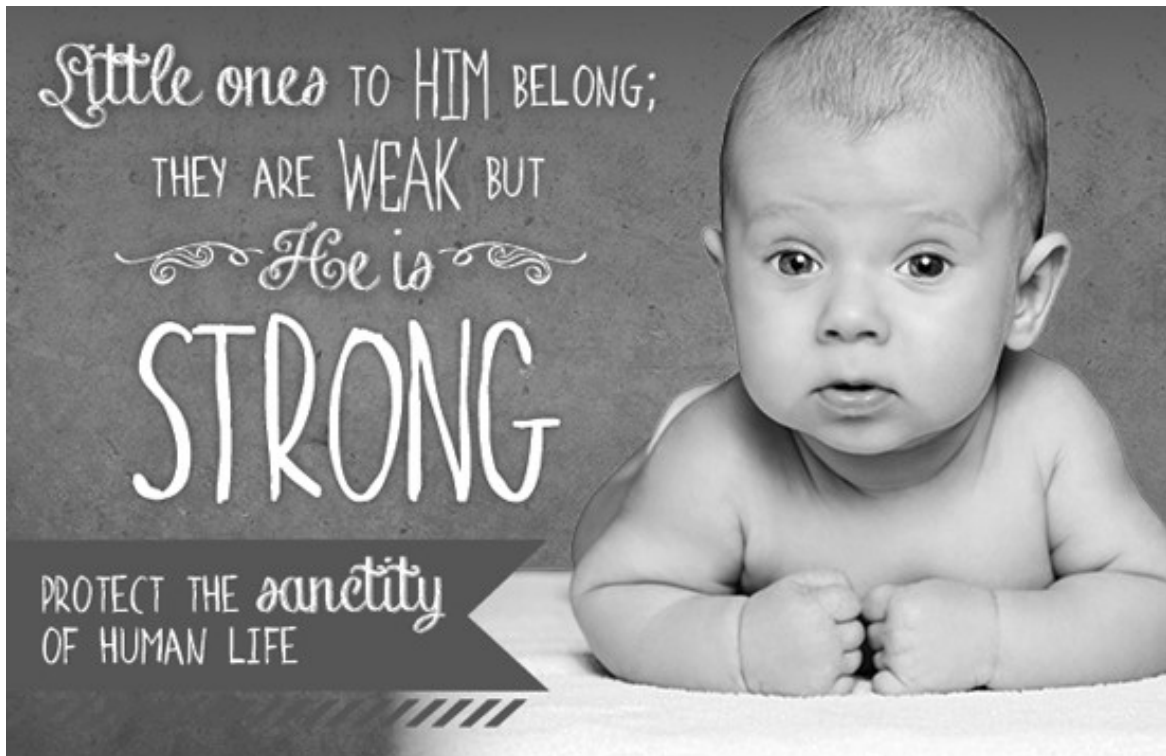


Grace Reporter

Grace United Methodist Church



Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out;
you formed me in my mother's womb.
I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking!
Body and soul, I am marvelously made!
I worship in adoration—what a creation!
You know me inside and out,
you know every bone in my body;
You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit,
how I was sculpted from nothing into something.
Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth;
all the stages of my life were spread out before you,
The days of my life all prepared
before I'd even lived one day. Psalm 139:13-16 The Message

Sanctity of Life Sunday, January 21, 2018

YOU In Ministry

8:30 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE

Communion Servers

January 7 David & Maria Ziolecki
Jim & Jodie Short

January 14 No Communion

January 21 David & Maria Ziolecki
Jim & Jodie Short

January 28 David & Maria Ziolecki
Jim & Jodie Short

Nursery Helpers

January 7 Kim Miller

January 14 Jacob Ziolecki

January 21 Don Spindler

January 28 Cathie Podroskey

10:45 Worship Service

Nursery Helpers

January 7 Keren Galis

January 14 Naomi Custer

January 21 Michelle Stepp

January 28 Paulann Thomas

Head Usher ~ Jim Albright

Junior Church Teams

January 7

PS & Kdg. Lesley Daniels and Betsy Ahlborn
1st-5th Don & Ginny Spindler

January 14

PS & Kdg. Jessica Lipari, Cindy Motycki and
1st-5th Joyce Hill
Sharon and Sherry Hixenbaugh

