



Grace Notes

News from Grace United Methodist Church
 Carbondale, Illinois 618-457-8785
 Web site: www.carbondalegrace.org
 E-mail: carbondalegraceinfo@gmail.com

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.

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Worship

The Power of Positive Living Sermon Series

Scripture: Philippians 2: 1-11

January 6 "Discovering Significance in Your Life"
 Memory verse - Philippians 2:3

January 13 "The Power of Positive Giving"
 Memory verse - Philippians 2: 13

January 20 "The Power of Positive Relationships"
 Memory verse - Ephesians 4:29

January 27 "The Power of Positive Service"
 Memory verse - Matthew 23:11

January



To Infinity and Beyond, 2019

I was fascinated by how scientists built the "ion thruster" to send orbits beyond our solar system. This propulsion system is a million times weaker than a traditional rocket engine. And the amount of push it produces is only equivalent to a letter size paper holding down the tip of your finger. In fact, using an ion thruster will take more than 4 days to speed up your car to 60 miles per hour, so you wouldn't want to ride it home. But once the spacecraft is out in space, where there is no drag or gravity, the ion thruster can propel it gradually almost up to the speed of light! What's more, a traditional rocket engine will use all of its fuel in the first 9 minutes or so, but the ion thruster engine will conserve its fuel for years to come.

This reminds me of the axiom: "slow and steady, wins the race!" When we live God's promises in our lives - one tiny step at a time, it will propel us to live for significance, beyond what we can imagine. What's more, taking things one step at a time won't tire you out, so you can practice your faith for years, and even hand it down to next generation.

In fact, when we apply that principle to faith, we can take Christmas to infinity and beyond. Just a week ago, we shared the purpose of Christmas - that Jesus came to save us for a purpose. Jesus saved us not to live for ourselves, but He wants us to live beyond success, and to live for significance - for God and for others.

I want to invite you to fulfill that Christmas promise in 2019 through the upcoming sermon series on "Discovering Significance in Your Life, through the Power of Positive Living" starting January, 2019. You just need to show up, commit to attend the rest of the series, follow through your action plans God may set in your heart, and that's it! You'll start living God's purpose in your life, one step at a time, and God will propel you to live further and higher than what you have hoped for.

Pastor Rhee



The Rhee family wants to invite all Grace family to the new parsonage! Please come, enjoy some refreshments, pray over the parsonage, and fellowship with the Rhees! No gifts please, or you may designate your gift to “Our Conference, Our Kids” Campaign to fund five child welfare agencies in the conference. Time, date and location are as follows:

Sunday, January 6th, 2019, from 2-4:00 p.m. at 202 Frances Lane, Carbondale, IL, 62901. Contact Pastor Jung-il Rhee at 309-224-6420 or via email at carbondalegracepastor@gmail.com

Stephen Ministries Introductory Workshop

February 2, 9 AM—1PM
La Croix Church, Cape Girardeau, MO



“Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.”

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Session 1: Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief

Session 2: An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3: How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way

\$15 per person or \$50 per congregation (four or more)

Registration and additional information is on the church bulletin board.



Please have articles for the February Grace Notes to the church office by January 21.



PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD

Discussion & Prayer Meeting on "A Way Forward"

As you may know, one of our ongoing conversations centered on issues related to human sexuality made us realize that as

United Methodist, we hold a wide range of positions on the topic. In light of this, a special session of General Conference is planned to be held in St. Louis in February 23-26, 2019, and along with other minor plans, the following "big" three plans will be discussed and voted upon: the Traditionalist Plan, the One Church Plan, and the Connectional Conference Plan. Since there are too much information to be explained, so I'd like to plan a class for us to gather together, have a discussion, and learn together of the plans, and pray for our denomination and our church. I'd like to share a video of Bishop Beard's previous briefings on this for those who didn't have a chance to attend and have a time to look over a book (see below) that covers fair amount of details on the topic, with discussions and prayers to be followed.

