



# THE GRACE MESSENGER

Grace United Methodist Church

*Mission: To love God completely and to serve Jesus Christ unselfishly*



201 S. Church Street, Union, South Carolina 29379  
Rev. David Bauknight, Pastor

Office: 427-1266  
Cell Phone: 803-480-2153

FROM THE PASTOR

MAY 2020

## A Blessing for Mothers

*(Here is a Mother's Day prayer that I adapted from an unknown source)*

This blessing is for all the mothers who have sat up all night with sick toddlers saying, "It's OK honey, Mommy's here."

This blessing is for the mothers who gave birth to babies they may never see. And the mothers who took those babies-- forever to be their own children.

This blessing is for all the mothers who attended ball games, recitals, rehearsals, etc. etc. and who said, "I wouldn't have missed it for the world," and meant it.

This blessing is for all the mothers of who fled in the night and can't find their children or can't feed their children.

Creator God, what makes a good mother anyway? Is it patience? Firmness? A soft lap?  
Or is mothering what is in her heart?

Is it the ache she feels when she watches her child disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time?

The jolt that takes her from sleep to dread, from bed to crib at 2 a.m. to put her hand on the back of a sleeping baby?

The need to flee from wherever she is and hug her child when she hears news of a school shooting, a fire, a car accident, a baby dying?

Yes, it is so.

So, this blessing is for all the mothers who sat down with their children and explained all about making babies. And for all the mothers who wanted to but just couldn't.

This blessing is for all the mothers who yell at their kids in the grocery store with frustration and despair

This blessing is for the mothers who show up at work with milk stains on their blouses and diapers in their purse.

This blessing is for all the mothers who teach their sons to cook and their daughters to speak up with pride.

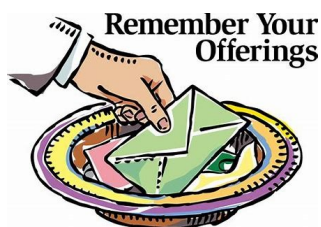
This blessing is for mothers who put pinwheels, teddy bears, or flowers on their children's graves.

This blessing is for mothers whose children have gone astray, who haven't the words to reach them, and yet have never put them from their heart.

This blessing is for new mothers stumbling through diaper changes and sleep deprivation. And mature mothers learning to let go. For working mothers and stay-at-home mothers. Single mothers and married mothers.

And this blessing is for all of us who will move beyond sentiment into actions which support mothers and mothering persons in all of their life-giving and life-nurturing roles. Amen

Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful ladies in our lives. You mean so much to all of us and we take this time to extend our gratitude for your wonderful example. We are indebted to you for more than you will ever know. We love you, pray for you and hope we can be an example of your example. Thank You so much!!



## Stewardship Report 2020

Offering Report as of:

2020 Budget:	\$	379,325.00
Needed for 2020 Budget YTD:	\$	124,010.10
Offering Rec'd Last Week:	\$	1,425.00
Budget Rec'd YTD:	\$	109,770.16
Surplus/Deficit YTD:	\$	-14,239.94
Weekly Offering Needed:	\$	7,294.71

Please put Grace as a priority in your financial planning. Our combined gifts keep the Church's mission alive and growing. Thank you so much!!

Sincerely, Pastor David



Grace UMC  
QR Code for  
online giving

⇒ There are two ways to continue tithing during this time: mail to the church or use Vanco.

## No Meetings

### Before May 20th



- MCF/Sonshiners and Re-Connection Youth - May 3rd, 10th, or 17th



- The United Methodist Women's Circles - May 4th and 13th



- Care Group - May 5th, 12th, or 19th



- Chancel Choir Rehearsals - May 6th, 13th, or 20th



- Young at Heart Luncheon - May 13th



- The Board of Trustees - May 13th



- The Church Council - May 20th

\*Meetings, events, etc. after May 20th subject to cancellation due to COVID-19 guidelines from Bishop Holston.

## A Mother's Day Prayer

Happy Mother's Day

In the name of  
**JESUS CHRIST**,  
we lift up all  
**MOTHERS** today.



