



Meetings and Gatherings

June

Bible Study: June 13 only this month due to VBS, 6:00—7:30 PM

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

Choir Rehearsal: Mondays, 5:15 PM

Father's Day: June 16

Korean Sunday School Class: Sundays at 9:30 AM

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

Staff Meeting: Tuesday, June 4 and 18, 9:00 AM

United Methodist Men: Saturday, June 8, 7:30 AM breakfast meeting, Murphysboro UMC fellowship hall

Vacation Bible School: Monday - Thursday, June 24-27.
Pizza will be provided 5:45-6:15PM, activities 6:15-8:00PM

Young at Heart on the Road: Saturday, June 22. Meet at MUMC parking lot at 8:00 AM to depart for the The Hill in St. Louis.

Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Worship: every Sunday at 10:30 AM

*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>



United Methodist Men
Saturday, June 8, 2024
7:30 AM Breakfast Meeting

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

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

Greetings Carbondale Grace:

As the warmth of summer approaches and the school year draws to a close, we find ourselves on the cusp of a season filled with opportunities for relaxation, adventure, and growth. This transition is not only a time for our children to enjoy a well-deserved break from their studies, but also an ideal moment for us all to deepen our faith and strengthen our bonds within the community.

Summer brings a unique rhythm to our lives. The long days and relaxed schedules provide us with the perfect chance to engage more fully with our families, friends, and, importantly, our spiritual journey. I encourage you all to seize this time to connect with God in meaningful ways. As it says in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." Let this summer be a time for spiritual renewal and connection.

One wonderful way to do this is by participating in our upcoming Vacation Bible School (VBS). VBS is more than just a week of fun activities; it's an opportunity for our children to learn about God's love, build lasting friendships, and experience the joy of Christian fellowship. Our dedicated team has been working tirelessly to prepare a program that will inspire and uplift. I urge you to spread the word in your community and enroll the children you are connected to and invite their friends as well. Let's make this a memorable summer for them, filled with spiritual growth and joyous discovery. As Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

For the adults and families, summer offers the chance to slow down and reflect on our relationship with God. Whether through a peaceful walk in nature, a family prayer time, or a group Bible study, these moments can help us nurture our faith.

Remember to attend our various events and gatherings designed to keep us connected and spiritually engaged. I invite you to participate in these activities and bring your unique presence to our community.

Continued on page 2

Pastor's Article continued from page 1

In particular, I would like to highlight our Kingdom Bible Study, which meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 6 PM. This study is a wonderful opportunity to dive deeper into the Word of God, grow in understanding, and share insights with fellow believers. Hebrews 10:24-25 reminds us, "And let us consider how we may stir one another up toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." I strongly encourage you to attend and continue to be part of this enriching time of learning and fellowship.

Let us also remember the importance of service during this season. There are numerous opportunities to reach out and support those in need within our community. Volunteering your time and talents not only helps others but also enriches your own spiritual life. Keep an eye on our bulletin for upcoming service projects and ways you can get involved. As Galatians 6:9 encourages us, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

In the midst of summer's busyness and leisure, I encourage you to maintain a rhythm of prayer, worship, and scripture reading. These practices anchor us, providing stability and guidance as we navigate the season's joys and challenges. Let's commit to making our spiritual health a priority, ensuring that our relationship with God continues to flourish. As Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

As we embark on this summer journey, may we do so with hearts open to God's blessings and a spirit eager to grow in faith. Let's embrace the season with a sense of gratitude and anticipation, knowing that each moment is a gift from God. Wishing you a summer filled with faith, joy, and cherished memories.

Grace & Peace,

Veronica McMichael

Pastor of Christian Education and Discipleship



Christopher Tyree Smith passed away at his home on Monday, May 27, 2024. His funeral was held at Grace UMC on Friday, May 31 at 11:00 AM with Rev. Marty McMichael officiating. Our love and sympathy is given to Chris' family and many friends.

