

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2801 GARFIELD ST.
TWO RIVERS

SUNDAY WORSHIP:
8:00 & 10:30 AM
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
9:15 AM

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Oct 20th Sunday School



NOVEMBER 2019

Reflecting Together

Kim M. Henning

ONE THING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR HEALTH

“Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him.” (Luke 17:15-16a)

Once a year I get a physical from a doctor. A few years ago, he noticed my cholesterol was high. He explained that a high cholesterol count could lead to problems. He prescribed medication. My cholesterol count is now normal. I don't look forward to a physical but the well-being of my body is important.

The Gospel writer, Luke, tells us a story about ten lepers who were healed by Jesus. They cry out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” And of course, Jesus healed them. He said, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” As they went, they were healed!

Healed. Now I will say something controversial. The healing Jesus performed was not the most important thing that happened that day. I should take that back. For nine lepers, their healing WAS the most important thing. They were healed. They could return to their families and their jobs, and again lead productive lives. For nine of those lepers, their healing WAS the most important thing.

But according to Jesus, something is more important than a healed body. One leper returned to Jesus to say, “thank you.” Jesus was overjoyed by his gratitude. He said, “Your faith has made you well.”

One hundred percent of all humanity know that value of healthy bodies. If you have a healthy body, you can walk stairs and do physical work. If you have a healthy body, you don't have to fight against those joint or stomach pains. Every one of us knows the value of having a healthy body.

Using the statistics of that story in Luke's Gospel, one-tenth of us know the value of a healthy soul. That's a small percentage. Do you think that's accurate? How are you doing? Are you healthy?

A healthy soul says, ‘thank you.’ A healthy soul knows that there is more to life than a pain-free body. A healthy soul knows that we are dependent upon God in some very important ways.

This miracle of healing Jesus performs was in the region between Samaria and Galilee. We presume that some of those lepers were Samaritans and some were Jewish. They had mixed beliefs about God. The healthy one in their midst was the Samaritan who had the wherewithal to say, ‘thank you.’

In Colossians, Paul has a list of expectations we can have of those who believe in Jesus. Believers should be kind. We should be humble. We should be compassionate. We should practice forgiveness. At the end of that list Paul writes, ‘And be thankful.’

Here is a simple way to know if you are healthy. Have you recently written a thank you note? Maybe an easier path is to ask, “Have you taken the time to call a person to say thank you?” Or even easier yet, “Have you recently sent a text message that says, ‘thank you?’” The words, “thank you” are important.

When that one leper expressed his thanks, he prostrated himself before Jesus. He put himself flat on the ground to express his gratitude. His thank you was more than words. He used his body and his voice to express the depth of his gratitude. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you.

A Reflection from Pastor Colie

Last week, I read some news that I just have to share with you all. At a time when it can seem like there is so much hatred, or at least suspicion, for other people; when violence grips not only our wider world but also our communities; when depression and addiction and cancer and other diseases affect our everyday lives; when reports tell us that the natural world is teetering on the edge of disaster; when families are struggling; when churches are shrinking..... it can be hard to look at the news.

But last week, I saw something amazing. Trinity United Church of Christ, a church in our own denomination in urban Chicago, has partnered with other churches, the national UCC office, and a non-profit organization called "RIP Medical Debt" to pay off the medical debt of 5,888 individuals and families in some of Chicago's poorest neighborhoods. There was no requirement that the ones receiving help would be members of the church, or even believers in God – just that they were people in the community who needed help.

The pastor at Trinity UCC, Rev. Otis Moss III, said this about the project: "We see Cook County as our parish. And our job is to ensure that you [those who live in our community], in some form or fashion, will experience the compassion, the love, the care and the generosity that flows from God's heart. That's what we're called to do. So you will receive debt forgiveness whether you are Christian, Muslim, Jewish, humanist, secular, agnostic, atheist, whether you're black or you're white. The only criteria that we laid out is that we want to make sure the most vulnerable are in line. Or as Scripture says, 'The last shall be first.'"

