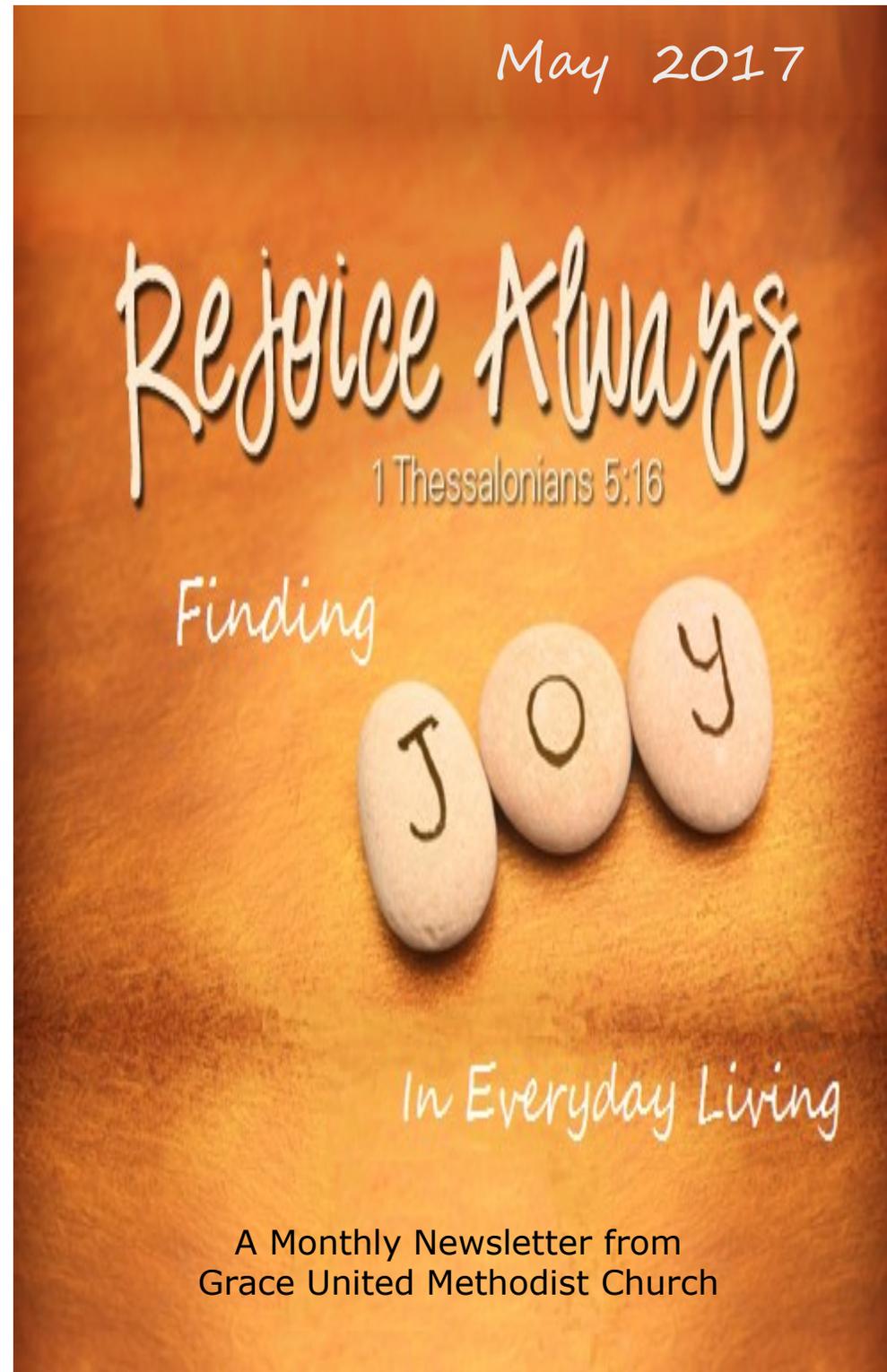


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Grace United Methodist Church  
982 Medical Road  
Millersburg, PA 17061

*Return Service Requested*



## 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

982 Medical Rd. Millersburg PA 17061

(717) 692 - 2838

Email - [graceyf@epix.net](mailto:graceyf@epix.net)

### Pastor Alan Atchison

Parsonage (717) 692 - 2896      Cell (570) 847 - 2939

[www. graceumc-mbg.org](http://www.graceumc-mbg.org)

## Grace UMC SUMMER Worship Schedule

*Beginning June 11th*

**8:30 am      Combined Worship Service**



### Directory Information Update

Please, take a moment to fill out the directory information update sheet included at the center of this newsletter. Once completed, please drop it in the box provided at the church, or mail it to the church office, so that we can begin the process of updating our church's congregational information. Thank you for your help in this matter.