January 21

PS & Kdg. Nikki Kennedy and Hannah Custer
1st-5th Kathy and Grace Vash

January 28

PS & Kdg. Pam and Kelly Kibler
1st-5th Kristen and Molly Diethorn

IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY

January 3 Sisters of Grace

January 4 Church Council

January 9 Men of Grace
Young at Heart

January 18 Dress a Girl

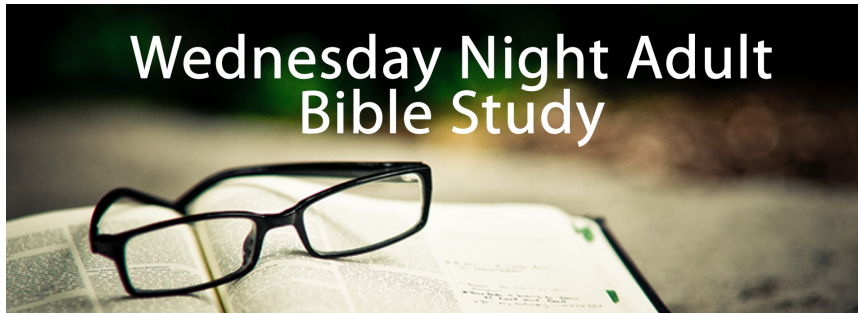
January 23 The King's Book Study



Observed on January 6th, the Epiphany celebration remembers the three miracles that manifest the divinity of Christ. The name "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word *Epiphania*, and means "to show, make known, or reveal." The celebration originated in the Eastern Church in AD 361, beginning as a commemoration of the birth of Christ. Later, additional meanings were added - the visit of the three Magi, Christ's baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle at the wedding in Cana. These three events are central to the definition of Epiphany, and its meaning is drawn from these occurrences.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

with Sheldon Barnette



Grace Church offers an adult Bible study on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM, held in the old chapel called the Newkirk room. In this coming year of 2018, we plan on studying through various Old Testament prophetic books, particularly as they address the first coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, which has already been accomplished, and also the prophecies pointing to the Lord Jesus' second coming. Many Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled by the coming of Christ recorded in the few New Testament gospels. But throughout the New Testament there is witness to the return, or second coming of Yeshua Hamashiach (Jesus the Messiah) and our sessions will study the Old Testament prophecies that correlate with and give foundation to these New Testament teachings.

These classes will commence on January 10th and run through till spring. There will be a summer hiatus, then classes will resume in September. You are, and will be, most welcomed.

Sheldon Barnette



Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good . . . Psalm 107:8

Dear Grace Church,

Thank you so very much for always remembering me with the greeting cards. The Thinking of You and Thanksgiving Cards meant the world to me. I think of you all often and always with fondness. A special thanks to Gina Jones for having the little ones make cards for me. What a lovely and generous act.

With love, Dorothy Crawford



*Through the end of January,
let us cover our tree with mittens/gloves,
winter hats and scarves.*

*This ministry will support needy kids from
the Charleroi School District.*



The 2018 Altar Flower Calendar is up! If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers in memory or in honor of someone throughout the upcoming year, please fill in the information on the calendar that is located on the bulletin board to the left of the main entrance leading to

the Narthex. The cost is \$20 and can be paid now or the week of your sponsorship. Checks should be payable to Grace UMC and can be placed in the offering plate. Please use a pew envelope, clearly marked with your name and "ALTAR FLOWERS"

Exploring God's World with Ross Golden

COULD YOU EAT A SKUNK?

Skunks are prevalent throughout the USA. Here in Pennsylvania we have two types; the striped which is the most common and only one found in our area and the spotted which is located in a couple of south central counties of our state. So let's stick with the striped skunk. They are nocturnal and can actually be beneficial as their preferred food is insects. They can also be a problem when they eat corn, garden fruits and attack chickens and steal eggs. Skunks will also move up the food chain and eat small animals they happen upon. The big problem with skunks is the absolutely terrible smell.



The spray is made up of sulfur compounds, thiol and other organic compounds. Thiol is also the active ingredient in giving odor to natural gas and some Mace type products. Skunks are reasonably accurate with their spray out to about twenty feet. Now let's get back to the original question, could you eat a skunk.

