

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb in the upper center, with its light reflecting as a shimmering path on the water's surface. In the lower right, the dark silhouette of a sailboat is visible. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow, with some dark clouds at the top. The water is dark with the bright reflection of the sun.

If you knew who God
created you to be,
You'd never want to be
anyone else !

Grace UMC August Newsletter

**982 Medical Rd
Millersburg, PA 17061
(717) 692-2838
www.gracemillersburg.org**

Summer Thoughts



This past month, Cathy and I have been enjoying the beautiful sunflowers that have taken over the flowerbed behind the parsonage. We did not plant them - they are simply a result of the many bird feeders that grace the garden to feed the birds during the winter season, when food is scarce, and also during the spring, as they labor to build nests and feed their young. Recently, a visitor

called them “volunteer flowers” - not planted on purpose, but a natural byproduct of the seeds that have been scattered or have fallen to the ground as the birds come to eat.

Those beautiful sunflowers are filled with hundreds of seeds - all arranged in a perfect circular pattern. Some will feed the birds during the summer and fall, and others will fall to the ground, waiting to give rise next summer to a whole new crop of yellow-headed, sun-worshipping flowers. I never cease to be amazed at the intricate ways that God has designed to provide for His creation.

This week, as I was reading again the story of Moses, I was reminded of something that I heard many years ago, concerning God’s promise to lead His people into a land “flowing with milk and honey”, that they might “live long, and prosper”, enjoying a harvest from the land that they had neither planted nor worked for. In Moses’ day, milk was considered a staple of existence - necessary for nourishment and growth. Honey, on the other hand, was rare treat - a luxuriously sweet, golden nectar that promoted healing and wholeness.

I share that with you as a reminder that God is in the business of providing not only what we need to grow and become strong in our faith, but also delights in showering us from time to time with luxurious and unexpected gifts that celebrate His goodness and His mercy.

I pray that God will give you eyes to see anew the beautiful things that He has planted all around you, as He works to meet your needs, and to shower you with good gifts - just because He Loves You So !

Your seed-scattering, soil-tilling pastor,
Alan

Random Acts of Kindness

Here at Grace UMC, our mission is to change lives, families, schools, workplace environments, and society through kindness.

Below are some of the acts of kindness that our congregation has shared with us that they performed in the last few months:

- ☺ Gave my sticky bun to my brother instead of eating it.
- ☺ Made up Easter baskets for my co-workers kids who would not have had any.
- ☺ Helped my granddaughter clean her room.
- ☺ Gave eggs to a friend.
- ☺ Sent cards to friends.
- ☺ Picked up trash from the park.
- ☺ Baked for my family and friends.
- ☺ Took a handicapped relative to doctor and eye appointments
- ☺ Put a roll of quarters at the laundromat
- ☺ Visited a friend at the Polk.
- ☺ I sat with a friend who was eating alone at lunch.
- ☺ Took a friend to the park.
- ☺ Gave my food to a homeless person.
- ☺ Gave flowers to a co-worker.
- ☺ Loaned money to a friend for her son's activity.
- ☺ Gave peanut butter eggs to the mail carrier.
- ☺ Gave a hug to a friend who needed a hug .
- ☺ Gave a gift card as a thank you.
- ☺ Took a basket of sunshine to a family dealing with cancer.
- ☺ Told some people they were dressed nicely.
- ☺ Helped my Grammy when she came back from surgery.
- ☺ Complimented someone on a job well done.
- ☺ Paid for a friend's gas
- ☺ Bought lunch for a student.
- ☺ Sent out cards to lift spirits.
- ☺ Made a meal for a friend.
- ☺ Buttered bread for someone.
- ☺ Gave the mail carrier treats to give to neighborhood dogs.

What could you do today to share God's love and kindness?





Loving Nursery Care is provided at each of our services. Our Nursery is located just through the second set of double doors in the educational wing. Ages 0-4 yrs.



A huge THANK YOU to all who helped to make this year's VBS a success. It would not have been possible without all of your dedication, donations, and ESPECIALLY your prayers.

Thank you all!

**DON'T FORGET THE LAST CHURCH-WIDE
PICNIC AND MOVIE NIGHT OF THE SUMMER**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH - 5:00 - 8:30



Ladies August Prayer Breakfast

The breakfast will be held on Tuesday, August 6th at First UMC New Life Center, Millersburg.

