

January

NEW 2019

Beginnings



The January 2019 Newsletter of
Grace United Methodist Church

Pastor - Alan Atchison
Secretary - Jane Hubler
Choir Director - Diana Paul
Organist - Charlotte Gingrich-Mull
New Grace Praise Band - Ken Rudisill
Custodian - Pat Guarneri
Building Maintenance - James Carvell
Nursery Coordinator - Nicole Hooper
Noah's Crew Preschool - Lisa VanOlden
and Brenda Fultz
Elementary Lifesavers - Tracy Barcavage
Jr./Sr. High Youth Ministries - Alicia Spicher

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Pastor Alan Atchison

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DON'T MISS OUT!

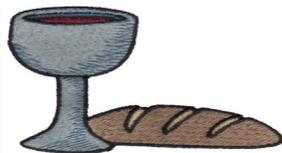
SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON ~ Please join us on Sunday, **Jan. 6th**, following the 10:30 am worship service for our next Soup & Sandwich Luncheon. Sign up on the sheet right outside the main office to contribute a soup or dessert.

UN-DECK THE HALLS ~ We will be putting all our Christmas decorations away on **Monday, January 7th at 6:00 pm**. Please remember we have our enormous tree that needs taken down, so some big strong men will be needed. Come and join in on the fellowship as we put away our beautiful decorations for another year and clean our church in preparation for the New Year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ~ We are very much in need of people who would be willing to remove the flowers from the Altar and prepare them for the Sponsors or for delivering them to our shut-ins. Any help would be appreciated. Please call Lynne Bolig at 717-692-4535 if you can help.

Holy Communion

will be celebrated on
January 6th at both services.



Sunday, Feb 3rd

Before you settle in for The Super Bowl, remember to support this annual food drive by bringing a canned good and a dollar to Sunday Morning worship to help stock our Hearts of Grace food pantry.

Plan on joining us for a fellowship time of soup and sandwiches following morning worship.

January Youth Activities

January 6, 2019 Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night -
New Year's Resolution Reading from 2018

January 13, 2019 Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night

January 19, 2019 Sr High Semi-Formal, more details to follow

January 20, 2019 Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night

January 27, 2019 Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night -
Game Show Night



**Tournament
Dodgeball
Friday nights in
February from 6-8pm
in the Family Life Center**

For All Youth, ages 11-18

Spread the Word!

We're working on reaching our community for Jesus.

A donation of \$2.00 per person each night.

Proceeds benefit youth mission trips and service projects.

Contact Alicia Spicher for more information

717-648-9306

Did You Know??? ...

that there are folks in our church that are trained in the art of healing prayer?

If you, or someone you know is interested in receiving prayer for healing, please contact Becky Witmer, Janette Snell, Deb Goudy, Ina Schoffstall, Janine Boyer, or Cathy Atchison.

THE PRACTICE of
HEALING PRAYER

Opportunities for Growth

We seek to provide a number of new and different opportunities for discussion and fellowship, to help grow your faith.

Sunday Mornings, 9:25am

Growing in Faith Together Group - meets in the Library - Fall discussion focus - "Starting Point" with Andy Stanley
John Orr & Becky Witmer, co-facilitators

Building Christian Character Group - meets in Rm 14, across from the Nursery - Current Study - "Follow" by Andy Stanley
Todd Bell, facilitator

Life Ministries Group - meets in Rm 12, across from Preschool
Discussion focus - "The Mission of Jesus"
Ron Hepner, facilitator

Coffee, Conversation, and Current Events - meets in Rm 6 - 8, in the Educational wing. Current focus - "Living our Faith in the Modern-day Culture" Pastor Alan, facilitator

Youth Classes - educational wing

Preschool - Nicole Hooper, facilitator

Elementary Ages - Lisa VanOlden, Lori Schoffstall, Tina Fetter, & Kelsey DeWees, facilitators

Jr./Sr. High Youth - Alicia Spicher & Scott Teats, facilitators

Jr./Sr. High Youth Group - Sundays - 6 - 8pm

Evening Study Groups (See the following page)

Sunday evening - 6:30 - 8:00 pm (beginning January13)

Tuesday evening - 6:30 - 8:00 pm (Beginning January15)

Wed. evening - 6:30 - 8:00 pm (Beginning January16)

Wednesday evening - 6:00 - 7:15pm

3rd Thursday - 7:00 - 8:30pm (Food For Thought Group)

Twelve Women of the Bible - led by Holly Kerwin

1st and 3rd Monday - 6:45 - 8:15pm

The Power of Healing Prayer - led by Cathy Atchison

New Studies offered starting in Mid-January

Gospel of John

First Nights - January 15 and 16 at 6:30 p.m.