I suppose if one was hungry enough you might eat just about anything but for argument sake I will say NO. The great horned owl is the only animal that will routinely take skunks for food. Owls have superb hearing but poor ability to smell (luckily). The ability to detect smells varies widely in birds. Vultures on the other hand have a very good sense of smell, and use it for locating food. The only other animals that will eat a skunk are those not having much luck finding other food sources. Coyotes, foxes, red tailed hawks have been known to take a skunk, but as a last resort. For some reason, some dogs do not learn to leave skunks alone.

If your dog or heaven forbid you get sprayed the PA Game Commission and Penn State Extension web pages have recipes for cleaning up the smell.

*Psalm 104:20 You bring darkness, it becomes night
and all the beasts of the forest prowl*

PA Game Commission ~ pgc.pa.gov

Penn State Extension ~ extension.psu.edu

Military Prayer List

Gavin Anderson ~

United States Army National Guard

Jacob and Kayla (Wadsworth) Lee ~

United States Navy

Christopher Levy ~ United States Air Force

Clayton and Hannah (Smitley) Oveson ~

United States Air Force

David and Cheyenne Rager ~

United States Air Force

Luke Seder ~ United States Air National Guard (recently deployed to Afghanistan)

Christopher J. and Lauren Wonsettler ~ United States Army

Christopher Wright ~ United States Army



Be more concerned with your
CHARACTER
than your REPUTATION, because your
CHARACTER
is what you really are,
while your REPUTATION is merely
what others think you are.

John Wooden

Greater Washington County Food Bank ~ Coal Center Pantry

In November, the Food Pantry served 41 households with 104 recipients. 33 are legally disabled, six are veterans and 31 are children under 17. Eleven volunteers over both days served a total of 36 hours.

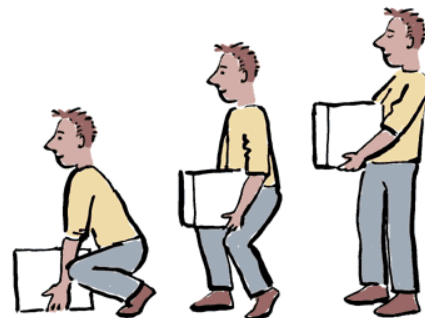
In December, 92 people were served. 31 are legally disabled, five are veterans with 31 children under the age of 17. 23 households receive SNAP benefits. We had 11 volunteers, two of which were first-timers, for a total of 48 volunteer hours.

January 26th is the next delivery date with January 27 set for distribution

Sherry Cramer, Coordinator

Strong muscles needed! Lend a hand one Saturday each month from 9:30-12:30. We are in need of two individuals who can lift and carry 50-75 pounds. Dates crossed out have been fully staffed. Praise God!

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| January 27 | July 28 |
| February 24 | August 25 |
| March 24 | September 22 |
| April 28 | October 27 |
| May 26 | November 17 |
| June 23 | December 22 |



January 27 helpers: Brian & Anthony Haschets

List the dates you can work in the comment section of your Welcome Card or contact Sherry Cramer at scramer481@comcast.net or 724-366-3784.



January Suggested Items ~ Salt & Pepper

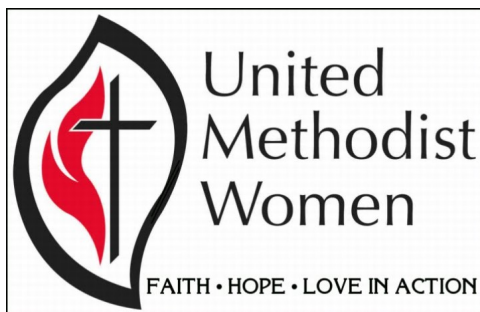
Grace Family Matters



There were 4 get well cards signed from the Welcome table for the month of November. The fruit baskets were delivered to the homebound/shut-in's the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Poinsettias were delivered on December 17th.

A "Thank You" note was received Helen Morris: *"To Care Team, I want to thank you for the very good fruit basket. I'm really enjoying it. You are all the best. Thank God for our church and you. I've slowed way down but still doing my best. Thank you all again, Love in Christ. Helen Morris Thanks for all the cards."*

It has been a pleasure to be the Chairperson for the Care Team for the past 3 years. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve God and Grace Church. Jean Belski



Grace United Methodist Women held their annual Christmas Party at Hugo's Restaurant on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm with 35 in attendance. Nina Thompson received the UMW Special Mission Recognition pin for her work with the "Pillows for Peace". This is her mission project to supply children from the Washington County Domestic Violence Women's Shelter with pillows, toys and hygiene products while they are in the shelter. Our

entertainment was Bill Porter. Everyone had a good time.

