



# Grace United Methodist Church

October 18, 2020

## **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.

## **WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GREETING ON ANOTHER**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Spirit of Truth, you have always been trying to get our attention. Through the cries of prophets, the whispers of saints, and the groans of the earth, you have been calling to us for ages. As we grieve all that has been lost to destruction's hand, we renew our commitment to listening for Sacred Wisdom around us. With humility, we pray, come and lead us in the way of life. Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Philippians 3:12-21

It's not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this purpose. Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus. So all of us who are spiritually mature should think this way, and if anyone thinks differently, God will reveal it to him or her. Only let's live in a way that is consistent with whatever level we have reached. Brothers and sisters, become imitators of me and watch those who live this way—you can use us as models. As I have told you many times and now say with deep sadness, many people live as enemies of the cross. Their lives end with destruction. Their god is their stomach, and they take pride in their disgrace because their thoughts focus on earthly things. Our citizenship is in heaven. We look forward to a savior that comes from there—the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform our humble bodies so that they are like his glorious body, by the power that also makes him able to subject all things to himself.

### **SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Lanette Plambeck

### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT**

Creator of all, since our beginning you have woven our lives together at the most intimate levels. Though evil encourages us to sever our ties to one another, you reveal our shared humanity and call us to defense of our neighbors. In knowledge of Love's abiding presence, we will move forward with tenderness and justice for ourselves and one another, we will live with a generous patience towards all who are struggling, and with renewed loyalty to only the things which further life for all our neighbors, our kin, our family in shared humanity. For God is close to each of us, and so our hope is always near. All this we pray through Christ who taught us to pray saying, **Our God (Father, Mother, Crea-tor) who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy**

will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## OFFERING

CLOSING SONG                      "It Is Well With My Soul

# Member Updates

**Helen Young** will celebrate her 99th birthday on November 6. Cards may be sent to 3520 Grand Ave #101, Des Moines, IA 50312.

**one Shadduck** will celebrate her 97th birthday on October 28. Please send birthday greetings to lone at 3431 Brookview, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265.

**Renne Ellingson** has moved to Iowa Falls, where she continues to recover from a recent stroke. Cards and letters may be sent to Renne at Scenic Manor Assisted Living, 1409 N. Fremont Street, Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126.

If you would like to share an update in our weekly email or the worship bulletin, please let the church office know

Please continue to keep your Grace friends and family in your prayers. Think about the persons that you often sat by in the sanctuary or the people you'd share a cup of coffee with. Could you send them a letter this weekend or even make a call to check in on one another? If you need help finding a phone number or address, please contact the church office.

If you would like an updated copy of the church directory, let us know and we will put one in the mail for you.

## **Guide to Prayer and Study - Week of October 19-24, 2020**

### **Monday, October 19**

**Read** - 2 Peter 1:3-8

**Notice** - John Wesley, Methodism's founder, wrote of this passage in his Notes on the Bible: "In this most beautiful connection, each preceding grace leads to the following; each following tempers and perfects the preceding." Wesley urged Methodists to serve God with their heads, their hearts, and their hands, and this passage pictured qualities that transform our whole life. Cooperate with God to add each of these qualities to your life, Peter said. They will give you everything you need for life and godliness. Peter made the sweeping claim that God has given us everything we need for a godly life. Which of the positive qualities he listed in verses 5 through 7 do you find most appealing? Which of these qualities are already present in your life? Thank God for them! How can you more completely connect with God's spiritual power to add the other good things to your life?

**Pray** - Jesus, remind me that I am never "done growing" in this life. Pour your Spirit into my heart, leading me on from one positive step of growth to the next. Amen.

### **Tuesday, October 20**

**Read** - Ephesians 4:11-16

**Notice** - "God's goal," Ephesians said, "is for us to become mature adults... fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ." At times we find that unity with Christ and one another is still hard. But God calls us to become spiritually mature so that nothing can knock us off course. Building this kind of community requires us to speak the truth in love, with our understanding of truth grounded in thoughtful Bible study guided by the Holy Spirit so that we become more like our Savior Jesus Christ. All our different gifts need to work together so that we can strengthen and equip one another. What are you doing in your day-to-day life that nurtures spiritual maturity in you and others, building up the body of believers in love? What one or two items are most clearly on your growth horizon right now?

