

#### Serving you at Grace United Methodist Church

Pastor - Alan Atchison
Secretary - Jane Hubler

Jr./Sr. High Youth Ministries - Alicia Spicher
Building Manager - Chad Burrows
Nursery Coordinator - Nicole Hooper
Choir Director - Diana Paul

#### **Church Office**

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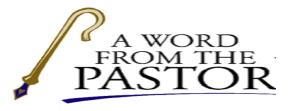
### Pastor Alan Atchison

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# To Do... or Not To Do?



With the sun currently coming up at 5:30 am, and not setting until well after 8:30pm, and temperatures moderating into the 70's and 80's, the month of June offers us a unique opportunity each year - to catch-up on our to-do lists, or to tackle new projects with the extra daylight time we have been given.

When Cathy and I returned from vacation at the end of May, I spent the better part of a whole day just going through email, and returning messages. And by the end of that day, I was literally exhausted! It wasn't that I had done much physical work, but more so that I was continually having to switch my thinking and concentration back and forth from one thing to another all day long. And even though I had put in a long day, I didn't feel as if I had accomplished anything worthwhile.

And that led me to consider how much time that I use doing inconsequential things. And by inconsequential, I mean time that does not produce visually productive results - like working on my next sermon, or crossing items off of my to-do lists.

Some might call it simply wasting time

on things that don't really matter.

But I believe that most often, it's those little, inconsequential things that **do** matter. It's the time that we spend investing in other people's lives that turns acquaintances into friends. It is the time that we take to attentively listen to someone's problems and struggles that makes them feel like they matter - like someone actually cares about them. It's the time that we spend

growing relationships that create opportunities to share life together that matter the most, and will end up bearing fruit for God's purposes.

The Jesus that we encounter in the Gospel's was purposeful in spending time growing relationships with those that followed him; pouring himself into them in ways that might have seemed inconsequential at the time, but that would bear great dividends as they went out into the world to tell others of God's great love, and the hope that they had because of Jesus.

You and I live in a world that offers us opportunities to connect with other people in a multitude of ways - telephone and texts; snail mail and Email; Facebook, Snapchat, and other forms of social media. But the most productive and important way to grow relationships is to spend time one-on-one; face to face.

My hope and prayer for you as we enter this season of warmer weather and longer days is that you might make the most of the time that you have been given to care for the little things that you have neglected over the past months, or even years - endeavoring to mend fences, repair relationships, and strengthen friendships that those efforts might come to bear great dividends in the future, for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Your inconsequential pastor,
Alan



## Sunday Morning Small Group Opportunities

Summer is a *GREAT TIME* to try something different! One of the most proven ways to grow your faith is to join a summer small group. We are providing a number of new and different opportunities for discussion and fellowship at 9:30 am, following morning worship.

There's a DlaCe for you!

**Growing in Faith Together** Group - meets in the Library - Summer discussion focus - "The Parables of Jesus "John Orr & Becky Witmer, co-facilitators

**Building Christian Character** Group - meets in Rm 14, across from Infant Nursery - Summer discussion focus - "Real Life Issues "Todd Bell, facilitator"

**Life Ministries** Group - meets in Rm 12, across from Preschool Room - Summer discussion focus - "What Makes You Happy?" Ron Hepner, facilitator

**Older Adult Friendship Class** - meets in the Chapel Summer focus - " David C Cook Quarterly Lesson Books " Ina Schoffstall & Duane Snell, facilitators

**Coffee, Conversation, and Current Events** Group - meets in social hall - Summer focus - "The Intersection of Life and Faith", Pastor Alan, facilitator

**Men of Integrity** Group - meets across from church office - Summer focus - Men's issues

- PLUS - Youth Sunday School classes:

**Preschool** - Nicole Hooper, facilitator **Elementary** - Lisa VanOlden, Lori Schoffstall, Tina Fetter, Tammy Schade, facilitators

Jr./Sr. High Youth - Alicia Spicher, facilitator



#### Baby Bottle Fund Drive

Once again this year, we are participating in Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Fund Drive. Baby Bottles are still available to be taken home and filled with your loose pocket

change for the next 3 weeks, and then returned on Father's Day. All proceeds go toward education and counseling to help young women choose life instead of abortion.