## MISSION TRIP SUNDAY

June 18th

**We will be praying over and commissioning 25 youth and adults from our church ( Yes, you read that right - 25 !!! ) who will be heading out into the mission field during the week of June 18 - 23 at our morning worship service that Sunday.**

## 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.

If you know of someone who will be graduating from either H.S. or College, please submit their names to Jane in the church office.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

We will celebrate the Gift of the Holy Spirit on Sunday, June 4th, with Holy Communion at both morning worship services.



# Youth activities

**May 3, 2017**

**Jr High 6-7:30 and Sr. High 7-8:30pm**

Youth lesson, along with games and fellowship.

**May 10, 2017**

**Jr. High 6-7:30 and Sr. High 7-8:30pm**

Youth lesson, along with games and fellowship. (Jr. High will have a mess night.)

**May 17, 2017**

**Jr. High 6-7:30 and Sr. High 7-8:30pm**

Youth lesson, along with games and fellowship.

**May 24, 2017**

**Jr. High 6-7:30 and Sr. High 7-8:30pm**

Youth lesson along with games and fellowship.  
Brown Bag Distribution Night. (more info to follow)

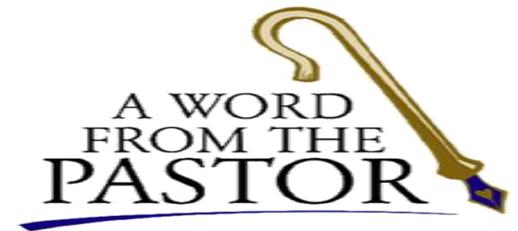
**May 27, 2017**

**9-11am - Youth Car Wash and Pretzel Sandwich Fundraiser - Bolig's Propane parking lot**

**May 31, 2017**

**Combined Youth 6-8:30pm - Pizza Party, along with Brown Bag Collection /Sorting. Large group games and activities. (more info to follow)**

## WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT THE CROSS?



Easter Sunday is, for most all churches, the highpoint of their spring worship schedule. We set aside a period of 40 days (not including Sabbaths) to examine the current state of our lives and our beliefs, in preparation for our own dying and being raised anew with Christ on Easter Sunday. It is a season of regeneration and hope; of new life and new beginnings.

### ***But what really happened at the cross?***

We often gloss over the significance of the events that happened there in our hurry to get to the empty tomb of Sunday morning - partly because they are uncomfortable to hear, and even harder to contemplate. But, as the Hymn reminds us - "It was on that old cross, Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me."

Sadly, we in the church are more than eager to remind those around us about the "we've been pardoned because we believe in Jesus" part, but we shy away from talking about (let alone embracing) the "sanctification" process.

I don't know about your life, but in my own life, the "sanctification process" so far has been



difficult.... actually, it has been downright hard, and messy, and costly. But that is what sin does to us - it makes us miserable, and it is costly, and painful, and messy. And yet, we seem to be content to continue on in our course just like we always have. But in spite of our poor choices, Jesus offers each one of us a chance to change direction; to begin following HIM, instead of choosing to embrace the "...sin that so easily entangles us."

It was at the cross that held the human form of Almighty God, that **miracles happened!!!** A common thief came to understand and acknowledge his own sin, and found forgiveness and peace for his soul. The Roman centurion in charge of crucifying the three men came face to face with God, and his eyes were opened, which led him to offer his testimony, "Surely, this was the Son of God." The Sun stopped shining for three hours, and the curtain separating the Holy of Holies - the inner tabernacle where God was thought to dwell among His people - was torn in two. Matthew records that there was a great earthquake, and the tombs of many holy people who had died split open, and they came forth, and were seen by many people!

The redeeming truth of the cruel and rugged old cross is that **When God is present... Miracles Happen , and Change Happens!!!**

As we travel through this season of miracles, may your eyes be opened to the miracles happening around you every day, and may you have



**Sometimes, it's hard to disengage from ministry...**

Pastor Alan and Cathy will be taking some time away from the demands of ministry at the end of May to re-connect and be refreshed. Pastoral emergencies will be handled by Rev. Rich Berg at First UMC, and pastor Rick Anderson from Hebron UMC.