**Pray** - God, you are building me—you are building us—into a community of spiritually mature people, growing in every way into your life of love. Help me to do my part as a faithful builder growing more and more into your image. Amen.

### **Wednesday, October 21**

**Read** - Galatians 6:7-10

**Notice** - Sometimes Jesus' followers also feel the urge to turn their faith into a display piece, untouched by real life's messiness and challenges. But faith is never something to

keep isolated, shiny and “just for show.” The apostle Paul wrote about relationships, about how we treat one another. He pictured us as farmers who need to be careful what we plant in the soil of our lives. The point of our faith, he said, is to energize and empower us to work for the good of all. Have you ever gotten tired of doing good? If so, what helped renew your energy to bear good fruit by blessing others? Verse 10 said we should work for the good “whenever we have an opportunity.” Do you ever feel that you’re stuck, that you have no opportunity to do anybody any good? How can the Holy Spirit’s presence help you find creative ways of doing good at any point in your life?

**Pray** - Jesus, let your light shine from my life, not out of a shiny display case, but amid the darkness and dirt of real human life. Help me never to tire of doing the good you call me to do. Amen.

### **Thursday, October 22**

**Read** - Colossians 1:21-23

**Notice** - Verses 21 and 22 painted a vivid “before and after” image of the change the good news of Jesus had created in the formerly pagan lives of the Christians in Colossae. What is your personal “before and after” story? (Even if your life never literally fit verse 21, recall how Pastor Hamilton often tells us, “I am less of a jerk than I would have been without Jesus.”) How often do you remember and thank God for the ability to live in the reality of verse 22? Scholar N. T. Wright wrote, “The effects of the gospel don’t happen automatically. Christians... can’t simply sit back and do nothing. They must ‘keep firmly on’; they must now take responsibility for their own growth to maturity in faith.... Christians must develop their life of faith, hope, and love (see verses 4–5) on this foundation and not somewhere else.”\* During the rest of 2020, in what ways will you seek learnings and actions that further mature your life of faith, hope, and love?

**Pray** - God, I could not save myself. Thank you for doing that for me. Now save me from the mistaken idea that I can sit back and do nothing. Guide me as I seek to embody the hope you’ve given me. Amen.

N. T. Wright, Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004, p. 156.

### **Friday, October 23**

**Read** - Romans 5:1-5

**Notice** - The apostle Paul sketched the spiritual growth process through which every Christ-follower can develop a character that meets any of life’s dark twists and turns with hope and trust, not despair. Greek literature featured stories that showed humans growing more noble through terrible suffering. Paul writes that as we meet trouble with God’s grace and hope, we grow. In Paul’s day, “realists” said the Christian message he preached had no chance to even alter the course of the invincible Roman Empire, much less outlast



it. Do you inherently lean more to the view that hope is mostly delusional, useless, and hurtful, or to Paul's view that hope (based on God's saving action) is a crucial result of strong character? What role, if any, has hope played in keeping you going at tough times? Have you ever experienced the progression of trouble, endurance, character, and hope bringing you a powerful sense of God's love being "poured out" in your heart? Later in Romans, Paul wrote, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13). How close to "overflowing" is your inner supply of hope today, whether you face good situations, hard ones, or a mix? How can you open your heart and allow God to fill you to overflowing with hope?

**Pray** - God, I like the image of overflowing with hope—but, many days, I also know that isn't me. Keep me attuned to the ways you are seeking to fill me to overflowing. Shape me into a fountain of hope for those around me. Amen.

## **Saturday, October 24**

**Read** - Titus 3:1-8

**Notice** - As his letter to Titus neared its end, Paul summed up both the outward sources and inner springs of the way of life that would make the Christians "good and useful for everyone." In verses 4-7, he quoted what in verse 8 he called a "reliable" saying. The same wording appears four times in the two letters to Timothy. It seems to refer to language drawn from some of the earliest Christian' statements used to express their common faith. Paul didn't aimlessly choose the character qualities he listed. "It's not just that God has decided to set up some new rules, for the sake of it, and that one of them happens to be that Christians should be nice to people.... The reason we are summoned to avoid speaking evil of people, not to be quarrelsome, and so on, is that we are ourselves the creatures of God's generous love, and if we aren't showing that same generous, kindly, forgiving love we have obviously forgotten the path by which we've come."\* In what ways does how you treat others reflect and grow from God's gracious treatment of you?

