

Grace Notes

My *peace*
I give unto you
Let not your *heart*
be troubled,
neither let it be afraid.



John 14:27

October

2020

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

Grace United Methodist Church

PLEASE NOTE that we are part of the statewide mask order.

Don't forget your mask when you come in the building.



Pastor Rory's Tuesday Bible Study, will be meeting on October 6th, 13th, and 27th. PLEASE NOTE that there are **no classes on the 20th**. Classes will run one hour and during this time a set of weekly scriptures called the lectionary will be discussed. It is an open "come-when-you-can" experience, with no additional reading. With the weather turning colder, we will plan on meeting in Fellowship Hall. New members are always welcome.

We welcomed new church members, Ellie Renner and Avery Ristow, by profession of faith through confirmation on Sunday, September 20th. We look forward to celebrating four more confirmations in our six-member class.



ZOOM CHARGE CONFERENCE MEETING

Monday, October 19th at 7:00 p.m. with Administrative Board Meeting to follow.

On the Charge Conference agenda: candidacy action for Sara Swenson.

To request the link to join these Zoom meetings contact the office.

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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MOVIE NIGHT

Monday, October 12, 2020
at 7:00 p.m.

A decision has not been made on what we will be watching so just come and go with the flow. We will wear masks, and sit six feet apart.

SOMETHING FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

In a previous Grace notes I wrote about all the things I had deleted, erased or crossed off on my calendar. Finally I get to put things back on!

1) **We are phasing back into Indoor Worship!**

Covid protocol worship services will be offered inside the sanctuary beginning October 18th at 10:00 a.m.

The prerecorded services on YouTube will continue to be our primary worship experience.

Participants at the indoor service will be wearing masks in the building and using designated spaced seating. We will not have congregational singing and only a limited use of unison responses. Your attendance will be recorded for contact tracing. Remember, if you are showing any Covid symptoms or had recent exposure to Covid, please worship online!

We are currently exploring the interests and options for some safe in-person children's Sunday school.

2) **Trunk or Treat Fun on Sun., Oct. 25th at 11:15 a.m. with Covid Safety Protocols**

Decorated cars will be spaced apart. All persons are to be wearing protective masks and candy will be prepacked and set out by the vehicles for non-contact pick up. Let's have fun seeing each other! You are welcome to wear your costumes to church!



3) **Virtual Consecration Sunday, October 25th**

No, we won't be having our usual consecration celebration meal but please mark your calendars to remind yourself to complete your estimate of giving or pledge for 2021.

You will receive a mailing this month with your card. This year we hope to increase the number of households doing online-giving. We know that this "Covid economy" will have ripple effects into the new year. Your estimate of giving helps us plan our church life together. While we have the opportunity to prepare a budget without the heavy burden of mortgage debt, this will be a critical year for us to catch up on areas of deferred maintenance, technology upgrades and, of course, ministry development! Please help us get an accurate projection of your support. Thank you for the gifts provided in 2020.

Thanks also for your understanding and adaptability as we introduced the drive-in services and outdoor worship services this summer. We are the church in new ways!

Pastor Rory

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Sunday morning worship services are at 10:00 a.m. starting in October! See Pastor's Post on page three for details on the return of in-service worship.



EMMA NORTON OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: First is a hands-on opportunity for youth and adults. Emma's Place, the townhome family residences located in Maplewood, has been undergoing significant renovation. On Saturday and Sunday, October 24th and 25th, volunteers are being invited to help install new playground equipment and other outdoor improvements. For the safety of both volunteers and residents, all work will be done outdoors, with mandatory wearing of masks, social distancing, and sanitizing of equipment. Ten to fifteen volunteers will be needed each day. If you are interested or have questions, please contact **Kevin Schill** at tcrapidresponse@gmail.com, or at 651-925-6874, or Shawna Nelson-Wills at SNelson@emmanorton.org.

Other ways that you and members of your congregation can be supportive during this time of particular need, that do not involve direct "hands-on" engagement, include donating winter coats, holiday gift cards, and urgently needed move-in totes and welcome baskets. For more information regarding this opportunities, please contact Kevin Schill.

Red Cross Blood Drive at Grace UMC Monday, October 26th in Fellowship Hall ~ 12:00-6:00 p.m.

The Red Cross is very good about following social distancing protocol and take everyone's temperatures as they are entering the church. You will need to sign-up on line or you may contact the office and we can get you signed up to donate.

For those donating, there is a RapidPass feature. Donors can save time by completing their pre-donation reading and healthy history questionnaire online, on their donation day, prior to arriving at the blood drive. Visit [redcrossblood.org/Rapid Pass](http://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass).

We are need of three volunteers who would be willing to work a two-hour shift to help man the registration and snack table. Please contact the office if you are willing to help out.



The Armful of Love organization that we have supported in the past by sponsoring families in need with gifts for Christmas is doing things a little differently this year. They will be accepting gift cards instead. An online Signup Genius has been created for those interested in contributing. The link for this sign-up is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/>

[go/10C094AACAB28A2F49-armful](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AACAB28A2F49-armful)

The gift cards can either be mailed to the office at 15309 Maple Island Road, Burnsville, MN 55306 or you can drop them off at the office. The drop-off deadline date for the gift cards is Thursday, October 22nd. Thank you for your continuing support to this great cause. Direct your questions to Anne Marie Dunbar (annakru@hotmail.com).