We thank them for their sacrifices so that we can have a life of contentment. Grant them favour, Lord and may they have a wonderful place in existence in Your heart of **GRACE**.

## PRAY GOD'S GLORY Across the Earth

"FOR THE EARTH WILL BE FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA."

HABAKKUK 2:14 NIV

MAY 7, 2020

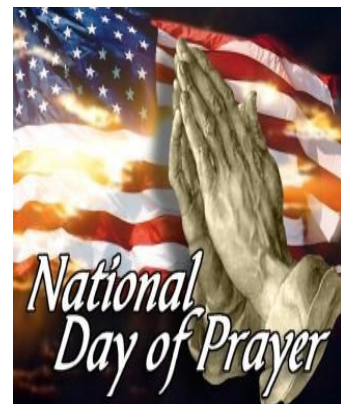


Lord as the waters cover the sea." Habakkuk 2:14 NIV

The 2020 Theme of "Pray God's Glory Across the Earth" is being keenly realized with this virus touching the whole earth and many finding the peace that only God can give in the situations of life that stop us in our tracks! If we as a church, a community, or the nation are unable to gather together to pray, take a moment out of your day, go to a quiet place, join in a family group, or go outside, and **PRAY** for our nation and its leaders. Praying helps. Praying works.

## National Day of Prayer May 7, 2020

The National Day of Prayer will be celebrated on Thursday, May 7, 2020. Originally signed into law in 1952, National Day of Prayer is a day when all people of different faiths in the United States are asked to pray for the nation and its leaders. It is held on the first Thursday of May each year. This year's theme is: **"Pray God's Glory Across the Earth"**. *"For the Earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the*



Happy  
Mother's  
Day

Sunday, May 10, 2020





## Because We Care

Heartland Residential: Mary Jo Rogers  
John Flynn  
Ellen Sagar: Bernard Bishop  
Summit Hills, Sptbg.: Elwood Eason  
White Oak, Sptbg.: Dr. Bob Kincheloe  
Home: Ruth Roof  
Inverness, Sptbg: Hazel Howell  
Cumberland Village, Aiken: Carolyn and Johnny Turner

## May

Happy Birthday!



1 Cole Heatherly  
3 Jon Nick Gault,  
Abbie Valentine  
4 Sarah Paige Glenn  
10 Dillon Earls  
12 Frances Adams  
15 Blaise Ham, Richard Kelly  
17 Sebastian Fowler, Letha King  
19 Cal Arnold  
20 Mary Ann Wilkins, Kris Zimmerman  
21 Joe Nichols, Linda Parker  
23 Linda Roberson  
24 Marie Hudson  
28 George Spencer  
29 Caroline Moss  
31 Betsy Sheorn



## Grace's Wonderful Living Easter Cross

Philip Arnold willingly placed our Easter cross in front of our church. Church members drove through the side driveway, stopping to place their flowers in one of the available containers. Sally Summers and Karen Hibbard placed all the greenery and beautiful flowers on the cross early on Easter Sunday. This cross has always represented a beautiful symbol of Easter morning to our church family and the community. Although Easter 2020 was an unusual one, we will continue to rejoice in the risen Christ and be grateful to God for the gift of life, love, and joy. **Thank you** to Philip, Sally, Karen, and all who brought flowers for making our cross special!

a birthday prayer  
for you

May God bless you with His boundless love, calming peace,  
and heavenly joy throughout the coming year.

Happy birthday, child of God!



It took both Saturday before Easter and Easter morning to create our beautiful Easter Cross





# EPWORTH

Where Kids Find Strength

## Epworth Children's Home

### Mother's Day Offering

**Mother's day is Sunday, May 10, 2020**, and it's a day that brings up a variety of emotions for all of us. For the children at Epworth Children's Home, these emotions are front and center as they go through this time of year without their mothers. It is

our role as Methodists to make sure that on Mother's Day and every day, the children at Epworth have everything they need to be loved and grow up happy and healthy.

