst of needing a patch, we all need a strong biblical foundation and an attitude of prayer when it comes to relationship - because relationship matters. Our upcoming four-part sermon series, "Relationship SOS" will be about this. We'll be talking about dating, marriage, maintenance of it, and even divorce - and you can associate SOS with "Save Our Ship," or "Save Our Soul!" Come along, and together, let's decide to build a stronger, healthier, and faithful relationship in Christ.

Your servant,
Pastor Rhee

**HAVE A HEART
FOR THE HUNGRY
SOUP BY THE UM WOMEN**



On Sunday, February 17, you will be able to feed yourself and make it possible to feed others at the same time! The ladies of the Grace UM Women's group will be making and selling quarts of homemade soup. The soup will be sold in quart-size "take-out" containers for \$7 per quart. Soup order slips will be available on Sundays starting January 27. You may fill out an order slip to pre-order the soup and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office before the weekend of February 16-17. As always, the money received from the soup is used for missions and hunger relief.

Overnight Warming Center



Helpers and money donations are needed in Carbondale to open a temporary warming center for those needing winter shelter that cannot be provided by the Good Samaritan House. This project is being supported by many groups: City of Carbondale, Sparrow Coalition, Carbondale Interfaith Council, SIU Clinical Center, Jackson County Health Department, and MANY other local organizations.

To give a donation of money, please designate your check as "warming shelter" and send the check to:

Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless
P.O. Box 955
Marion, IL 62959

Personnel, both volunteer and paid staff, are needed to coordinate, work shifts, and clean up after each night. The temporary warming shelter will be open during the night hours. Serious commitments have been made by groups in the community in order to begin the opening of the shelter, but our continued individual support is needed to sustain it throughout the winter.

Please give this project your prayerful consideration. As Jesus said, "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 27:40)



Circle of Friends Potluck

Tuesday, February 12
Noon

Bring a dish and join the fellowship. The lunch is held in rooms 19/20, just off the big kitchen.

Please have articles for the March Grace Notes to the church office by February 15.



Youth Group Highlights:

We're collecting cards, candy, and other items to give to the residents of the **Women's Center on Valentine's Day**. If you would like to contribute to this endeavor to share love within our community, please bring all items to the church on or before Monday, February 11, 2019.



Super Bowl Sunday is also **Souper Bowl Sunday** at Grace. If you are able, we welcome you to bring canned goods to service on Sunday, February 3, 2019. These will be donated to local shelters.

Upcoming Events & Announcements:

All 6th-12th graders are welcome to join us for these events!

~ **Evolv the 'dale** - Our next service & fun day will be Saturday, February 2nd. Please meet at the church at 8:45 a.m. We're going to make Valentines for those at the Women's Center. These will be delivered on Valentine's Day. If anyone would like to contribute cards, candy, or other items for this endeavor, please bring them to the church on or before Monday, February 11th.

~ **The Table** - Our next meeting of The Table is Sunday, February 17th, and we're going to have chili! Come to the Arthur home on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and fun. Anyone interested in providing a dish or complete meal for this or a future meeting of The Table, please contact Jaci Arthur.

~ **Sunday School** - The junior and senior high school will continue meeting together in the high school classroom until further notice.

~ **Pre-Prom Dinner** - Jaci is considering hosting a pre-prom dinner at the church for our youth, their dates, and their friends. If any youth attending CCHS are interested, please contact Jaci ASAP.

~ Check your email, the bulletins, and Grace Notes for more information on volunteer opportunities, including Mission Meals.

~ Do you have any suggestions for discussions, activities, service projects, or anything else? Let Jaci know!

Four Weeks to General Conference:

The special session of the General Conference is coming up, and will be held on February 23-26, Sat. - Tues. 2019 in St. Louis. You may find details online at <https://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session>.

Live video stream is also available during the session, and you can check that out here at <https://www.umc.org/who-we-are/general-conference-2019-live-video-stream-english> (start's on Feb. 23rd, 9 AM with the opening worship.) Some have shown interest in visiting the site during the session to volunteer or to pray. You may do so by visiting <https://www.igrc.org>, and click on the banner "VOLUNTEER GC2019." I also invite you to pray, at your pace, for the conference, delegates, and our church - daily, if you may, for 4 minutes from 2:23 through 2:26 AM or PM (reflecting the dates of the conference.) You can join <https://UMCPrays.org> for prayer guides, meditations, and even to pray over names of our 864 delegates!

Your friend and servant,

pastor Rhee



PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD

We are One in Christ
UMCprays.org • A UMC Prayer Community



IN OUR

Thoughts and Prayers

Our deepest sympathy is given to Brenda Davis, our church custodian, on the death of her husband, Don. Mr. Davis passed away February 17.

MaTT Club-

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



MaTT Club's first meeting in January took place on January 6. We focused on the Fruit of the Spirit- Patience. I chose the mango to represent patience because it takes a LOT of patience to cut a mango from its seed as the children found out as they tried to do just that. The children also had to show patience as they waited for an ice cube to melt, in their hand, releasing the stone frozen inside.

During Bible Exploration time we discussed how God answers our prayers in "God" time and not always in "our" time. It can be hard to be patient as we wait for God's response. We talked about how God has to have patience to deal with us as we forget, or disregard, God's expectations.

Together we listed things they can do while waiting, patiently, for God's answer. Some ideas are proactive such as bringing food for the food bank as we pray for a solution to world hunger, other ideas helped us take our mind off the wait, such as pray, read, play, etc... The kids wrote their ideas on pictures of mangos and added them to their Binder Books.

For craft they made clay snails with a 'shell pasta' shell. After the clay dried, at home, the children could paint or color their snail.

Our last January meeting was moved to Jan 27, after this newsletter goes to print. We will focus on Fruit of the Spirit- Kindness. A lemon will represent kindness because "If life gives you lemons- make lemonade". When people are 'sour' to us we need to be kind, not sour, in return. And that's not always easy. We'll play some lemon games and talk about RAKs (random acts of kindness) and how God uses us to start a "kindness ring".

Happy February birthday Violet.

Thank you Bryan and Ashlee Dunn and Kay Eckiss for providing suppers in January.

Thank you Jennifer for taking pictures and Pastor Rhee for putting the pictures on Facebook.

Our February 3 meeting focus' on Goodness- doing good for others. As part of that we are proposing a friendly competition between early service, late service and MaTT Club to collect the most items, in February, for the food pantry. Watch for more details!

February Birthdays
(by date)

1 - Mary Ellen Searcy
 8 - Marjorie Blessing
 8 - Violet Fager
 9 - Mary Ann Ruph
 12 - Chang Cates
 12 - Sang Young Jang
 13 - Randy Stark
 16 - Elijah Moore
 19 - Jill Booker
 23 - Roger Smith III
 25 - Moon-Chan Bae
 29 - Alivia Berkel



Early March

3/4 Timothy Park
 3/5 Kali Langin
 3/5 Lily Morthland
 3/6 Mu-Son Cates
 3/6 Tim Crosby



Feb. 14 Robert & Cynthia Oetjen

Grace United Methodist Church

9:00 a.m. Praise and Worship Service
 10:10 a.m. Sunday School
 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

Grace UMC Mission Statement

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

