



Dealing with Death Matters

Many people avoid talking about death and related topics. It's not something we discuss openly in our culture. But death matters because it's part of all of our lives, like it or not. As Tony Stark (Iron Man) says in *Avengers: Endgame*, "The ending is part of the story." And while we often don't have any control over death, we probably would cope with it better if we dealt with it before being in the midst of a crisis.

Grace Church member Bob Davis and Pastor Gary Nims invite you to a three-part seminar addressing some of the topics concerning death. While it will be of interest to older persons, we hope that other generations will see the value of addressing questions about sudden (premature) death and approaching death now in terms of their lives today. We also want younger people to be able to help their parents and grandparents talk about death matters.

"Dealing with Death Matters" will be held on Monday, October 28, November 4, and November 11 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We encourage people to be part of all three sessions, but if you have to miss one, each session basically stands on its own. The discussion will depend to some degree on the questions that participants bring, with the following general topics structuring the sessions:

- October 28 - Coping with Sudden Death Situations
- November 4 - When Death is Approaching
- November 11 - Acknowledging a Death in a Gathering

Registration is not necessary, but is appreciated. Call the church at 515.255.2131 during regular office hours (8:30 am-4:30 pm) Monday through Friday, and watch for sign-up sheets in the narthex on Sundays.

Amazing Grace Hotdish Smackdown and Congregational Dinner

Dust off your recipe box (or spend some time on Pinterest!) and bring a 9x13 (or similar size) hotdish to the Grace kitchen at 10:15 on Sunday, October 13. Any main-dish casserole will do! Entries will be judged by Lynn Pritchard, acclaimed chef of Table 128. Prizes will be awarded, and everyone is welcome to the Hotdish Feast after worship. Please let us know if you plan to bring a dish! Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/y39z4g6d>, or email Wini Moranville at winimoranville@yahoo.com and let her know you're "in." This is one of the last contests we'll be holding before we collect all the winning recipes for our upcoming cookbook to be published later this year in support of the 2020 Grace Youth trip to England. Plus, we need lots of entries to feed our food-loving congregation. Please join in the fun and fellowship!

Renovation Update

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the installation date for the education wing elevator has been delayed until late November, well beyond the original projected date of late September. Progress on the new restrooms and existing elevator is moving right along. Thank you for your patience as we make these much needed improvements to our beautiful church!

AMOS Housing Summit

AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy) will hold a Housing Summit on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 3 pm. It will be held at St. Paul AME Church, 1201 Day St. in Des Moines. We need to have representation from Grace. You don't have to be active in AMOS to come. Even if you have never been to an AMOS event, you are welcome. At this summit we will present the results of our research on housing needs in the city, and ask those running for city council if they will support our agenda. Candidates will not be allowed to give a stump speech; however, they may make timed responses to our questions. In the past AMOS has advocated for, among other things, restorative justice in the schools, the skate park, children's mental health, and the one percent sales tax with some specific asks for its use.

Bridges 2 Harmony in Concert at Grace

Bridges 2 Harmony, a gospel choir made up of 50 Roosevelt High School students under the direction of Devon Steve, will be in concert at Grace on Saturday, October 12, 7:00 pm, as part of our "Red Door Concert Series." A freewill offering will be collected.

The choir, which was created in 2007 by James McNear in response to an artist-in-residence event conducted by Dr. Iris Stevenson at Roosevelt in 2006, prides itself on providing a home for students of many races and cultures. The choir has had great impact on the landscape of Des Moines Public Schools, and has traveled throughout the Midwestern region, committing to numerous performances each year. The group performs traditional spirituals, contemporary gospel, and inspirational songs, as well as songs composed by the students themselves.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear this unique choir at our church!



Celebrations of Grace

by Rev. Nate Nims, Senior Pastor
255-2131 ■ natenims@gracedesmoines.org



One of the great things about Grace is our strong tradition of adult small groups. From Sunday school classes, to Soup and Sermon, to study and fellowship groups, Grace has shown itself to be a church that is thoughtful and engaged with spiritual growth.

At the welcoming gatherings we've had this summer, I've heard several people express interest in Grace offering more groups. We have members that are interested in Sunday school classes, but their Sunday mornings are full; they are wondering if we could have groups that meet in the morning or evening during the week. We have members interested in parenting classes, young adult groups, short term studies, singles groups, and more. We have members that are interested in learning, discovering, and discussing the very same things you are interested in!

Many of you have shared with me great ideas for new groups, and restarting old ones, too. I have heard some of your dreams and hopes for our church. And, best of all, many of you have told me that you want to get involved and make a difference in our church and community.