### Be A Partner of Hope

Julie was 13 when she arrived on Epworth's campus with her older brother. Both had been removed from their home and each sent to a different foster home. They missed each other and in their grief exhibited behaviors that were not conducive to a prosperous future. They both appeared to give up on a life with a good future. After some time a decision was made to reunite them. That is when they came to Epworth to live. After a short period of adjustment, they both began to participate in campus activities, including worship and tutoring. Their grades began to reflect their efforts to learn. As their stay at Epworth lengthened, they participated in counseling, received family visits, played basketball, and enjoyed shopping trips with their cottage mates and staff members. One day Julie exclaimed, "My brother and I had almost lost all hope, but now we know we have a future." Julie, her brother Daniel, and many others are children we United Methodists have "adopted", and with whom have become "Partners of Hope". We form this partnership in order to provide a safe place to live, and to provide food, shelter, clothing, educational, medical, emotional health, and recreational opportunities for our children. Thank you for giving generously this Mother's Day.

**Mark 10:13-14**

### Did you know?

**196**

Number of children who lived at Epworth last year, each one from our own communities in SC.

**73**

Number of children served through Epworth's Foster Care

**100%**

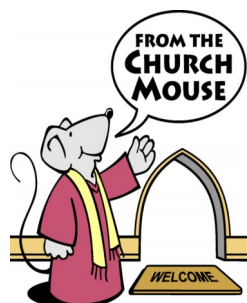
Of your Mother's Day Offering provides comprehensive care for the children at Epworth.

**Epworth is not an apportioned item in the Annual Conference budget. Mother's Day is your opportunity to support Epworth's ministry. If every United Methodist in S.C.**

**contributed \$10.00 the offering would total \$2,394,520! \***

**\*Epworth Children's Home, 2900 Millwood Ave., Columbia, SC 29205 | (803) 256-7394 | You can give online at [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org) or when Grace has designated another Sunday after we again join together in worship.**

### NEWS ALERT!



Thank you for helping to keep the newsletter full of great Grace information! During this unusual time, you'll be surprised at what we actually have accomplished! It takes all of us working together to have the best possible newsletter.

**Deadline for the June Grace Messenger will be May 17th.**

### 97th Annual National Music Week

**May 3-10, 2020 Theme: "Music... A Magic Carpet"**

National Music Week, celebrated by the National Federation of Music Clubs, was originated to focus attention on the value and enjoyment of music throughout our nation, to make the public aware of the importance of all forms of music in our lives and to encourage the participation of both the performer and the listener. It is observed during the first full week of May. Let us take time this month to thank all of those involved for their dedication of time and talents to our music program which enriches our worship services throughout the church year.





## Recognizing Our 2020 Graduates



This year Grace will honor two UCHS graduates: *Katherine Elizabeth Wagner*, daughter of Christy Kincheloe and Stewart and Melissa Wagner, will be attending Lander University and plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. *Jacob Alan McGee*, son of Mike and Jennifer McGee, will be attending The University of South Carolina at Union and will be a member of the Bantams' Soccer Team.

Grace has the honor of recognizing four college graduates: *Anna Kathryn Kelly*, daughter of Charlie and Lisbeth Kelly, will graduate from Winthrop University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Studies Education. *Mallory Elizabeth McGee*, daughter of Mike and Jennifer McGee, will graduate from The University of South Carolina at Columbia with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN). *Grayson Edward Fallaw*, son of John and Dawn Fallow, will graduate from Presbyterian College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Christian Education. Grayson plans to further his studies at Duke Divinity School pursuing a Masters of Divinity Post-Baccalaureate Degree. *Jacob Price Gault*, son of Freddie and Melodi Gault, will graduate from Coastal Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Special Education Multi-Categorical.

Grace also has the honor of recognizing *Cole Heatherly*, son of Kelly Cannon Pipkin and the late Terry Heatherly, Cole will graduate from The University of South Carolina at Columbia with a Masters of Education Degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs.

These proud graduates will receive devotional books or Bibles during our TBA worship service and, afterwards, enjoy lunch with their families. Grace is extremely proud of each of our graduates and their accomplishments.



**Jake McGee**

Matthew 4:19 "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."



**Katie Wagner**

1 Peter 4:10 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."



**Anna Kelly**

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."



**Mallory McGee**

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."