A 10 week study of John's Gospel covering 21 chapters guided by John 20:31 : "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (NIV)

We will study:

Individuals like Nicodemus and the Samaritan Woman

Terms like believe, life and Father

The "I am..." sayings of Jesus

Signs/miracles

This study will begin on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 15 & 16 at 6:30 p.m. The first night's class may run until 8:00 p.m. Other nights of the study should run from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. The only study book is our Bibles. Nightly handouts will be provided.

Tuesday Classes January 15 through March 19

Wednesday Classes January 16 through March 20

"Twisting the Truth" by Andy Stanley

Facilitator - John Orr

First Nights - January 16 at 6:30 p.m.

A six week study learning to discern in a culture of deception. Common but deadly deceptions impact you every day. They can twist your thinking in ways you'd never expect and leave you with a life you never imagined. In this six-session video study. Andy Stanley exposes some common ways God's truth gets twisted.

Session Titles:

The Source of Deception

All Is Not as It Seems

Says Who?

Facing Forward

It's Only Physical

It's No Mistake

Wednesday Classes January 16 through February 20

“Courageous Living”

Facilitator - Larry Paul

Saturday Morning Men’s Study 8 - 9:30am

First Study will be held on Saturday, January 12

This is a 4 week study that will be held every other Saturday starting on January 12th. The study will encourage men to hear the call to fight for their family, to value what matters most, to leave a legacy that impacts their children’s future and to stand with Christ in faith for their family.

The Art of Parenting:

Facilitator – Brian Cooper

“Aiming you child’s heart toward God.”

from “Family Life”’s Dennis and Barbara Rainey

8 week Sunday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

First night Sunday, January 13

Bible 101

Facilitator – Pastor Alan

“What is the Bible?”

6 week study being offered two nights Sunday and Tuesday Nights from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

First nights Sunday, January 13 and Tuesday, January 15

Ever wanted to know more about the Bible? Like how it is organized, how the books were chosen; How to choose a Bible to fit your needs; How to approach the text; How does modern archeology support its historical accuracy; or any other questions you never asked, but always wanted to know?

Class and discussion guides will be provided to guide our time together.

Women of the Bible

Facilitator – Becky Witmer

Wednesdays at 6:00 - 7:30p.m.



Thank You : We sincerely don't know what we would do without our faith and you earthly angels. Thank you for all the cards, hugs and gifts in Robert's name. The offers of help when we needed it most was so appreciated. Thank you for all the stories of how Robert touched your lives. It all means so much to us.

Sincerely, Nancy and Jim Coyle

Thank You for all of your cards, gifts, and encouraging support throughout this Christmas Season. We are truly blessed to be serving here in Millersburg alongside you all.

Pastor Alan & Cathy Atchison

Wedding Anniversary to:

Todd & Karen Mace
January 20th



It's that time again!

 We are now accepting sponsors for the 2019 Bulletins, Altar Flowers and Newsletters. Sponsor a week in memory or in honor of loved ones, friends, family members, anniversaries, birthdays, etc. Please call Jane Hubler in the church office (717-692-2838) for costs and available dates, or see the sign-up sheets on the wall right outside the office.



January Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---------|--|---------|--------------------------------|
| Jan. 2 | Rebecca Kolva | Jan. 20 | Lynne Bolig |
| Jan. 3 | John Witmer Jr.
Steven Whary | | Loagan Leshko
Joshua Radel |
| Jan. 4 | Colt Bellis
Janie Martin | Jan. 22 | Zachary Mangle
Brian Miller |
| Jan. 5 | Natasha Feidt
Karen Fulkroad | Jan. 23 | Wyatt Schaffner |
| Jan. 7 | Scott Vallier | Jan. 24 | Sandy Snyder |
| Jan. 8 | Yonnie Miller
Brian Peiffer
Briana Witmer | Jan. 27 | Rebekah Brouch |
| Jan. 11 | Emily Bordner
Joshua Mauser | Jan. 28 | John Haines |
| Jan. 12 | Masen Bellis
Michelle Dreibelbis
Jessica Paul
Zander Underkoffler | Jan. 29 | Malinda Klinger |
| Jan. 13 | Janet Haines | Jan. 30 | Debb Bowman
Lydia Troutman |
| Jan. 14 | Dennis Bowman
Calleigh Hooper | Jan. 31 | Kory Roethermel |
| Jan. 15 | Matthew Deitrich | | |
| Jan. 16 | Todd Bell
Robin Davis | | |

Happy Birthday to our 80+ Members

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Arlene Wilbert | Jan. 2 |
| Doris Troutman | Jan. 7th |
| Sylvia Lehman | Jan. 19th |
| James Wilbert | Jan. 23rd |

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019

January Nursery Ministry

Date	8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
January 6	Nicole Hooper	Nicole Hooper
January 13	Nicole Hooper	Kristen Snyder
January 20	Jayne Harman	Shannon Vallier
January 27	Nicole Hooper	Nicole Hooper

Should there be an issue with scheduling, please contact Nicole Hooper at (717) 805-2860 or nhooper@pa.gov



Sweetheart BANQUET



Bring Your Sweetheart, Come Alone, or Invite a Friend for Dinner and a Concert !!!
Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019

Appetizers will be served beginning at 5 pm with Dinner & a Concert to follow at 6 pm.