June Birthdays

6/7 Pastor Veronica McMichael
 6/10 Rev. Alden Hickman
 6/12 Donna Blache
 6/15 Hae Lyul Lee
 6/15 Rev. Marty McMichael
 6/16 Ray Forby
 6/18 Levi Berkel
 6/19 Brianna Upton
 6/23 Alice Berry
 6/23 Kristen Dunlap-Berg
 6/23 Stacy Stark
 6/24 Phyllis Fisher
 6/29 Kelly Arthur
 6/29 Song Kang
 6/29 Rev. Jungil Rhee



Early July Birthdays

7/1 Charlie Sanders
 7/6 Herb Russell
 7/7 Jessica Pease



6/10 Ron & Kay Eckiss (52 years)
 6/10 Kenny & Phyllis Fisher (57 years)
 6/14 Nathan & Rachel Harness
 6/15 Jacob & Danie Williams
 6/18 Lonnie & Jill Escue
 6/20 Steve & Donna Blache (60 years)



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Congratulations to graduates in our Grace Church family:

* Yoonseo (Cuty) Jung graduated from high school at CCHS in May, with plans to attend Princeton University, majoring in economics.

* Audrey Meador graduated from college at SIU in May with a degree in nursing.

Young at Heart on the Road



YAH on the Road will be changing things up a bit for the month of June with a weekend outing. On Saturday, June 22 we will depart the MUMC parking lot at 8:00 a.m. traveling to The Hill in St. Louis, MO. The Hill is a long-established Italian-American neighborhood with family-owned delis, sandwich shops and bakeries on Marconi Avenue, and trattorias, pizzerias and upscale eateries dotting the streets around Shaw and Wilson avenues. We will start out the day with lunch at 11:00 a.m. at Zia's on The Hill known for their great atmosphere, excellent service, and outstanding food. After lunch, everyone will be free to visit the local shops offering specialty gifts and goods found only on The Hill, walk the neighborhoods showcasing the many classic shotgun style houses and, perhaps, visit The Hill Neighborhood Center to learn more about the history of this unique area. It promises to be a fun-filled and informational day on The Hill, so please join us and invite a friend!

In the past two months, the church has received two thank you letters from the Carbondale Warming Center for recent donations totaling \$2,227.00.

The church has received a thank you letter for our donation of \$200 to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) : Where Most Needed. "Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need." Roland Fernandes, UMCOR, Global Ministries



Thank You to the volunteers with Hands of Hope, Joyce Craven, Janice Lambert, Jean Paratore, Flossie Langin and Roberta Williams, for planting the flowers to brighten up the entrance of the Church and under the church sign.

Thank you to Bill Crain, Rosemary Hubenthal, Kenny and Phyllis Fisher, Orville Hake, Gregory Kupiec, Soojin Lee, Eric Morti and Meungguk Park for helping with the Church Outside Work Day(s). Bushes were trimmed, mulch added to the landscape, gutters cleaned and a window above the auditorium repaired.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Grace UMC Church is pleased to offer VBS in the marketplace style in June.

WHAT: Along the Shores of Galilee; Miracles of Jesus

WHEN: **June 24-28, Monday-Thursday, 6:15-8:00 P.M.**

Simple pizza and veggies supper available
5:45-6:15 P.M.

WHO: Activities for kids aged 3 through those completing 5th grade

Older teens are welcome as assigned helpers.
Please accompany 3- and 4-year olds with a responsible family member.

HOW: Complete a registration form, found in the church lobby or available at <https://www.facebook.com/CarbondaleGraceUMC>

Or call the church office for more information
618-457-8785

Adults, please consider volunteering to help in this valued church ministry and outreach! Contact Flossie, Kay, or Pastor Veronica, call the church office, or submit a volunteer form found in the worship bulletin.