*The Millersburg Swimming Pool Association will be holding a Ham Pot Pie Supper on Saturday evening, May 13th, in the Grace UMC Family Life Center. All proceeds will benefit the Millersburg Pool repair and upgrade effort. Call Kathy Weiss (692-3470) for more information.*





**Nursery Volunteers Needed**  
(Please see dates - YOUR help is needed)

9:00 am

10:30 am

May 7, 2017	Nicole Hooper	Shannon Vallier/ Nicole Hooper
May 14, 2017	Nicole Hooper	Help Needed
May 21, 2017	Nicole Hooper	Tracey Barcavage/ Sarah McAlanis
May 28, 2017	Nicole Hooper	Nicole Hooper/Angela Hosterman

### Baby Bottle Fund Drive

Once again this year, we will be participating in Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Fund Drive. Baby Bottles will be distributed on Mother's Day to be taken home and filled with your loose pocket change for the next 5 weeks, and then returned on Father's Day. All proceeds go toward education and counseling to help young women choose life instead of abortion.



This year's **Susquehanna Annual Conference** will be held Thursday, May 4th through Sat, May 6th in Hershey. Please endeavor to keep Pastor Alan, Linda Leshko, and Jeanette Snell lifted up in prayer over that time.

the courage to ask God for your very own miracle.

Let's not be afraid of what we *might* find around the bend as together we commit to continue down the path of "sanctification", including enduring all the difficulty that this life has in store, so that we might receive the crown of life set aside for us ever since the day of our redemption.

Your miracle-expecting,  
forever-being-sanctified pastor,  
Alan

# Worship Times are changing.....

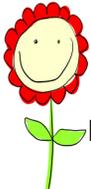
Many people have commented how nice it is when we are all together for worship, and that it affords the opportunity to be together and to connect with each other in ways that are not always possible. So, over the summer months, we will be going to a single worship service, beginning each week at 8:30am, to allow families to worship together before heading off to embrace whatever summer activity is on their schedules. We ask for your patience and understanding, as we explore new ways to connect with our community - especially with young families and those with children.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wedne

	<p>1</p> <p>6 pm ~ New Grace 6 pm - Spring Clean up 7:30pm - Christian Ed Fall Planning meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:45pm Healing Prayer @ Parsonage</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6-7:30 pm - 7-8:30 pm - 7 pm ~ Chc</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7pm Prayer Service for Our Denomination's Future</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6 pm ~ New Grace 6 pm - Spring Clean up 7pm - PPRC meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 pm ~ Trustees</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6-7:30 pm - 7-8:30 pm - 7 pm ~ Chc</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Happy Mother's Day !</p>  <p>Baby Bottles</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6 pm ~ New Grace 6 pm - Spring Clean up</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 pm ~ Finance</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6-7:30 pm - 7-8:30 pm - 7 pm ~ Chc</p>
<p>21</p> <p>6 pm Noah's Crew Closing Program</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6 pm ~ New Grace 6 pm - Spring Clean up</p>	<p>23</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>6-7:30 pm - 7-8:30 pm - 7 pm ~ Chc</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>6 pm ~ New Grace</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 pm ~ Ad Council</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6-8:30 pm - Youth anc</p>

## Annual Outdoor Spring Cleaning



Each Monday evening through the end of May, we will be gathering to help spruce-up the exterior of Grace church, and to care for some of the “stuff” that has accumulated over the years. All hands are welcome - including yours ! Please bring your work gloves, and join us for a little “earthly” fun, beginning at 6pm each night.



### Is this the future of the UMC ?

As a result of the 2016 General Conference, a committee was appointed by the Council of Bishops to recommend a way for our church to move forward on the extremely complex and diverse issue of human sexuality and the clergy - particularly the issue of gay marriages in our churches, and the ordination and appointment of self-avowed and/or openly practicing LBGTQ clergy and bishops.

Each Annual Conference across the globe has been assigned a week to pray for God's guidance, and for the work of The Commission On A Way Forward.

To that end, Pastor Alan and **Grace UMC** will be hosting a **7pm service on Sunday, May 7th** for the churches in our area to discover and examine the issues, and to pray for the work of the Commission.