As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12, "Certainly the body isn't one part but many. If the foot says, 'I'm not part of the body because I'm not a hand,' does that mean it's not part of the body? If the ear says, 'I'm not part of the body because I'm not an eye,' does that mean it's not part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, what would happen to the hearing? And if the whole body were an ear, what would happen to the sense of smell? But as it is, God has placed each one of the parts in the body just like [God] wanted. If all were one and the same body part, what would happen to the body? But as it is, there are many parts but one body. So the eye can't say to the hand, 'I don't need you,' or in turn, the head can't say to the feet, 'I don't need you.'"

We all have a gift to give, and Paul reminds us that it is the diversity of our gifts that brings us together. Just as Paul reminds us of our gifts, Paul reminds us that we can't say to one another 'I don't need you' which is why I have to write to you all and say I need you.

I need you to share your gifts with our church. I need you to help with leadership in our Sunday school classes and small groups. I need you to share your passion, skills, and wisdom. It is only when we can come together with our various gifts and graces that we can truly recognize how, all together, we become the Body of Christ together.

If there is a group you'd like to start or see restarted, I need to know if you are willing to be a HOST, if you have a Heart for people, an Open mind, can Serve a snack, and Talk with others.

The idea of leading or starting a group can seem daunting and overwhelming at first, but in the end, a great group finds it's way when we open our hearts and minds with a snack and a conversation.

I know there are passions, skills, and connections that we can develop and strengthen at Grace because you've told me your hopes and dreams. The only thing that is keeping us from living into the fulfillment of them is not knowing who is willing and able to be a host.

In recent years, our church staff has been stretched thin, being asked to do tasks that, while not in their job description, are still important in the life of the church. Unfortunately, doing something once quickly became doing something twice, which established it as something the staff does instead of something we as the church do. The Grace staff is here for you to help recruit, resource, guide and develop programs that further the mission and ministry of our church, but that does not mean the church staff is there to do all the work of ministry in our church. The Tuesday medical clinic wouldn't be helpful if I was attempting to give medical advice to our patients and guests. The volunteers and teachers that have found fulfillment and fun leading our youth and children in Sunday school would be missing out if Coreen attempted to teach every grade.

I would love to assist and resource you and the rest of our groups, and, when my schedule allows, I may occasionally lead a lesson, but since I cannot commit to leading every small group, at this time I will not commit to being the sole leader of any one small group. We have to be in ministry together, which means we have to share leadership, which means if you've told me you're willing to help, I need to know if you're willing to be a host.

Please prayerfully consider how you might provide leadership at Grace. The staff and I will help resource, recruit, and develop programs and groups that expand the mission and ministry of our church, but for our ministry to have a lasting difference in the church and community our ministry must always be shared.

Thank you for the many ways that you have shared your gifts and passions with Grace. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Grace and Peace,

Nate Nims

Holiday Wrapping Paper Sale

September 15 – October 6

Proceeds will support Grace Youth's 2020 England Trip. Information on how to order will be provided in the Beyond the Red Doors email and worship bulletins.

Grace Youth Wreath Sale

Wreaths, Garland & Swags will be available.

Sale dates: October 28 thru November 18

Contact youth or watch for sale table
in the Narthex

Contact Tim Goode@ 641.751.0280 or
timrgoode@gmail.com with questions.

Wreaths & greenery will be available for pick up at
Grace on November 23

Proceeds will support youth programs at Grace.



UMW Unit Meeting
Thursday, October 3, 2019
9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Grace Church Live & Silent Auction & Lunch Sunday, November 17, 2019

Go to <https://gracedesmoines.org/giving/auction/> for details and auction item ideas!

☐ I will support our church by **volunteering** to help with the church auction.

☐ I will support our church by **donating** the following time, talent, service, auction item(s):

Please include specific details about your donation in the space provided (value, # of times a service will be provided, quantity donated, contact information for redemption etc.).

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Fill out this form and drop it off in the church office today! Donation submissions will be accepted until November 10. This day's lunch and events will be hosted by Grace Youth Group. 75% of the proceeds will go to Grace church general fund and 25% will go to the youth group.



Out to Lunch Bunch

The Out to Lunch Bunch is going to John & Nick's Steak and Prime Rib in Clive on Friday, October 4. The bus leaves the church at 11:15 a.m. Call the church office at 515.255.2131 to reserve your seat!

Time for Ingathering!