When the church set up the plan for this mission work, their original goal was to be able to forgive \$1 million in medical debt. Because of the work of Trinity UCC and the other churches they partnered with, these nearly 6,000 Chicago families were forgiven of more than \$5.3 million. But because of the way debt collection works in our country, the churches raised only a fraction of that – \$38,000 – and were able to use that money to pay off that huge total.

The hope is that for many of these families, the release of this debt can be life changing, allowing them to pay off other debts, find housing in better neighborhoods, qualify for better jobs, and simply afford what it takes to care for themselves and their children.

What a beautiful way that a church is making a difference in the world.



Pictured: Members of Trinity UCC in Chicago at the celebration worship service on Oct 20, 2019.

For more information, you can read about the work Trinity UCC and others with them have done in the Chicago Tribune:

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/breaking/ct-chicago-millions-medical-debt-erased-20191020-rrhuxwepanrcrdhcn2gkdtvlp6e-story.html>



Thanksgiving Worship Service: November 27, 2019 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter, the Fisherman

Roll Call of the Deceased: November 3, 2019

Gospelers Singing Group: November 10, 2019

Earth Care Sunday: November 17, 2019

SUNDAY SUPPER

Grace will be sponsoring the Sunday Supper on **Sunday, November 10th.**

The meal will be served at St. Peter the Fisherman Parish at 4:30 p.m. We will need volunteers to help serve, and cleanup after the meal. There will also be a need for donations of desserts. This opportunity for service will need a commitment of about two hours of your time. A sign-up sheet will be located at the information desk on October 27th. We have always had a great group of volunteers who are wonderful to work with. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Charlene Dresang at 920-645-1014 after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays or email her at csdresang@gmail.com.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEWS

The Habitat Resale Store at 1209 S. 41st Street in Manitowoc is up and running. It is open for customers on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 am to 6 pm weekly. Donations of items are accepted on Wednesdays. Volunteers are needed to help pick up donated items on Wednesday mornings and to staff the store on open days in shifts from 10am-2pm and 2pm-6pm. Proceeds from sales help to fund Habitat's building and repair projects for low-income families in need in our communities.

Habitat has focused recently on shorter term repair projects on the exterior of homes, intended to allow people of limited means to remain in their homes and be safe. Projects are kept affordable by using volunteers and financing them with a no-interest short-term loan from Habitat to the homeowner to cover the cost of materials and supervision of the project.

This summer volunteers painted a home for a resident of Two Rivers who was unable to afford to hire a painter or to climb ladders. This fall volunteers installed foam board insulation and siding as well as new doors and two windows on a home in Manitowoc and also added railings to the deck. Both projects were supervised by Richard Dewey from Grace Church. Several volunteers from our church worked on these projects, along with other volunteers.

On Saturday, October 12, a Cardboard City was constructed in the parking lot at First Presbyterian Church in Manitowoc. A Habitat homeowner and a representative from the Haven spoke to the participants about homelessness and the need for affordable housing. The rain that evening on the shacks added to the educational aspect and the fun. You can check the Manitowoc County Habitat for Humanity Facebook page for video of the event.

The offering held for Habitat in September collected \$523. So far in 2019 \$658 has been contributed from our members. Thank you to those who have contributed money and time to Habitat's ministry to our neighbors in need of decent shelter. Consider helping out in the Resale Store or on a future project.



CHURCH CABINET

Moderator, Don DeBruyn **Treasurer**, Linda Justema **Clerk**, Rein Elias
Financial Sec, Chris Blimel **Trustee Chair**, Todd Moolenaar
Diaconate Chair, Zachary Peterson
Board of Christian Ed Chair, Katie Ver Haagh
Mission & Outreach Chair, Joe DeGroot
Pastor Kim-Pastor/Parish Chair, Jeff Harding
Pastor Colie-Pastor/Parish Chair, Jim Miller
Members-at-Large, Brianna Brixius & Joe DeGroot

Stewardship Corner for Grace Congregational United Church of Christ **September, 2019**

Total 2019 Expected Pledges	\$374,054
Pledge Income Received during August	\$30,649
Pledge Income Needed (on average) to balance the budget	\$31,171
Loose Offering Received during August	\$630
Sunday School Offerings During August	\$0

Please Note: Our constitution prohibits us from using any proceeds from our Endowment Fund to support our day to day ministry at Grace Congregational Church. It is our church's expectation that our members are responsible for the support of this church's ministry as an act of faithfulness to God.