The next meeting will be held, weather permitting, on January 11, 2018 at 1 pm in the Newkirk room. This is "Bring your leftover Christmas cookies" meeting. We will be discussing plans for the coming year. All women are invited to attend the UMW meetings on the second Thursday of the month.

Jean Belski, President, Grace UMW



The Sewing Circle sent over 60 dresses to Haiti with Pastor Greg Golden. We enjoy making these dresses for the little girls in underdeveloped countries. The sewing circle meets the third Thursday of the month at 10 am. (10 am to 2 pm) in fellowship hall. Bring your sewing machine, if you have one, and a bagged lunch -for sewing, fun and fellowship. Even if you don't know how to sew, we will find something for you to do. January 18, 2018 (weather permitting) will be our first sewing day of the New Year. Hope to see you there. Jean Belski

Spread the Good News! Our Website is LIVE!

Our new website is up! Check it out at gracecoalcenter.org

Some of the new features include: online registration for events and online giving! Check it out.

Now that the new website has launched it is the job of the congregants of Grace UMC to take over. It is the responsibility of each member to breathe life into that website . . . To infuse the character of who Grace UMC is, into it. Websites fail when ownership is not taken over content . . . When a company, person or group does not INVEST the time! The website can be a powerful tool with seemingly infinite potential and action will be required by everyone to maintain the site with fresh content and in keeping their own information updated!



Want to update your page on the new website?

Want to create a page on the new website?

Email

heather@gracecoalcenter.org

With the launch of the new website, email accounts have been created to make it easier to communicate with various leaders of Grace.

Please begin using these effective NOW!

Chris office@gracecoalcenter.org

Jane newsletter@gracecoalcenter.org

Heather heather@gracecoalcenter.org

Pictures pictures@gracecoalcenter.org

VBS vbs@gracecoalcenter.org

If you see Heather Heitz, please give her a hug, a handshake, a high-five!

Mrs. Heitz very graciously shared her talents and an enormous chunk of her time to develop our new website and social media pages.

The work was performed gratis, saving Grace Church many thousands of dollars.

We are now in the 21st century with our incredible website and constantly updated Facebook and Instagram accounts. Make sure Heather feels the love and appreciation for this ministry she so generously has given.

Grace Family Matters



December 12, 2017

Thank you for allowing the Pike Run 4-H Club to hold our monthly meetings and other events in the church fellowship hall. As a small token of our appreciation, we would like to donate \$50 to your General Fund. Also, our members help every year with the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

The Pike Run 4-H Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month, January through July, at 7:00 p.m. We currently have about 50 active 4-H and Clover Bud members.

4-H is the second largest club in the world next to scouting and is open to all boys and girls from the ages of 8-18. Our members complete projects that can be exhibited at the Washington County Agricultural Fair in August and/or participate in the wide variety of county, regional and state wide enrichment programs and competitions. Some of the projects we offer include Beef Cattle, Hogs, Lambs, Goats, Horses, Rabbits, Shooting Sports, Archery, Photography, Fruits and Vegetables, Cake Decorating, Foods, Rocketry, Veterinary Science, Forestry, Conservation and Crafts.

Clover Buds are a subgroup of 4-H'ers from the ages of 5-7. They complete art and craft projects that can also be exhibited at the Washington County Fair.

Our fun activities include a great family Kick Off, Awards Dinner, fundraising, collecting canned food items, serving ice cream at the county fair, demonstrations, eating cookies and other goodies, speakers, a wonderful summer picnic/swim party, making new friends and the Washington County Fair. We also have committees like decorating for events, scrap-book and club fair display.

The only thing preventing us from having any one of the several hundred agricultural and non-agricultural projects 4-H offers is an adult or parent to volunteer as a leader. We are always looking for adult volunteers to help.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the Pike Run 4-H, please contact me at 724-747-6702.