#### " Maker Fun Factory"

VBS WILL BE HELD July 10-13, 2017 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm



The GUMC Youth are busy making plans and decorating for this year's Vacation Bible School!!!
Their energy and enthusiasm is sure to rub off on those they will be helping to lead. Volunteers are ALWAYS welcome, provided that you have had Safe Sanctuaries Training, and we have your Pa State Clearances on file.

For questions, or to sign-up to help, please reach out to Alicia Spicher 717-648-9306 or Lisa VanOlden. 717-649-8931

The June Newsletter is sponsored by Jane Hubler in honor or her parent's 65th Wedding Anniversary....
Happy Anniversary Tom & June Carvell!



June 1	Laura Troutman	June 20 James Hoffman
June 2	<b>Tanner Prouse</b>	June 22 Lind Davis
June 3	<b>Decker Klawitter</b>	
June 4	Ryan Scheib	June 24 Nancy Coyle Millie Fulkroad
	Sam Scheib	Karen Travitz
	Tyler Travitz	June 26 Grant Matter
June 5	<b>Dave Gilmore</b>	Cameron Snyder
	<b>Nicole Hooper</b>	Shawn White
	<b>Brayden Zapotok</b>	June 28 Bryan Bowman
June 6	Jessica Paul	Matthew Lontz
June 7	Daniel Wilt	Douglas Snyder
	Cody Shomper	June 29 Kathy Weiss
June 8	Zachary Leaman	,
	Donna Shrawder	
June 11	Jayne Harman	*******
June 12	Garret Leshko	
	<b>Darlene Schaffner</b>	-00
June 13	Diane Zimmerman	
June 14	Hunter Reed	
	Tim Scheib	
June 16	Lydia Heim	
	Dalton Paul	
June 17	Wyatt Strauser	DIPTUDAVE
June 18	•	DIRTHUAIS
June 19	<b>,</b>	INOUK
	Evan Herb	CONGREGATIO

**Heather Kauffman** 

**Kaleb Prouse** 



**PLEASE NOTE:** Beginning in June, the Senior High Youth will be meeting on Monday Nights from 6 - 7:30pm, while Junior High Youth will continue to meet on Wednesdays from 6 - 7:30pm.

<u>June 5, 2017 - Sr. High 6-7:30pm</u> (Games, Fellowship, and Lesson)

<u>June 7, 2017</u> - Jr. High 6-7:30pm (Mess Night - bring old clothes and a towel)

<u>June 10, 2017</u> - Fundraiser at Ned Smith Center ( More information to follow )

June 12, 2017 - Sr. High 6-7:30pm (Games, Fellowship, and Lesson)

<u>June 14, 2017</u> - Jr. High 6-7:30 - Youth Group, lesson along with games and fellowship.

<u>June 18 - 23, 2017</u> Youth Mission trip to Pittsburgh.

<u>June 26</u> - Sr. High 6-7:30pm (Games, Fellowship, and Lesson)

<u>June 28, 2017</u> - Jr. High 6-8:30pm - Kayaking, canoeing on the Susquehanna with s'mores and marshmallows over the fire.



## MISSION TRIP SUNDAY June 18th

We will be praying over and commissioning 27

youth and adults from our church at our morning worship service on Sunday, June 18th. (Yes, you read that right - 27!!!) They will be heading out into the mission field during the week of June 18 - 23

## GRADUATES SUNDAY

We will be honoring our High School and College graduates on Sunday,
June 11<sup>th</sup> - which is also our Summer
Worship Schedule Kick-Off - with *ONE JOINT*SERVICE OF WORSHIP beginning at 8:30am.

#### **VBS Planning Meeting**

A VBS planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6 @ 6pm in the youth room. Anyone currently signed up to help and /or anyone that is interested in helping - this is for you:). Thank you all for your continued support!







#### **Mission Update for June**

<u>Camp Smiles</u> will be our designated monthly Home Mission Project for June. They will receive \$350.00.