A note from your Trustees:

We are 75% of the way through the year, and our pledge income is at 72%. Total expenses through September are at 74% of our budget. The letter included with your quarterly financial statement will include some information we hope you will find helpful.

LAY ACADEMY----WISCONSIN CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Lay Academy is a ministry of the Wisconsin Conference that engages lay people in spiritual growth and development through theological education. Anyone who longs to grow in faith, discover new ways to serve God and their community, and deepen their knowledge of Christian tradition, ministry, and mission is welcome.

In the fall of 2019, the Lay Academy will offer Faith Foundations, Year 2. If you are interested, but haven't attended Faith Foundations Year 1, please contact Tisha Brown at tbrown@wcucc.org

Wisconsin Conference Lay Academy Schedule

November 1-2, 2019 – New Testament Part 1 – Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn

January 17-18, 2020 – New Testament Part 2 – Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn

March 6-7 – The Church at Work in History – Rev. Dr. Julia Speller

April 24-25 – Interfaith Cooperation and Ministry – Noah Silverman, Interfaith Youth Corp

Call the Conference office for more information at 608-846-7880. Scholarships are available at the Wisconsin Conference, United Church of Christ and at Grace Congregational United Church of Christ---Joe DeGroot, Mission and Outreach, chair.

Lay Academy Fees (\$650 shared room; \$800 private room; \$500 commuter)

Each course meets five weekends per year at or near the Wisconsin Conference Trost Center in DeForest. The weekend sessions meet from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. Lodging is provided at a nearby hotel. Courses are taught by seminary professors, Conference staff and clergy with expertise in a given area. Additional requirements are designed to enhance learning.

Blessings Received

THE REV. BOB LAUBENSTEIN---FORTY YEARS OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

When you walk into our Fellowship Hall, you may notice the pictures of four individuals from Grace Congregational United Church of Christ who have become ordained pastors of the United Church of Christ. One of those persons is the Rev. Robert Laubenstein who was ordained as pastor and teacher of the United Church of Christ on October 7, 1979.

On Sunday, October 13, First United Church of Christ in Green Bay hosted a celebration for the 40th anniversary of the Rev. Robert Laubenstein. Thirty-five of those forty years have been served at his current location in Green Bay. Bob's wife is Jane Laubenstein.

A MEMBER IN DISCERNMENT

For a person to become a candidate for ordination in the United Church of Christ, that person must be recommended by a local ruling body of a local church and approved by the Placement and Transition Committee of the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ. A Member in Discernment is then assigned a mentor and is annually reviewed by the Placement and Transition Committee as the candidate makes their way through seminary and the requirements of the United Church of Christ in Wisconsin.

In June of 2019, the Cabinet of Grace Congregational Church recommended Nicole Herda to become a Member in Discernment. On Thursday, October 10, 2019, Nicole Herda was approved as a Member in Discernment by the Placement and Transition Committee of the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference, United Church of Christ.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.....

Each year our church hosts a worship service when we have a roll call of those who have died during the past twelve months (November 1, 2018-November 1, 2019). Years ago, congregations referred to this as Totenfeste, a celebration of the dead. The ironic name given this event means to communicate the power of our Lord's victory over death. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, "if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith is in vain."

On Sunday, November 3, the following names will be lifted up in prayer as we express our support for relatives and friends who grieve their death. If you have a close family member or friend who has died since November 1 of 2018, you may submit their name using the insert that will be in Sunday's bulletin, October 20 or 27. (** denotes a member of Grace Congregational United Church of Christ*)