It's time to begin collecting our Ingathering donations to UMCOR. These items go toward disaster relief in the United States. Last year they were sent for hurricane relief, flood relief, and relief for those affected by wild fires in the western United States. Please drop your donations in the designated plastic tub in the coat room. Please see the supply lists at <https://gracedesmoines.org/volunteer-with-us/thanksgiving-ingathering/> to be sure that your donations meet this year's requirements. Thank you all in advance.

FINANCE REPORT

August 31, 2019

GENEROSITY—

With 67 % of the year completed we have received 68 % of anticipated income. A year ago we had collected 60 % of the amount needed. The five year average at this point is 61 %. Anticipated income includes a need for \$48,092 of extra giving or revenue.

69 % of Pledges have been received. Last year 65 % had been received.

Non- pledged giving was 60% of anticipated.

DISBURSEMENTS—

66 % of budgeted expenses were paid. The 5 year average is 59%.

Annual Conference Apportionments are not included in this year's budget.

John Mechem
Treasurer

2018 Annual Budget - \$654,417

2019 Charge Conference

October 15, 2019

6:00 pm

Staves Memorial UMC
2747 E. Madison Avenue
Des Moines

Fall Clean Up Day

Please plan to come help with cleaning up the church grounds on October 19, 2019. The work day will start at 8:00 am. Bring work gloves, pruning shears, and rakes, if you have them.



www.gracedesmoines.org

Annual Grace United Methodist Women's Nut Sale 2019

Please fill out order form, place in the offering plate or leave in the church office as soon as possible. Include your check (made out to Grace UMW) with the order blank. Orders will be available after all services beginning November 3. ALL PROFITS GO TO MISSIONS!

<u>ITEM NAME</u>	<u>COST PER LB.</u>	<u>NO. LBS.</u>	<u>SUB TOTAL</u>
Giant Whole Cashews	\$13.00	_____	_____
Extra Deluxe Mixed Nuts (no peanuts)	\$13.50	_____	_____
Fancy Jumbo Pecan Halves	\$13.50	_____	_____
Honey Roasted Peanuts	\$6.00	_____	_____
Chocolate Amaretto Pecans	\$13.00	_____	_____
Chocolate Almonds	\$11.00	_____	_____
Milk Chocolate Peanuts	\$10.00	_____	_____
Black Walnuts	\$11.50	_____	_____
English Walnuts	\$12.50	_____	_____
Roasted Salted Almonds	\$11.00	_____	_____
Cranberry/Sweet Raisin Mix	\$8.50	_____	_____
Dark Chocolate Cherries	\$11.50	_____	_____
Yogurt Almonds	\$10.00	_____	_____
Honey Cinnamon Almonds	\$11.50	_____	_____

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Total Order \$ _____



address: 3700 Cottage Grove, Des Moines, IA 50311
phone: 515.255.2131
email: info@gracedesmoines.org
web site: www.gracedesmoines.org
facebook: GraceDesMoines
twitter: GraceDesMoines

Worship: Sunday at 8 and 10:15 a.m.

Chimes Deadline

Submit complete articles for the next issue by the 15th of each month. Please send them to Charlene Hjort at charlenehjort@gracedesmoines.org.

View the Chimes online and in color on our web site at:
www.gracedesmoines.org/newsletter.

Our Mission

Grace United Methodist is a community in Christ where a cross section of metropolitan Des Moines gathers for worship, study and service. At the core of our existence is Christ's vision for the world and the church. We are a servant people striving to live our lives so as to increase the Love for God and neighbor in the world. We are called:

- To tell God's story in fresh new ways through preaching and teaching.
- To practice uncommon hospitality.
- To equip and send servants into the larger community for Service.

Our Welcoming Statement

God's love is for all and God's grace is present in all creation. God's spirit draws us into community. We are filled with genuine care and love for one another. Honoring the diversity of our faith journeys, our welcome is extended to all—people of all races, sexes, ethnic backgrounds, generations, physical and mental abilities, economic conditions, sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. No matter who you are, no matter where you are in your life, you are welcome here. We are all invited to bless this church with our love, our presence, and our participation.

STAFF LISTING

Senior Minister:

Rev. Nate Nims

Minister of Congregational Care:

Rev. Gary Nims

Director of Christian Education:

Coreen Witke

Grace Preschool Director:

Kelly Donnelly

Office Manager:

Charlene Hjort

Custodian:

Tyler Caulfield

Director of Music and Organist:

Ann Gerdorf

Chancel Choir and Grace Chimes Director:

Michael Gookin

Chapel Choir Director:

Devon Steve

Chorister Choir Director:

Emily Miller

Grace Youth Coordinator:

Nathan DeLange

Grace Youth Assistant Coordinator:

Patty Link