#### **Mission Central Project**

The Mission committee would like to thank all who have donated work gloves and placed them in our collection bucket.

Beginning with the first Sunday in June, we will be collecting *clothespins*. They can be in a pack of 50, or, if they are loose, they can be placed in a plastic bag.



#### **Upcoming trips scheduled to Mission Central**

JULY 15, 2017 - with Grace UMC Youth Group AUG. 19, 2017 NOV 18, 2017

I would like to pass on a Thank You Note that our church has received from Pat Nissel:

Thank you so much to the people of Grace UMC for the fantastic support of the Street Ministry. My love is for the people I help - not the administrative side of ministry. I am grateful for all the help in meeting expenses. Pat

Also we would like to thank Nancy Coyle for all her devoted time and material she purchases to sew children's dresses for the Indian Mobile Mission in Snowflake, AZ. The shipment that just left Grace church this past week totaled 251 dresses.

Next Missions meeting will be August 16, 2017 @ 6:30 PM.

To God be the glory. John Ramberger.

#### G.U.M.C. Lifesavers

**GUMC** 

## Our Summer Theme: Jesus is My Savior, Not My Religion

Ages: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to 5<sup>th</sup> grade + Cost: \$50.00

#### **Tentative Activities Include:**

June 21 – Indian Echo Caverns
June 28 – Sight & Sound - Jonah
July 10-12 – Retreat @ Ingleby
July 19 – Camp Smiles (AM)/Swimming (PM)
Tuesday, July 25 – Picnic w/ Vets from Lebanon
VA Hospital

Register by contacting: Tracy Barcavage @ (717) 433-8089 tracy.steelergirl@gmail.com

#### Hearts of Grace

For several years, we have teamed up with Boyer's grocery store in Lykens to purchase the meats and more for the monthly food boxes. Their employees have a weekly "dress down" day where they make contributions to a charity of their choice. The employees have designated our Hearts of Grace ministry to receive all their donations *for the next year*!! Next time you are in Boyer's PLEASE thank an employee for their generosity.

#### Just For You Backpack Ministry

A lot has been happening in and around our ministry! Several months ago we were contacted by a mother of a soon-to-be 6yr old. Mom told us that every other year their children have a birthday party where their guests are asked to bring items to be given to a local charity instead of gifts for the birthday child. This year, her daughter wanted to give her party for JFY packs. She saw some of her friends receiving them at school and wanted to help. Her friends and family gave very generously—they brought a car loaded with items perfect for the backpacks. They also received over \$100 in cash gifts which they used to purchase more items at Costco! When it came time to deliver their gifts, the little girl and her mom and dad stayed to help pack!

We were also contacted by MI Windows and Doors about their community benevolence program. They have a committee of employees that work together to find ways to give back to the community. They made a very generous financial donation to JFY. Two of their team members joined us this month to help pack Jiffy Packs – their generosity and service are very much appreciated!

In September, the JFY ministry was named as a

a Home Town Hero by Northern Dauphin Human Services. We received commendations from the PA Senate, the PA House of Representatives, and the Dauphin County Commissioners!

Thank you for all you do to make this ministry such a success in our community. Packing is complete for the school year. We are in the process of gearing up for our summer program. Stay tuned for more info!

Hearts of Grace/JFY team: Janine Boyer, Michelle Dreibelbis, Deb & Doug Goudy, John Ramberger, Ina Schoffstall, Beth Spicher, Carol & Terry Uhler, Diane Nestler or Becky Witmer,

#### **Directory Information Update**

Thank You to all who have taken the time to update your contact information for the upcoming pictorial directory! If you have not yet done so, please take a moment this week to complete a form, and drop it in the box provided at the church, or mail it to the church office.

#### **Nursery Volunteers Needed**

(Please see dates - YOUR help is needed)

June 4, 2017 9am- Nicole Hooper

10:30 am - Nicole Hooper/Help Needed

June 11, 2017 8:30 am - 10:30 am - Nicole Hooper/Sara McAlanis

June 18, 2017 8:30 am - 10:30 am - Jayne Harman/Shannon Vallier

June 25, 2017 8:30 am - 10:30 am - Nicole Hooper/Help Needed