*Arlene Stroud---November 10, 2018

Terri Sosnosky---April 28, 2019

Roger Knutson---December 5, 2018

Tod Leiteritz---May 10, 2019

Christopher Shiumulunas---December 16, 2018

Mildred Doleys---April 30, 2019

*Norma Schoss---December 21, 2018

*Edward Rappe---June 3, 2019

*Ann Suettinger---January 7, 2019

*Eldon Riha---June 9, 2019

*Marilyn McCullough---January 19, 2019

Robert Brull---July 10, 2019

Emil Kunstman---January 25, 2019

*Alan Spearbraker---July 13, 2019

*Marilyn Henrickson---February 25, 2019

Lee Bruechert---September 29, 2019

Thomas Wondrash---April 9, 2019

*Marlene Markowski---September 16, 2019

*Richard Ertman---April 17, 2019

Gary Swoboda---October 9, 2019

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Grace Congregational UCC Church will be presenting "The Silence and the Sound" a Christmas Cantata by Heather Sorensen on Sunday, December 22 at 8:00am and 10:30am. The adult choir is seeking extra voices for this event. Please consider singing with us! Practices will begin Wednesday, November 6 from 7:30-8:15pm in the music room and will continue every Wednesday through December 18 with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 21 in the morning. Please see Andrea Allington for a book and practice CD if you are willing to sing with us.

Instrumentalists interested in playing in the orchestra for this event should contact Ginger VanElls.



Please join us for special music by the Wisconsin Gossellers on **Sunday, November 10** at both services. The Gossellers are a United Church of Christ group of musicians from all over the state that come together to sing gospel music. Their mission statement is: *To bridge cultural divides and touch souls through the transformative power of gospel music.* The Gossellers travel around Wisconsin as well as overseas. Last year they toured in Germany. For more information on this group or to hear about their reflections on the tour in Germany, go to wisconsin-gossellers.org

WOMEN OF GRACE NEWS AND NOTES

Our Applefest cookie sale was a great success due to our wonderful congregation. Thank you!! We received 53 tin pans of cookies and sold them all! Thank you to everyone who helped with the sale, especially Mickey Veleke and Kay Olker who were the leaders of this major fundraiser!



Our next major fundraiser is our Chili Dinner/Bazaar/Raffle on **Wednesday, November 6th** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be serving from **11 am-1:30 pm and from 4pm - 6:30 pm**. Tickets will be sold at the door. Adult ticket - \$6, Children from 3- 12 yrs - \$3, and under 3 are free. The price includes a bowl of chili and crackers or a hamburger with chips, dessert, and a beverage. Extra chili or hamburger - \$3; Extra dessert - \$2. We are having pre-sales of Packers vs Carolina chili buckets for \$20. If you want to purchase a bucket, please place your order on or before **November 3rd**. We are having a basket-themed raffle again this year and will be selling bakery, candy, crafts, Christian cards and bags. There will be a Fish Pond for the children. We need your help to make the Chili Dinner a success! We are asking the congregation to help us by donating items and for working this event. Sign up sheets are on the table near the Information desk. Please sign up!

On November 10th, WOG will be hosting the 8 am TAC time in honor of the Gospellers singing group who will be singing at both services that day.

Make plans to attend our annual Christmas Cookie and Sock Exchange party on Saturday, December 7th in the Fellowship Hall @ 9am. Remember, all women of Grace are members of Women Of Grace! Please join us - we have so much fun and you'll make alot of great friends! Yours In Christ, Amy LeGreve

EQUAL EXCHANGE CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Mission & Outreach will again be selling Christmas Baskets, made up with an assortment of Equal Exchange stock. Pre-order forms can be found on a small clipboard at the information desk beginning Sunday, November 3. Ordering ahead will allow you to choose what you would like in your baskets, set your price, and for us to have them made up ahead of time. Fill out a form and turn it in and we will get them made up when you need them. **Orders placed before December 8 are really appreciated.** You may pay when you pick up the basket. We will also have others made up that you can take as they are. Either way, these baskets are a gift you can feel good about purchasing and giving. We will be selling the first 3 Sundays in December.



We have more than enough baskets/containers to use, but if you have a special one you would like used, we certainly can do that. We could use more crinkled paper and other decorative fillers. Please place behind information desk.

January 1, Equal Exchange will be raising their prices. It is not known at this time if some or all items will see an increase, but Mission & Outreach will also need to increase the selling prices. So....., you know what to do!