For tickets and information, please contact Mary Buffington at [717-503-7582](tel:7175037582) .

Entertainment provided by the award-winning Farm Hands Quartet from Nashville, Tn.

Cost of the evening - \$ 15 per person
A Love Offering will be taken to support the band.

ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE



The 7th Annual Grace UMC Yard Sale will be held **Friday, Jan. 11th** from **8:00 to 4:00** and **Saturday, Jan. 12th** from **8:00 to 12 noon** in the Family Life Center. Set-up will be Thursday, **Jan. 10th** from **8:00 am - 8 pm**.

For those who have not previously participated, here is some information that you may find helpful:

- * *Tables are provided at no cost, but 10% of your earnings is to be given to the church as a tithe.*
- * *The cost of two weeks of Sentinel advertising is equally shared between all participants.*
- * *You are responsible for keeping your stand and area neat, and having your tables manned for the entire time.*
- * *You must wait until the end of the posted hours to begin packing up the remaining items at your stand.*
- * *You can choose to participate for one or both days.*

Clean out your closets, the basement, the attic! Turn that "stuff" into cash! Join us for fun and fellowship!

To reserve a space, or for answers to your questions, please call Kori Bell (717-877-4970).

Opportunities to Volunteer

Work Days at Mission Central

May 18, 2019

Aug 17, 2019

Oct 26, 2019 - 5K Run at Mission Central

January 13, 2019 we will be observing **Blanket Sunday**, and will be collecting monetary donations to purchase warm, woolen blankets to be distributed by Church World Services to the homeless and those in need in times of disaster.

The Back Page

Winter is here - well, at least the calendar says so. With temps above freezing, and rain seeming to always be the featured special on the menu for the day, the ground is saturated, soft, and in some places - downright soggy.

The leaves are gone, and the porch swing, once swayed back and forth by the brisk fall breeze, is empty and void of cushions. The Days are short, the nights are long, and the wind can quickly chill to the bone without any layers to protect you.

But you can't tell all that from inside a warm, cozy kitchen, simply looking out of the window. You have to be outside, standing in the midst of what is going on, to understand and experience the realities of winter in the Northeast.

Winter is a season of stillness, a time of quietness, and a time for resting - designed by God to give us a break from the increasingly hectic pace we allow ourselves to keep during the warmer months. The question is, will we take advantage of that?



With the celebrations of Christmas behind us, we are free to concentrate on the New Year, and what that might hold for each of us. I wonder how the family of Jesus would have celebrated the coming of the new year? While the Bible doesn't specifically speak to how many brothers and sisters Jesus grew up with, we do know that there were other children in the household. I've often wondered why His growing up years are not recorded in the scriptures. Did he skip stones on the sea of Galilee, or make mud pies with his friends, or chase frogs and salamanders along the shallow edge of the river? Was he quiet and studious, or was he

rowdy and loud, wrestling with his brothers at the drop of the hat? Was he much different from other boys his age? Did he always know his true destiny, or did he wonder what the future would hold?

We have been given the opportunity to reflect on where we've been, and to look forward to where we're going. The question is, how will you choose to spend your time over the winter months? Will you remain in the safety of the kitchen, or will you choose to venture out into the cold? Do you tend to look at life as a glass that's half-empty, or a glass half-full?

You and I have a choice. We can choose to dwell on the negative things that have happened to us this past year, or we can choose to look for the good things that have crossed our paths. Life is full of possibilities. How will you choose to spend your new year? Will you choose to react to life as it comes at you, or will you choose to embrace the possibilities, and venture out - looking for ways to make a difference?

As I look forward to the possibilities that the new year holds for us as a church, I am excited at what I see. I am blessed to have been called to serve alongside you, and thankful for the gifts that each of you possess for ministry.

Your Reflecting Pastor,
Alan

If you want to really grow this year in your knowledge of the Bible, consider joining one of our Sunday School Classes or Small Group Studies.

There is something for everyone of all ages and you are always welcomed here. Contact Jane in the church office [717-692-2838] for details.

**WHEN GOD WANTS YOU
TO GROW, HE MAKES
YOU UNCOMFORTABLE.**