**Grayson Fallaw**

Romans 15:4 "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope."



**Jacob Gault**

Matthew 4:19 "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."



**Cole Heatherly**

Matthew 5:43-48 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."



# Mothers Love

This is one of the most beautiful stories about mothers love. It was written for Good Housekeeping Magazine in 1933 by Temple Bailey. This is a story we should all read once in a while so we remember to respect our mothers for their love and guidance.

"Is this the long way?" asked the young mother as she set her foot on the path of life. And the Guide said:

"Yes, and the way is hard, and you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning."

The young mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, she fed them and bathed them, taught them how to tie their shoes and ride a bike, and reminded them to feed the dog and do their homework and brush their teeth. The sun shone on them and the young mother cried,

"Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then the nights came, and the storms, and the path was sometimes dark, and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her arms. The children said,

"Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary. But at all times she said to the children,

"A little patience and we are there."

So the children climbed and as they climbed they learned to weather the storms. And with this, she gave them strength to face the world. Year after year she showed them compassion, understanding, hope, but most of all unconditional love. And when they reached the top they said,

"Mother, we could not have done it without you."

The days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years. The mother grew old and she became little and bent. But her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And the mother, when she lay down at night, looked up at the stars and said:

"This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned so much and are now passing these traits on to their children."

And when the way became rough for her, they lifted her, and gave her strength, just as she had given them hers. One day they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide. And Mother said,

"I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk with dignity and pride, with their heads held high, and so can their children after them." And the children said,

"You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates."

And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said,

"We cannot see her, but she is with us still."

A mother is more than a memory. She is a living presence. Your Mother is always with you. She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street, she's the smell of certain foods you remember, flowers you pick and perfume that she wore, she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not feeling well, she's your breath in the air on a cold winters day.

She is the sound of the rain that lulls you to sleep, the colors of a rainbow, she is your birthday morning. Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every tear drop.

A mother shows through in every emotion - happiness, sadness, fear, jealousy, love, hate, anger, helplessness, excitement, joy, sorrow - and all the while hoping and praying you will only know the good feelings in life.

She's the place you came from, your first home, and she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love, your first friend, even your first enemy, but nothing on earth can separate you.

Not time, not space - not even death!



On Apr 5, 2020, at 2:39 PM, Tommy Bishop <tbishop@graceunion.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon Everyone,

Well, today is Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday when we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, preceding Holy Week, followed by Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday! As I sit by myself in my home where my family has lived for the past 124 years, I can't help but think about just how unprecedented this current health crisis is and how much our lives and world have changed during the past month! As a church organist for the past 44 years, I have played "The Holy City" and "The Palms" for worshiping congregations on this day every year, but not today! With the current social distancing, our lives have almost come to a standstill. I hope that you all are staying safe during this time of uncertainty.

Special thanks to everyone for the prayers, calls, cards, texts, emails, food, and memorials since my mother, Jane Hutton Sims Bishop, passed away at Ellen Sagar Nursing Center on March 18<sup>th</sup>. This has been a difficult time for my family and me, especially since we can't visit my 90 year- old father now who is still living at the nursing home. We appreciate your continued thoughts and prayers during the days and weeks ahead.

During this time, please remember to read Bishop Holston's daily prayers and Pastor David's weekly sermons and devotions on the Grace website and church emails. Sheryl, Cole, Dale, and Pastor David are doing a great job in keeping us all informed. Also, if you are financially able, Pat reminded everyone in her email last week to please continue to send their weekly tithes and offerings, as the church's bills do not stop during this time of closure!

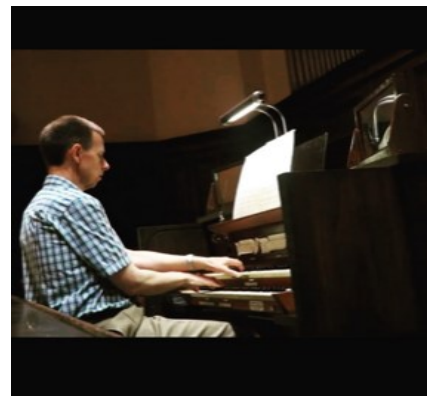
Finally, I would like to remind everyone since we are not meeting together at the church that, next to the Bible (the word of God), our Church Hymnal is a wonderful source of comfort during these trying times with poems, Psalm readings, and other scripture. Please continue to pray for the current situation in our nation and world, and if the members of your church staff can do anything for you, please do not hesitate to call us. I miss seeing all of our Grace Church family, and I hope and pray that we all will be able to worship and sing together again soon!