The following two dates will be available for me to meet with you either in the morning or evening respectively: **Thursday, January 17th, 10:00am, and the following Wednesday, January 23rd, 6:00pm,** both at the Sunday School room adjacent to the office, respectively. Limited copies of the book, **"Living Faithfully - Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church,"** will be available for purchase in the church office for \$8 each starting 2nd week of January. This book will give you some information on the issues the Special General Conference will be acting upon. Let me know if you have any questions prior to our meeting. Looking forward to seeing you there! You can reach me via email at carbondaledgepastor@gmail.com or phone at [309-224-6420](tel:309-224-6420).

Living Faithfully

Human Sexuality
and The United
Methodist
Church

A Four-Week Small Group Study

Your servant, pastor Rhee

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



MaTT Club only met once in December. Our annual December meeting consists of games and crafts. Our theme this year was candy canes. The children herded balloons with candy cane yard ornaments then tossed dive rings over the same candy canes. After that they balanced real candy canes on skewers and raced to the finish line trying not to drop the candy. We finished game time with a candy cane hunt. Thank you Kierra and Mary Louise for hiding all the candy canes.

The children had a choice of three crafts to choose from. The first group made reindeer ornaments using candy canes as the antlers. The second group decorated felt Christmas trees with a candy cane trunk. The third group made ornaments from candy cane scented, red glitter playdough.

Shirley Smith served us a wonderful Christmas supper of ham and trimmings, finishing up with home-made chocolate chip cookies. Thank you Shirley. Each child received a treat bag on their way out the door.

Our next meeting will be January 6. We'll focus on Fruit of the Spirit- Patience.

Thank you Holly, Mary Louise and Holly for helping keep the meeting run smoothly. Thank you Jennifer for taking photos. Thank you Pastor Rhee for posting the pictures on facebook.

We have no birthdays in December. Happy birthday to Jooah on January 1!

Flossie Langin

Announcement from Marion Medical Missionaries Well #0913 MMM-A123 10-01-2018

“This new well was installed 10/1/2018 at 3:11:36 PM in the village of Ibumila, Tanzania and will serve 200 people. Donated by Grace United Methodist Church in honor of Grace United Methodist Church VBS.”

(The funds for this well were donated by the 2018 Grace UMC VBS collections.)





Our sincere sympathy to Mike Long on the recent death of his grandmother, Ginny Wieland.

Margaret Wheeler passed away December 15, 2018.
Our deepest sympathy is given to her family.

I want to say thank you to everyone who helped with the Spirit of Christmas Project this year. Thanks to those who took I.D.'s and bought gifts, those who helped get the auditorium ready, and those who volunteered to help Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday in sorting and assembling the gifts for the agencies. Some of the agencies who received gifts were: Good Samaritan, Rebound, Integrity, Archway I and II, Centerstone and Attucks.

Rosemary Hubenthal
S.O. C. Coordinator
G.U.M.C.

To the congregation of Grace United Methodist,

Many thanks for your participation and extensive support of the 2018 Spirit of Christmas Project. Because of you - and 14 other congregations - 781 of our most vulnerable neighbors received gifts, and more importantly, the love you wrapped inside! Sincerely,

Lisa Daniels & Jess Jobe
for Carbondale Interfaith Council's
Spirit of Christmas Project

**Big
Thank
You!**



I have been the Spirit of Christmas coordinator at Grace Church for the last eight years and this will be my last year (2019) as coordinator due to health reasons. Grace Church will need a new coordinator for 2020 and the future.

If anyone is interested in taking over as S.O.C. Coordinator in 2020, let me know. I will explain what the project involves this coming year. My e-mail is: whroseh@gmail.com and my phone is 618-549-2563.

Rosemary Hubenthal

January Birthdays
(by date)

2 - Chris Smith
 3 - Holly Chamness
 4 - Kevin Frailey
 8 - Tom Berry
 9 - Sunhee Park
 9 - Spenser Vineyard
 12 - Bong Choul Hwang
 12 - Mike Long
 14 - Kenny Fisher
 14 - Charles Vale
 15 - Lynanne Parrish
 16 - Elijah Moore
 18 - Vernon Gerber
 21 - Gail Ayala
 24 - Marcia Hand
 28 - Barb Dunlap-Berg
 28 - Soo-Jin Edwards



Early February

2/1 Mary Ellen Searcy
 2/6 Kay Deffley



Jan. 17 Steve & Paula Arthur

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."