Your purchase of Equal Exchange products not only supports small farmers around the world, but also helps supply the coffee you enjoy during TAC and other meals at church. Thank you for your continued support of Equal Exchange products. Sincerely, *Mission & Outreach*

GENERATION G UPCOMING EVENTS

It's November already, can you believe it?! We have been reading the book of Mark together most Wednesday nights from 7-8pm in the high school youth room.

Thank you to Juza's for inviting Generation G over for a pinecone painting party--- and to Aaron and Heidi Springstube for inviting us over to pour clay! Heidi lead us in a bible study about clay before having us pour clay into molds for ornaments that will be used by the Sunday school children! She then allowed us to pour clay into molds to create larger projects which will be fired and painted at a later time.

COMING UP:

November 10th Christmas Shopping for College and Military personnel. Come eat at the Chili supper at 5pm, and then we'll head to Manitowoc to buy items we can send to our service people and students! We'll be back at church by 8pm.

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

Wreath making time is upon us! There are youth and adults in the Juza garage most evenings who are cutting branches, making stacks, and crimping wreaths. The goal--- to have these wreaths made so they can be delivered to you the week of Thanksgiving.

Thank you to all of you who purchased wreaths to support our mission trip to the Appalachian Mountains!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For the month of October, our children are learning about the story of Abraham and Sarah. All classes begin in the GENESIS Room at 9:15am. Classes dismiss at 10:15. Today, October 20th the 3+4 Yr. are in cooking, K+1st is in Technology, 2nd+3rd is in Art, 4th+5th+6th is in Bible Skills and Games.

Below are the names of all the volunteers who have been teaching or working with our kids so far this year. If you see them, please thank them – they are doing great work to help grow the faith of the youngest in our midst. And, if you are interested in being involved or curious about our program – please see Pastor Colie, or any member of the Board of Christian Ed. We would love to share more with you.

September and October teachers: Marcia Donlon, Adrienne Ewald, Shay Hampton-Gregory, Linda Justema, Heidi Springstube, and Stephanie Willis.

Classroom guides: Mandy Moolenaar, Kaye Katke, Melissa Basken, Taylor Lechler, Stacy Backus, Lori Brandt, Jessica Schroeder, Katie VerHaagh, Clare Schuette, Sue Crowley, Mary Sayeski, Jennisa Novitski, Scott Schroeter, Abby Brixius, Tracy Smith, and Lisa Stodola.

The Board of Christian Education: Pastor Colie, Abby Brixius, Ray Claudel, Zoe Edinger, Shay Hampton-Gregory, Sara Schuette, Heidi Stradal, Katie Ver Haagh, and Stephanie Willis.

CONFIRMATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Mini-retreat – 8:30-12:30

Meet at the church at 8:30am. We will have a lesson (“Crash course on the psalms”), some fun and games, and participate in the TREP food drive organized by the TR schools.

November 6:

God’s repeated call to return: Moses and the burning bush (lesson 1c5)

November 13: Exodus and the 10 Commandments

November 20: **Mentor Night.** – Mentor session 2

~~November 27:~~ Thanksgiving break—NO CLASS

EARTH CARE SERVICES

On **Sunday, November 17** both the 8 o'clock and the 10:30 services will be devoted to caring for our environment. The Earth Care Ministry team, Pastor Colie and Andrea and the choir have been planning the services. Our goal is to encourage as many youth as possible to participate in the service that day. We have visited Gen-G and the Confirmation class to explain and encourage them to be a part of those services.



In addition, at the last Earth Care Ministry meeting we announced that we have become a part of the Earth Care Team of Manitowoc County which at this point includes the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and the League of Women Voters. We are seeking new membership of other groups and organizations and have met with Mayor Nickels in pursuit of this goal.

We also discussed the newly acquired property and Grace's goals for its use. We are blessed to have Sue Crowley, a DNR Forester as a member of the Earth Care Ministry. Sue will give us some much-needed guidance.

Brianna and Jim reported on the Environmental teaching that they did during VBS which was well received by the kids. Brianna and Jim felt it was very successful in teaching the children about our earth. Each child in attendance took a walk through the property.

We also discussed the long-range plans to install solar panels on our property which would have the immediate effect of saving energy and money.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 12 at 6 p.m. following the Mission and Outreach Meeting. We always invite new membership to the Earth Care Ministry.