**Pray** - God, you saved me because of your mercy, not because of righteous things I had done. Thank you for the ways your mercy and grace are reshaping my life. Amen.

\* Wright, N. T. Paul for Everyone: The Pastoral Letters: 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus (The New Testament for Everyone). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.

**We have regularly scheduled live-streams on Facebook and YouTube.** You can also always catch our videos at [gracedesmoines.org](http://gracedesmoines.org). Our new schedule of live stream events is:

**Sunday** - Worship at 10:15 am on the GraceDesMoines Facebook and YouTube pages

**Tuesday** - Guide to Prayer and Study at 9 am

**Thursday** - Spiritual Practices at 9 am



### **Emerging Issues: Our Changing Climate - Sunday, October 25**

The climate of our home, the earth, is changing in really big ways. Scientists attribute this to human-caused global warming caused in large part by our massive use of fossil fuels. Many places are feeling the dramatic effects already, with weather extremes and rising ocean levels as each new year brings record-breaking heat. Join us for a presentation on the facts about and potential solutions for the climate crisis affecting us here in Iowa and around the globe Sunday, October 25, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

Denise Franck is a concerned grandmother who infuses her educational talk on our changing global climate with concerns specific to Iowans. Her presentation takes a difficult topic and makes it easy to understand. She attended the Climate Reality Project leadership training in Minneapolis in 2019.

**Topic:** Emerging Issues    **Time:** Oct 25, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83459970282?pwd=RzdIRHElYWlaOE54WjBsUzNk-WXFHdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 834 5997 0282    **Passcode:** 915780

#### **One tap mobile**

+13017158592,,83459970282#,,,,,0#,,915780# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,83459970282#,,,,,0#,,915780# US (Chicago)

#### **. Dial by your location**

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

**Meeting ID:** 834 5997 0282

**Passcode:** 915780

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83459970282?pwd=RzdIRHElYWlaOE54WjBsUzNk-WXFHdz09>

Passcode: 915780

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### **Amplify Membership**

Grace currently has a membership to Amplify, a media ministry of the United Methodist Publishing House. You can look at free options at <https://amplifymedia.com/>, even without the Grace “code” for our membership. If you would like to look at other content, please email [bob.dean@iaumc.net](mailto:bob.dean@iaumc.net) for information on how to access all the materials with Grace’s code.

### **Heifer Marketplace 2020**

Advent begins November 29. Usually that would be your first opportunity to participate in a long tradition at Grace UMC: helping provide an animal that changes the lives of families around the world. Obviously, there will be no table in the narthex this year. Heifer Program people are working on a “Digital Marketplace”. The initial page looks pretty straightforward and easy to access. It will mean using a credit card to make your gift. I am working with them to make it specific to Grace. If you receive email from Heifer, it would help me to know that. If you are interested in receiving their mail, I would like to know that as well. New situations call for new ways to make it work. I would be happy to talk with you about your gift for this year.

Sue Sonner (515.822.1355; [lssonner@aol.com](mailto:lssonner@aol.com);

### **UMCOR School Kits**

Together with United Methodists around the world, we will work with the United Methodist Committee on Relief to provide school kits for children in need. Please start collecting the following supplies and be on the look out for more information in the future on when and how we will collect and assemble school kits for UMCOR. Supplies may be dropped off at the church office.

3 notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8’x10 ½’

- 1 pencil eraser 2” or larger, remove package
- 1 pair of student round tip scissors
- 1 pencil sharpener 1”, remove package
- 1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 ruler - 12” long with metric
- 6 unsharpened pencils – no advertising
- 1 box of 24 crayons





## Grace UMYF Wreath Sale

The Grace United Methodist Youth is selling wreaths & greenery. The proceeds from the sale will be used to support youth activities, including the Wesley Heritage/Choir Trip to Europe next year.

Wreaths and greenery may be ordered by:

1. Printing the form and mailing it with your payment to:  
**Grace Youth**  
**c/o GRACE WREATH SALE**  
**3700 Cottage Grove Ave., Des Moines, IA, 50311**
2. Printing the form and dropping it off with your check in the church office.
3. Contacting a Grace Youth Group member or Kari & John Walker at 515-210-7367 or johnwalker3000@gmail.com.