The Lykens UMC ladies will be our hostesses. An offering will be taken for the Chubb Family, missionaries to Mexico. Breakfast is \$8.00, and the doors open at 8:00 a.m. Please make your reservations no later than by the Friday before the breakfast. For reservations please call: The New Life Center @ (717) 692-2719.

Operation Christmas Child

Shoebox Ministry News

The hot humid August days have arrived, and summer will be soon winding down. We will continue to collect school supplies this month. Pencils, pens, crayons, colored pencils, markers, pencil sharpeners, erasers, calculators, notebooks, drawing paper, scissors, etc.

There are a few items that we have been keeping an eye out for as we shop in the stores, and at yard sales. Sewing items: needles of all sizes, pins, tape measures, buttons, material, rick rack, ribbon, thread, knitting needles, crochet hooks, yarn, etc. These are great finds at yard sales. We put together sewing kits for the older girls complete with a couple of yards of material so that they can make a dress.

Right now we are watching the stores for flip flops, shoes, and end of summer clearance on shirts, shorts, swim trunks, etc. If you see any great bargains, please let us know so that we can pick some up.

Thank you for your support of this wonderful mission. Franklin Graham and his committee work very hard to provide for the impoverished children of the world. I am thankful to be a small part of this ministry.

Cathy Atchison 717-692-2896



Holy Communion will be shared in
worship on the following dates:

Aug. 11th, Sept. 8th,
Oct. 6th, Nov. 3rd,
and Dec. 8th

The Hearts of Grace
August distribution is
Thursday, Aug. 22nd.



We can use help with canned vegetables and soups. Pasta and pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese dinners and hamburger helper are always needed. We are still able to purchase some items, especially cereal from the Central PA Food Bank so financial donations to help cover that cost and the cost purchasing meat from Boyer's in Lykens is greatly appreciated.

Just
for
you!

JFY Packs have been on summer break. We will be back up and running in September when school is back in session. Please watch for upcoming packing dates. Any help is appreciated.



We want to thank
Northern Dauphin
Human Services
for including our
ministry in their
Stuff the Bus
campaign held at

Wal-Mart in July. It is a blessing in many ways to watch neighbors helping neighbors.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

everyone born in the month

AUGUST

Aug. 1 Dave Harman
 Aug. 2 Cayden Heim
 Braden Kauffman
 Donna Peifer
 Aug. 3 Morgan Harris
 Aug. 4 Kiersten Sabolsky
 Aug. 5 Collin Dreibelbis
 Brittney Ebersole
 Aug. 8 Christ Lukunich
 Marilyn Shertzer
 Aug. 9 Jordan Peiffer
 Michelle Peiffer
 Aug. 10 Ashley Fulkroad
 Shyann Witmer
 Aug. 11 Joyce DeWees
 Larry Paul
 Megan Shade
 Aug. 12 Brandon Donmoyer
 Jordan Sass
 Aug. 13 Tim Bordner
 Ina Schoffstall
 Aug. 14 Dave Buffington
 Aug. 15 Carol Shoop
 Aug. 18 Megan Boyer
 Aug. 19 Jordyn Green
 Jesse Starr
 Aug. 21 Karen Miller
 Aug. 23 Tyler Dreher
 RoxAnne Franklin
 Brian Paul
 Aug. 25 Lori Schoffstall
 Aug. 28 Steve Douty
 Sydney Spicher
 Sarah McAlanis

Aug. 29 Jamie Long
 Eric Shoop
 Brandi Weiss
 Aug. 31 Lori Leaman
 Tracy Erdman

80 Plus Club Members for August

Alvin Baker Aug. 4
 Betty Zimmerman Aug. 4
 Miriam Rubendall Aug. 10
 Fietta Fesig Aug. 27
 Tom Miller Aug. 27
 Barb Douty Aug. 31



8-02 Dave & Janine Boyer
 8-07 Rick & Cheryl Ibberson
 8-07 Henry & Francis Reinoehl
 8-09 Paul & Amanda Morris
 8-10 Larry & Diana Paul
 8-17 Rusty & Jane Hubler
 8-21 Alan & Cathy Atchison
 8-23 Mike & Ronnie Davis
 8-25 Terry & Holly Kerwin
 8-27 Todd & Kori Bell

youth news activities

August 4, 2019 ~ Youth Paintball trip 1:00-5:00 pm, we will depart the church at 1:00 pm and arrive back for parent pick up at 5:00 pm. Wear old clothes and sneakers. Long pants and sleeves are recommended. All safety equipment will be provided. Cost per youth is \$10.