Faithfully and in Christ's Service,

Tommy Bishop

\*Tommy, Grace thanks you for your special music you played during Holy Week. It was beautiful and the special rendition of "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" moved us.

\*If you haven't seen them, go to **YouTube** and look up **Grace UMC, Union, SC** for Grace's YouTube page.

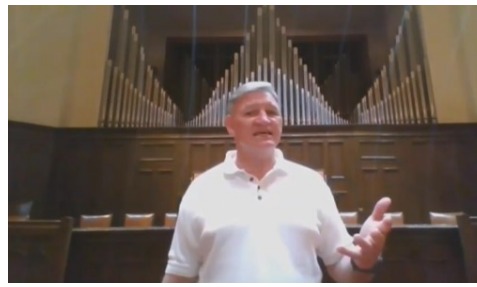



### Grace's Community Lenten Services February 26 - March 11, 2020

The services we were able to have during Lent were enriched with great speakers and amazing music! We want to say thank you to the pastors, musicians, cashiers, and luncheon ladies that helped in making our shortened Lenten services possible!







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www.graceunion.org

**March 19, 2020**



**Grace United Methodist Church**  
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**March 22, 2020**



**Grace United Methodist Church**  
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**March 28, 2020**



## Church Was Never Cancelled!

Pastor David has been LIVE on every Sunday morning since we last met in church on March 15th.

\*Check out YouTube, Grace's Webpage, or Facebook



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### Easter Sunday Message

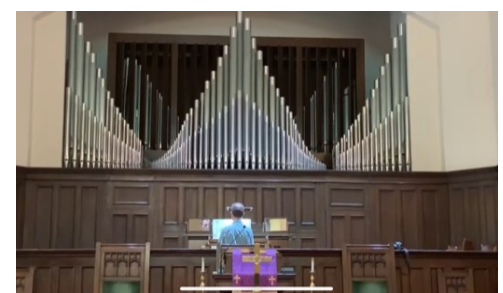



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**Palm Sunday Message**  
4.5.2020

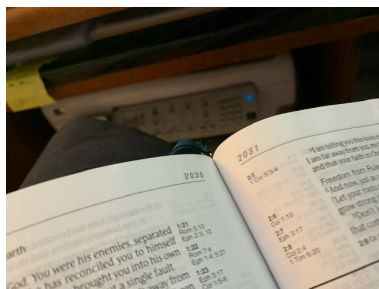



GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
**April 26, 2020 Worship with Pastor David**  
34 views

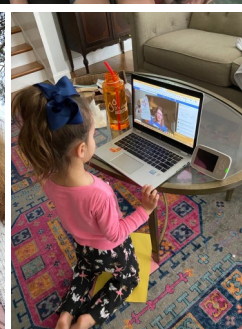




# What's Been Happenin...?



SC Air National Guard flies 2 F-16 jets over area hospitals to thank healthcare workers



*"WOW" Look at US!*



On Easter Sunday, Pat, Karen, and Sheryl had the wonderful privilege of preparing Easter meals to be delivered by Glenn and Karen, Allie and Leslie, and Allen. What a blessing for everyone!!



I found an idea...someone else liked it...it spread...not just palms...crosses, too!



Dale and Larry Goff



Sheryl and Rusty Price



Brad, Brooke, Abbie and Carson Valentine



Freddie and Melodi Gault



Jerry and JoAnne Lipscomb



David and Anita Maness



David and Sherry Bauknight







## THE GRACE MESSENGER

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E-mail: [mail@graceunion.org](mailto:mail@graceunion.org)



### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



"Mommy, will you write 'Happy Mother's Day' on here? But don't look at it!"