Sincerely,

David Lowden, Organizational Leader

Grace Family Matters

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens . . . Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Friends,

The past year has been a season of celebrating. Celebrating 50 years of ministry, 50 years of friendship, 50 years of serving together. It has been a season of making new friends and renewing relationships from the past. We have remembered and made new memories. We have praised God for the blessings and for the trials, too, for they made us stronger. Now it is a season of moving forward with a new vision. *(see below for details!)*

But first, it is a time for thanksgiving. We are thankful to our loving, generous and wise Lord and Savior, who has blessed us beyond imagination! Who could have imagined these past 50 years? Only God knew what those decades would hold. Thank You, Jesus! We are grateful to God for assembling our team to plan and prepare for the celebrations. We are ever so thankful for Pastor Ken, who enthusiastically supported every activity. We are thankful to the congregation and community for attending and helping with our monthly events. Too many individuals to mention by name, showed up at the perfect times (God's timing!) to make our celebrations complete! Thanks to each and every one of you! This year of thanksgiving and celebration would not have happened without your uncomplaining, generous help.

Now about that new vision! God brought together a group of people to form the 50th Anniversary Committee who worked together as a team right from Day One. After nearly one year of planning to implement a full year of activities, this group isn't ready to stop. The 50th Committee has disbanded but the core of the group will form our new Fellowship Committee. The Fellowship Committee will plan events and activities to bring together the body of Christ at Grace Church. Some events will be just for us and some will be open to the greater community of Grace. If you are a planner, a doer, a worker, join us! We plan to have quarterly meetings to plan events that glorify God and unify the church. Watch the Sunday bulletin and this space in the Grace Reporter for news and information on what's happening. Please pray for this group and ask God how you can be involved.

Celebrating
50 Years
of Ministry!

Grace.Church
Ross.Golden Cathie.Podroskey
Jane.Diethorn Kay.Sokolosky
Charmaine.Sopcak
Beverly.Minor Bob.Robison
GUMC
Ken.Custer Edie.Sosnak
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If you have a business or service to offer send name and contact information along with a brief description of your service to newsletter@gracecoalcenter.org to be included in the next issue of Grace Reporter.

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SiLs Sweet Creations
Michelle Rolley and Stephanie Hoffman
Michelle 724-632-5999 ~ smdrolley@yahoo.com
Stephanie ~ hoffman1@bentcom.net

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Rustic Rail Alpacas ~ Jim and Diane Ord
526 Clover Hill Road, Coal Center PA 15423
724-938-0516 ~ 724-470-8812

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355 Pike Run Drive, Daisytown PA 15427
724-938-9615

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haberdasheryshopservice@gmail.com
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CUSTOMIZED WEDDING GUEST BOOKS & ALBUMS

Calligraphed Epistle wedding guest books and albums are far more than the predictable; they house the memories, pictures and keepsakes from your wedding day and life. Created in the spirit of paying homage to vintage treasures, they are an alternative to the generic cookie cutter guest book.

Heather Anne Heitz | thecalligraphedepistle@gmail.com
CalligraphedEpistle.com
CalligraphedEpistle.Etsy.com

Grace United Methodist Church

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

420 California Drive
Coal Center, PA 15423

724-330-5350
gracecoalcenter.org

Pastor Ken Custer

724-330-5503 ~ kscuster@zoominternet.net

Sheldon Barnette ~ Assistant to the Pastor

724-216-4319 ~ sheldonbarnette@gmail.com

Chris Merashoff ~ Office Manager

724-330-5350
office@gracecoalcenter.org

Music & Drama Ministry

Todd Reagan

724-628-4957
maynardtoearth@aol.com

Church Council Chairperson

Rick Thomas

724-970-0292
rthomas.ssa@gmail.com

Staff Parish Relations Chair

John Heitz

724-249-4151
jtheitz@comcast.net

Finance Committee Chair

Jim Short

724-258-9353

Board of Trustees Chair

Phil Riel

724-970-9016
priel295@gmail.com

Care Committee Chair

David Ziolecki

724-330-5266

United Methodist Women

President ~ Jean Belski

Youth Group Coordinators

Chad Erbrecht

724-288-6221

Clyde Qualk, Jr.

724-809-1925

Outreach Committee Chair

Sean Miller

724-914-3146

Mission Team Chair

Kirsten Miller

304-481-6751

Lay Leaders

Mary Jane Qualk

724-938-3648

Ginny Spindler

724-469-0196

Ryan Brouzakis

412-926-9235



Wednesday Nights at Grace!

Our mid-week fellowship
and education opportunity!

5:30 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m.

Wed@Grace continues will
resume January 10, 2018

WORSHIP

Sunday Morning

8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Saturday Evening

5:14 p.m.

*For information on our worship services,
please contact Chris at 724.330.5350;
office@gracecoalcenter.org*