UNNECESSARY WASTE info article

In a study of household food waste done at Ohio State University, survey participants said they expected to eat 97% of the meat in their refrigerators; however, they ended up eating only about half. They expected to eat 94% of the vegetables but consumed just 44 percent. The study concluded that a major reason for food waste is that people misunderstand 'use by' or 'best by' labels, which refer to food quality not food safety. (Ohio State news, August 29)

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

INTRODUCTION OF PAULETTE KOUBA

Please help me, Chris Blimel to introduce Paulette Kouba to you this morning of October 13th. I met Paulette one Sunday when I saw her sitting in church and knew she was visiting because I did not know her name. I recognized her though as I had seen her many times walking her dog on Jackson Street and Riverview Drive and had been referring to her as the “dog lady”. So when I introduced myself I asked her if indeed she was the “dog lady” and then finally learned her real name.

Paulette is a retired CNA/LPN who worked at Holy Family Hospital for 45 years. In fact many of our Dr. Don DeBryun’s patients were her patients. Paulette has a dog Vinnie which she thinks is a chihuahua/pug mix. She likes to walk and usually has her dog with her. She likes to travel with her sister and each of their dogs and the dogs get along great and are great travelers.

Paulette was raised Catholic but hadn’t been going to church. On her walks on Garfield Street she saw Grace Congregational Church and thought it looked like a nice church so she started coming and has been coming ever since. She likes Grace because it is so relaxed and friendly. She already tends one of the flower beds and loves coming up to work on it because it is always so quiet and peaceful. She has also volunteered to help with funeral meals and plans on getting more involved in the near future. Paulette will be a great asset to our church family.

INTRODUCTION OF THÉO LYNNE HOFFMAN,

Théo Lynne Hoffman, was born in Massachusetts and grew up in New York City and northern NJ. She earned her B.A. in the social sciences, at the University of Windsor, in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. She earned her M.Div. at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She served as an interim licensed pastor in upstate NY for a few years.

Théo moved to Wisconsin in January, 2004. She currently works as a substitute teacher for the Denmark and Valders school districts. (She is a certified teacher for middle school and high school in broad field social studies). Operates a pet sitting business and is a vendor at the Two Rivers Farmer/Crafters market. She also coordinates an annual craft fair in December at the YMCA. She is owned by four cats Sophia, Phoebe, Natasha and Violet all of whom were adopted from the Lakeshore Humane Society, where Théo occasionally volunteers.

Her godmother, Jessie played a major role in nurturing Théo in her faith. She was baptized in her godmother’s church, at one month old. Jessie saw to it that Théo was baptized. She grew up and was nurtured in the Presbyterian Church due to Jessie, who was also a mother figure in her life.

She has been attending Grace Congregational Church since 2018. Theo views Grace as a welcoming community of faith, that encourages those that are part of the Grace community to participate as they can, by using the gifts that God has given them. To truly live out one’s faith, one needs to be part of a community of faith. She sings in the choir, has been a liturgist, has led childrens time, has helped serve communion, as well as assisting with Vacation Bible School.

Please welcome Théo into our community. Sincerely, Jodi Lewis.

INTRODUCTION OF BETTY AMUZU

October 20th Chris Blimel introduced Betty Amuzu. Betty grew up in Grace Congregational Church as Betty McNulty. For several years, she ran the nursery program. Betty was a youth representative on the Cabinet and participated on the Pastor search committee. I got to know Betty and her current husband, Bruce Suettinger, when they attended the Grace Congregational Church youth group during middle school. I was the group leader. The group's cold weather camping trip to Potawatomi State Park is a very special memory. The kids melted their tennis shoes trying to stay warm at the fire.

Betty went away to college. She met and married a man from Ghana, Africa. He talked Betty into joining him in his dream to become a doctor. About 35 years ago, long time-- Grace members might remember contributing to a medical mission, the couple participated in. They both completed medical school and became doctors and had 3 children together. Betty became an OB/GYN – instructing and working at the UW Medical School Milwaukee Central City Campus. She took care of some of the highest risk patients while training medical students and residents.