Orders may be placed through November 16th. Orders will be available for pick up at Grace on Saturday, November 21st.

☐ I will pick up my order

☐ Please deliver my order

	Price	Quantity	Total
22 in. Wreath	\$ 22.00	_____	_____
36 in. Wreath	\$ 38.00	_____	_____
12 in. Door Swag	\$ 19.00	_____	_____
25 ft. Balsam garland	\$ 32.00	_____	_____
Cemetery wreath holders	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
	Total		_____

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



## ATTENTION! Please REGISTER NOW for Grace Youth Des Moines-Grace UMC's fundraiser!

**It's super easy!** Please help support our fundraiser by following the steps below to register online today. When you register, we'll know you're committed to supporting our fundraiser and helping us reach our goals. To help our organization even more, send 10 email invitations to friends & family and spread the word about our need for help. With over 2,500 gift ideas, supporters can shop and check-off their holiday gift-list, all while supporting our important cause.

Will you follow the instructions below and register today? It's easy, it's simple, and it's important!

### Here's how to register today and help us spread the word!

Invite friends and family (even if they're out of town), online orders ship directly to the purchaser!

Organization ID:

**11519**



**Step 1: REGISTER** at [www.charlestonwrapstore.com](http://www.charlestonwrapstore.com)  
(use organization ID to the left)



**Step 2: Use our Email-Invite Generator** to invite out-of-town friends & family to shop and support! Plus, share your unique invite links via text and social media.



Participant Registration

Ultra-Heavy Gift Wrap



Personalization



Holiday Décor



Kitchen & Home



**Charleston Wrap**  
BETTER PRODUCTS. BETTER FUNDRAISING.

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TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL-GAME CUB'S CLASSIC VIRTUAL CONCESSIONS

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Grace Youth is asking for your help, more or less  
 To make our virtual concession stand a big success  
 Just send us the money, if you please  
 That it would cost to purchase a pretzel with cheese  
 Or a cubby dog and a ballpark beer  
 We are giving the cubs a virtual cheer  
 Send in the money it takes to buy  
 Tickets close enough to catch a pop fly  
 We know you will help us if you can  
 Because you are a Baseball and Grace Youth Fan!



### CONCESSIONS MENU (prices may appear larger than average)

____ Candy (Red Vine, M&M's, etc.) \$25	____ Giant Ballpark Beer \$90
____ Hot Pretzel with Cheese \$35	____ I-Cubs Face Mask \$100
____ Kids Cubby Meal \$40	____ Colossal dog prepared by the Beckers \$125
____ Nachos with Cheese \$45	____ Picture with Cubbie Bear \$250
____ Popcorn \$50	____ Run the bases with Meg Malone-Titus \$500
____ Cherry or Blue Raspberry Slushie \$50	____ Weiner Cannon ride with the Goodes \$750
____ Peanuts roasted by Shawn Mullen \$85	____ Skybox Rental with Guest Bartenders: Chris Heilskov & Jacob Naumann

Submit your donation in one of the following ways:

Online - [gracedesmoines.org](https://gracedesmoines.org) > Giving > Make a Donation > Enter the amount you would like to contribute in the **Grace Youth Fundraising** row.

USPS – Grace United Methodist Church (3700 Cottage Grove Ave, Des Moines, IA 50311). **Make checks payable to Grace Youth.**

Venmo - @Grace-Youth-2 (Todd Witke) – indicate virtual concession as the reason

**WORSHIP LEADER:** Rev. Nate Nims;

RESOURCES USED IN THIS SERVICE:

Opening Prayer from enfleshed ([www.enfleshed.com](http://www.enfleshed.com).)

All music used under OneLicense A-727197

Guide to Prayer and Study modified from cor.org

† In hymns, prayers, and liturgies, use language that makes worship meaningful, enriching, and inclusive.



Grace United Methodist Church

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Des Moines, IA 50311

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phone: 515.255.2131

email: [info@gracedesmoines.org](mailto:info@gracedesmoines.org)

***Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter at GraceDesMoines***

In-person services are suspended for the time being, Please join us online for worship.

Watch the livestream of the 10:15 am service on the GraceDesMoines Facebook page  
or on our YouTube channel..