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)

Donation of Vacation Bible School Supplies

If you are willing to donate supplies for VBS this year, please place them on the table to the left inside the children's area. A list of items needed is available on the pink sheets on the welcome table in the church lobby. Some of the items needed include:

small flat(ish) smooth, paintable rocks, 3-5" (in a bag at Lowes)	Ivory soap bars
small sturdy paper plates	velcro with sticky back,
wooden heavy thread	brown seam binding/bias tape
small cardboard boxes	tape
air dry clay	unsharpened box of pencils
dowel rods (check with Flossie or Orville about size)	

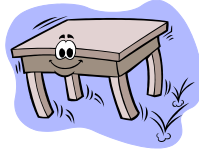
Items Requested to Borrow (will be returned):

fake hanging plants/ivy	area rug, 5x7 or 6x8'
-------------------------	-----------------------

Thank you for your help and commitment!

MaTT Club -

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



Our first meeting in May was our annual Mom and Me party. Ten children and their Mom, or surrogate Mom, had a delightful evening. Our theme was "Ice Cream Party."

Everyone guessed how many Maraschino cherries were in the jar. Congratulations to Rohan for guessing the closest. He won a page of ice cream stickers.

Everybody also guessed how long it would take a scoop of vanilla ice cream to melt. Zac came the closest and won a jar of ice cream topping.

After that we played a game of passing the 'ice cream toppings' down the line, each person pouring the 'toppings' into an ice cream cone held by the next player. I used birdseed instead of toppings to save on price and the environment. We found it takes a long time to empty a bucket of bird seed!

Our last game was similar to The Newlywed Game in which players try to see how well each child and their Mom, or surrogate Mom, knew each other. First the children were asked ice cream themed questions. After writing down their answers, we called in their Moms and asked them the same questions. It was fun to see how many answers matched.

After a delicious supper of dishes provided by each family, and an ice cream sundae bar, we finished the activities by making ice cream playdough using cake frosting and flour. Once it was well mixed the kids put a ball of playdough in an ice cream cone and had their picture taken with their Mom. Check the May bulletin board for their Mom and Me pictures and other pictures of the party.

Each Mom received a goody jar with a bath bomb ice cream cone, chocolates, ice cream bubbles and a stamper. A good time was had by all!

Timothy was recognized as our only graduate aging out of the program. We have enjoyed having his friendliness, wit and Bible knowledge for the last six years. We will miss you Timothy but know that further adventure awaits you as you travel along your journey of faith. Leaders and helpers were recognized. A donation was made to Got You Covered diaper bank in honor of our leaders and helpers.

MaTT Club finished our year with a trip to Herrin Bowl. Eleven MC children, new MC friends (going into Kindergarten this fall) and siblings and six adults attended. Everyone came back to the church for pizza.

MaTT Club would not be a success without our many volunteers. Check out the July bulletin board for a list of those who volunteered at MaTT Club this year.

Happy August birthday Malina. Happy September birthday Rohan.

-Flossie



Hands of Hope



After creating crosses for Easter, and planting flowers under our sign in the front yard and providing the two pots of flowers next to the front doors, Hands of Hope was ready to try something new. A friend of Roberta Williams asked if we could help the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) babies and their families at Memorial Hospital. We are cutting hearts from soft flannel or fleece fabric and packaging them with a note from the hospital. Parents wear the fabric hearts against their skin to absorb their scent. When the parents can't be with their baby, the heart is placed in the isolette with the infant so that Mom or Dad's scent is familiar and comforting. As of last week Hands of Hope have made 86 fabric hearts.

Flossie



As we did with our mothers, we will collect names for both living and deceased fathers to be listed on the Remembrance Notes included in the Sunday bulletin for Father's Day.

Remembrance gifts will be given to the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, a United Methodist Community Center in East St. Louis whose mission is to provide programs and services to youth, families, and the elderly. Programs today include the Day Care Program, Youth Services (including recreation, education and cultural arts), and a wide range of Comprehensive Family Support and Family Preservation Services.

Rosemary Hubenthal