ADDITIONAL INTRODUCTION OF BETTY

My name is Debbie Timm, Betty's sister in law.

After 18 years of marriage, Betty and her first husband parted; although, they remain friends and actively share in the lives of their sons – Mensa, Ekwe, and Teiko. Early in the 10 years of being a full-time single mother and doctor, Betty became the guardian of her 17-year old special needs niece, JayCee, who is a few years older than Betty's oldest son, Mensa.

Ten years ago, I got to know Betty when she started dating my brother Bruce. Bruce and Betty met at Grace Congregational Church high school youth group. They were reacquainted when Betty was in Two Rivers for their high school class reunion. They "hit it off" and started dating. Fortunately, Bruce was hooked before he found out Betty was a doctor. Prior to Betty, he stayed as far away from medical anything as possible.

Betty and Bruce have done a wonderful job blending their homes, children, jobs, and hobbies. Betty is a strong, caring woman. She quietly offers advice, is willing to help in any capacity she can, has a fun-loving sense of humor, a spiritual presence, and most definitely is a terrific mother, step mother, sister, aunt, cousin, friend, and wife. Recently, Betty adopted her now adult niece – who is one fortunate daughter. Betty's hobbies include kayaking and gardening.

There is no doubt that many of you can add some special stories to this introduction. Betty has been faithfully attending, supporting, and participating in activities at Grace Congregational for several years. Please officially, HELP Chris & Debbie welcome Betty back home to Grace Congregational Church.

SELFLESS piece of info

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette won a Pulitzer prize for its coverage of the shooting deaths of 11 people and the wounding of seven others in October 2018 at the Tree of Live Congregation. The prize came with a \$15,000 award, which the newspaper staff decided to give to the congregation to help repair its bullet-riddled temple. The reporters didn't think it was appropriate to benefit financially from coverage of the congregation's horrendous losses (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, September 4).

**NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Gesine McVey
Michael Hillmer
Marie Hurda
Nick Mueller
- 2 Aubrie Reif
- 3 Lucy Zeldenrust
- 4 Ginny Matthews
- 5 Bruce Fehrman
- 6 Chris Blimel
Rita Lambries
- 7 Patty Komoroski
Shawn Sayeski
- 8 Tobin Bettivia
- 9 Laura Hayes-Stoeger
Linda Langman
- 10 Lisa Taylor
Mark Behle
Lori Brandt
Hannah Bauknecht
Danielle Gulseth
Beth Gauthier
- 11 Colleen Stein

- Cindy Schindl
- Adrienne Ewald
- 12 Donna Weier
Cameron Bruckschen
Colton Wernecke
Kendra Wernecke
- 13 Jim Lester
Heidi Claudel
- 14 Lynn Rennert
- 15 Troy Zich
- 16 Mary Jean Erickson
James Taddy
Doris Mattie
- 18 Quintin Edinger
- 19 Wade Juza
Jeannine Powalisz
- 21 Mindy Bauknecht
Kathy Kozlowski
- 22 Jeff Harding
- 23 Brandon Marx
- 24 Megan Sosnosky
- 25 Anita Rappe
- 26 Trudy LeClair
Hannah Morse
Jennisa Novitski

- 27 Maren Slickman
Lucas DeWitt
- 28 Kay Fencil
Barbara Baeckman
Colton Sayeski
- 29 Jacob Hearley
Tony Reinke
- 30 Dean Stoeger

**NOVEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 8 Scott & Lana Linzmeier
- 11 Bill & Kay Bero
- 12 George & Genevieve Taylor
Keith & Susan Diedrich
- 19 Roger & Marie Hurda
- 25 Paul & Joan Schmid
- 27 Dennis & Marilyn McCullough
- 28 Stephen & Connie Bruse

**“ A Senior Get-Together at
Grace Congregational Church”**



**Where: Our Church’s Fellowship Hall
The Annual Senior Christmas Luncheon will
be**

**When: Tuesday, December 3, 2019
Luncheon 12:30 – 1:30 pm
Bingo 1:30 – 3:00 pm**

**Questions or if you need a ride
Call 553-4051 (Marsha Heuer)
RSVP**

**Call the church Office: 553-1222 or
Watch for the Sign up at the Information Center**

**CHILI DINNER
& BAZAAR**

**Wednesday, November 6th
11:00am-1:30pm & 4:00pm-6:30pm**

**Grace Congregational
United Church of Christ**

**2801 Garfield Street - Two Rivers
Chili or Hamburger, Beverage & Dessert: \$6.00**

Children ages 3 to 12: \$3.00

Under 3: FREE

Extra Chili, Hamburger: \$3.00 or Dessert: \$2.00

Vegetarian Chili available

CARRY OUTS !!!