August 11, 2019 ~ Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night

August 18, 2019 ~ Youth Group 6-8pm - normal youth night

August 25, 2019 ~ Little Buffalo 1:00-6:00 pm, the youth will travel for a day of swimming and hanging out at Little Buffalo State Park. We will depart the church at 1:00 pm and return for parent pick up at 6:00 pm. No cost for youth.



First Baptist Church
Growing Toward Christ
Whiteville, NC

Dear Members of Grace UMC,

On behalf of the Whiteville Missions Committee, we want to thank you for coming to work in Columbus County. We also want to thank you for your generous contribution of \$2,500 to our mission efforts. It was a pleasure to host your group. We pray God's continued blessing on your church, as you continue to be faithful servants.

In Christ,
Martha Sentee, Missions Chair



Local Mission Project for August

LIFELINE PREGNANCY CENTER

Lifeline offers information and support for a whole host of issues, including un-planned pregnancies, and issues involving parenting. All services are free. They offer free pregnancy tests, pregnancy and post-abortion counseling, as well as classes on parenting, budgeting, stress management, anger management, relationships, etc. They also receive and distribute child care items, as well as used clothing and furniture for children up to the age of five. Financial support comes from local churches and individuals. ***You can help*** by dropping the following items off at the display in the church entryway during the month of August. Thank You.

- Diapers, sizes 4.5.6
- New Clothing w/tags
- Baby food Pouches
- winter coats/boots
- Baby Oil
- Pull-ups, sizes 3T-5
- Similac Sensitive Formula
- beginner underwear
- Playtex drop-in liners

Thank you for your generosity during our Christmas-in-July fundraising. All monies collected this year will be sent to UMCOR Disaster relief.

Upcoming trips scheduled to Mission Central 2019

Aug 17, 2019 & Dec. 7, 2019

Save the Date:

Oct. 26, 2019 - 5K Run at Mission Central

You are invited to join our next Missions Committee meeting held August 15th at 6:30 pm.

Redeemed

"Do not fear,
for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name;
you are mine."
Isaiah 43:1b



julieclinton



shylenebryan



biancahuff



sheilawalsh



angelitamaypham



michaelsbrien



jeremycamp

Women's Conference Bus Trip

October 4 & 5 2019

Thomas Road Baptist Church | Lynchburg, VA

VIP Seating - \$175.00 all inclusive

...Only a few tickets left...

For More Information, or to Register

Please Contact:

Tina Fetter 717-395-0498

or Ann Strohecker 717-860-4032

Grace UMC
Egg Project
Proceeds Distribution



2019 Profit Total	\$53,704.99
(plus approx. 2200.00 not yet received)	

Less 2020 Start Up Reserve	15,000.00
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Schedule of Ministry Distribution

Tithe	3,870.00
Community Needs Fund	1,000.00
YMCA Mentoring Program	500.00
Lifeline Pregnancy Center	750.00
GUMC Jr./Sr. High Youth	1,000.00
Lifesavers youth ministry	500.00
Camp Smiles at Grace	650.00
Hearts of Grace	1,000.00
JFY Packs	1,000.00
Millersburg Ferry Boat Assn.	1,000.00
Millersburg Community Pool	1,500.00
GUMC Capital Spending	25,934.99

(new van, Family Life Center roof replacement)

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU !

To all who helped in any way with this
year's Egg production & distribution.

Serving you at Grace UMC

www. gracemillersburg.org

Pastor - Alan Atchison

Secretary - Jane Hubler

Building Maintenance - James Carvell

Custodian - Pat Guarneri

Organist - Charlotte Gingrich

Choir Director - Diana Paul

New Grace Praise Band - Ken Rudisill

Nursery Coordinator - Nicole Hooper

Noah's Crew Preschool - Lisa VanOlden

and Brenda Fultz

Elementary Lifesavers - Tracy Barcavage

Jr./Sr. High Youth Ministries - Alicia Spicher

Church Office

982 Medical Rd. Millersburg PA 17061

(717) 692 - 2838

Email - gracembgoffice@gmail.com

Pastor Alan Atchison

Parsonage (717) 692 - 2896

Cell (570) 847 - 2939

pastoratchison@gmail.com



Confirmation 2019

Fall Classes will be held Sundays from 4 - 5:45 pm beginning October 6th, for youth 13 -18, who are ready to grow in their understanding of God's gifts of mercy, grace, forgiveness, and love.

**Grace United Methodist Church
982 Medical Road
Millersburg, PA 17061**

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