# Happy Birthday

- |        |                 |        |                     |
|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------------|
| May 1  | Mary Buffington | May 15 | Sandra Bell         |
| May 2  | Wanda Brooks    |        | Kaitlyn Bower       |
| May 3  | Doug Compton    |        | Diana Paul          |
|        | Gary Ibberson   | May 17 | Mike Ibberson       |
|        | John Rubendall  |        | Karen Uhler         |
| May 4  | Stan Leshko     | May 19 | Jill Ambrovich      |
|        | Beth Spicher    |        | Michael Weller      |
| May 5  | Elizabeth Houck | May 20 | Morgan Hooper       |
|        | Tanya Myers     |        | Eileen Orr          |
|        | Pam Strauser    | May 21 | Doug Orr            |
|        | Dustin Warfield | May 22 | Barb Zapotok        |
| May 7  | Allison Schade  | May 23 | Veronica Davis      |
|        | Cody Shomper    | May 24 | Kerry Forney        |
| May 8  | Sandy Romberger |        | Greg Shertzer       |
|        | Becky Hoch      |        | Pam Troutman        |
| May 9  | Layla Weiss     | May 26 | Emily Schade        |
| May 10 | Tina Billow     | May 27 | Kayla Ebersole      |
|        | Steve Magyar    | May 28 | Jaden Green         |
|        | Calen Reigner   | May 29 | Johanna Snyder      |
| May 11 | Crystal Dreher  |        | Diane White         |
| May 12 | Tom Billow      | May 31 | Marcie Sabolsky     |
|        | John Mangle     |        | *****               |
|        | Morgan Paul     |        | Our 80+ Member is   |
| May 13 | Carissa Shaffer |        | Tony Oberhardt 5/28 |
| May 14 | Kevin Hepner    |        |                     |
|        | Emily Miller    |        |                     |
|        | Taylor Musa     |        |                     |



# May





## Designated Monthly Mission

**Mission Central** is the mission warehouse affiliate of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. Their goal is to be a place that helps to connect God's resources with human need. Day-to day operations consist of three major focuses: Disaster Response, Mission Outreach and Mission Education.

Mission Central is a member of the UMCOR Relief Supply Network, and through your generosity has been able to provide aid for people around the world, wherever there is need due to natural disasters, weather events, social upheaval, and outbreaks of disease and illness. Since their humble beginnings in 2002, they have grown to become a major relief supplier, and have joined forces with ministry partners such as Bethesda Mission, New Digs, Computer Ministry and Project C.U.R.E., providing relief and assistance right here in Central Pennsylvania and the surrounding regions.

Mission Central has been blessed to be able to help provide goods and services for over 3 million people last year - making an impact locally, nationally, and globally.

Watch for the collections containers and signs in the Narthex in the coming weeks. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

**Volunteers needed for upcoming trips to Mission Central**  
MAY 13, 2017 / AUGUST 19, 2017 / NOV 18, 2017

Our Next Missions Committee meeting is **May 04 @ 6:30 PM.**

**John Ramberger. Missions Chair**

## **A Mother/Daughter/Son banquet**

will be held on Thursday evening, **May 11<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 6pm. Help is needed with set-up, food preparation, serving, and clean-up. Please talk to or see Larry Bellis, Pickle Hepner, John Ramberger, or Jarred Shoop for more information. **Sign-up is available on the sheets in the sanctuary overflow area, or by calling the church office at 692-2838.**

The May Newsletter is sponsored by  
**Marilyn Shertzer, in honor of**  
**her son, Greg Shertzer.**  
**Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Greg !**



## **“ Maker Fun Factory ”**

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



The GUMC Youth are already at work making plans for this year's Vacation Bible School, and creatively brainstorming about decorating !!! 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**

6. My preferred method of being contacted about church business is by: ( check one or more )

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ text message \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Letter \_\_\_\_\_

7. In reference to a new Grace UMC pictorial directory, I DO \_\_\_\_\_ DO NOT \_\_\_\_\_ wish to have a free 8x10 picture professionally taken and included in the directory.

8. In reference to my membership status at Grace UMC:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am NOT a member of Grace UMC, but desire to continue to participate in the life of the church.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I am NOT a member of Grace UMC, but am interested in becoming a member.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently a member, and wish to remain so, and agree to uphold my membership vows.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently a member, but no longer live in the area, or are attending elsewhere.

In light of this:

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to remain a member of Grace UMC.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do NOT wish to remain a member of Grace UMC. Please remove me from the role.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have the pastor call me regarding my membership and/or my vows.

9. Other Pertinent Information

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Membership Team Use Only:

Information reviewed and uploaded by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up needed by: Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up Completed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Information form complete \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Grace UMC Church Directory Current Information Update Form

Grace Church is beginning the process of updating membership records, with the intent to create a new, updated membership directory with family pictures later this year.

The first step in this update process is verify and/or correct the current information we have on file, and to obtain some additional information that our new database allows us to track.

1. Household Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Names of members of your household (those living at this address).

Please include last names (if different) and note a (\*) behind those who currently hold membership at Grace UMC.

Name	Birthday	Baptized	Date	Confirmed	Date	Marital	Status	Anniv.	Date
_____	_____	Y N	_____	Y N	_____	S M D	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Y N	_____	Y N	_____	S M D	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Y N	_____	Y N	_____	S M D	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Y N	_____	Y N	_____	S M D	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Y N	_____	Y N	_____	S M D	_____	_____	_____

3. Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remove THIS SHEET, complete the requested information on BOTH SIDES, and return it to the church office.