Quart Jars of Chili: \$6.00

Pint Jars of Chili: \$3.00

Hamburgers: \$3.00

BAZAAR—RAFFLES—CRAFTS

BAKERY—CANDY FOR SALE!

Fish Pond for Children

**Sponsored by:
The Women of Grace**



GRACE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS

HOSPITALIZED

Keith Coenen was hospitalized at Aurora Bay Care.

Randy Wilson has been released from the care of Bellin Hospital in Green Bay.

Al Nelson has been released from the care of Aurora Bay Care in Green Bay.

Stephanie Willis has been hospitalized at Aurora Medical Center.

Randy Ammerman was recently hospitalized at Aurora Medical Center.

Paul Schmid is hospitalized at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee.

Bruce Fehrman was recently hospitalized in Sheboygan.

OUR SYMPATHY

Gladdy (Erickson) Sekadlo of Sturgeon Bay died on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. Gladdy is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Mel and Mary Jean Erickson. A private family service will be held for the family in Sturgeon Bay.

Lee A. Bruechert of Two Rivers died Sunday, September 29, 2019. A private family service was held on Saturday, October 5th.

We offer our sympathy to Jim and Susie Miller as they grieve the death of their brother-in-law, Bill Lambrecht. Bill died on Tuesday and a funeral service was held Saturday, October, 19th in Clifford, Indiana.

We offer our sympathy to Doris Swoboda and her family as they grieve the death of her son, Gary. A funeral service was held at Klein and Stangel funeral home on Monday, October 14th of this week.

We offer our sympathy to the family of Gerald Spragg, especially his wife, Cheryl. Gerald passed away on October 15 at River's Bend Health Center. Memorial service was held Monday, October 21.

A CHILD IS BORN!

On Wednesday, October 16, Karl Ian Mainwaring was born to Erica and Chris Mainwaring. Karl's sister is Alyssa. Grandparents are Phil & Carol Mainwaring; and Pastor Kim & Fay Henning.

A WEDDINGS TO CELEBRATE

On Saturday, October 12, Brianna Welnetz and Brandon Kraemer exchanged their marriage vows in our sanctuary. We offer them our Lord's love as they begin their marriage

On Saturday, October 26th 2:00pm Zak Peterson & Minda Kolbeck; 4:30pm Sapphire Garcia & Stephanie Schafer exchanged their marriage vows.

SECOND MILE GIVING

\$3035---September contributions to the Food Pantry (Thank you, friends, for responding to our requests)

\$640----September contributions to the Campital Campaign

(Our Church is over 1/3 of its way towards its goal of \$300,000! Thank you)

\$523----September contributions to Habitat for Humanity

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON GROUP

We would like to invite **ALL** women of the church to our Women's Luncheon Group.

Announcements are usually in the bulletin and in the newsletter. If you need a ride we can usually provide it. **November 12th at TR Family Restaurant at 11:30 a.m.** Contact Chris Blimel at 793-2204 if you will be going.



Our next Hope House host **week** is **November 17 – November 23** We continue to look for generous volunteers like you to help. Let me Thank You for your continued dedication to this project.

THE CHRISTIAN BAPTISM OF KINSLEY VICTORIA BEYER

Kinsley Victoria daughter of Cale & Sheila Beyer was baptized September 29th. Chosen as godparents were Jennifer Strebige and Jeremiah Brey. Kinsley's grandparents are Randy & Jeanne Brey, Jack & Cheryl Beyer and Art & Jan Morreau. Great-grandparents are Virginia Brey and Ed & Marion Hull.