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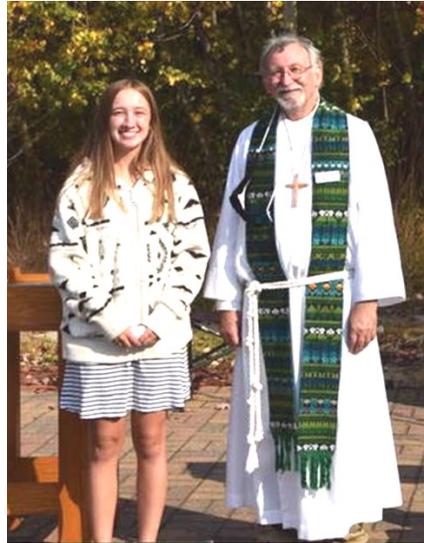
take it upon yourself to keep in touch with some other church members? Looking ahead to December, remember the Grinch could not steal Christmas and neither can Covid19! The message remains the same even if it gets delivered in a different way! We have some ideas to explore!

Grateful for your steadfast support and understanding

Pastor Rory



We welcomed new church members Beth Schmid on October 11th and Mitchell Halsted on October 18th by profession of faith through confirmation.



once again to Brian and Mitchell Halsted for taking the time to mow this past spring, summer and fall and to Brenda Bly for her attention to the flowers. Can't forget Marilyn Oliphant for the flowers in the brick planters in front of the main doors.

Your dedication to these tasks is unwavering.

A big thank you to Anne-Marie Dunbar for organizing the Armful of Love Campaign this year. Same goes to all those who donated to this cause. Although it wasn't in our usual manner, it was nice to see that we could still help out the families of this organization.



Grace Notes



November

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.



... to please turn in your giving/pledge cards. They are an important tool in structuring our budget for 2021. Thank you to those who have already turned in their cards. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Pastor Rory's Tuesday Bible Study, will be meeting on November 10th, 17th, and 24th. PLEASE NOTE that there are **no classes on the 3rd because of the election and voting.** 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. We are now meeting in Fellowship Hall. New members are always welcome.



MOVIE NIGHT ~ Monday, November 9th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

We will be watching the Movie "Hugo," a Martin Scorsese film, made in 2011, and co-produced by Johnny Depp. Masks are worn and we sit six feet apart.



Ruth Voll will continue to collect coats and winter gear for Emma Norton through November 8th. See the office hours below if you want to drop off your donations. Thank you to those who have already donated.

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

Grace United Methodist Church
15309 Maple Island Road
Burnsville, MN 55306-5522
Phone: 952-435-5696
Church E-Mail: office@graceumcburnsville.org
Pastor Rory Swenson:
pastor@graceumcburnsville.org
roryswen@gmail.com
Treasurer: treasurer@graceumcburnsville.org

THANK YOU
Lynn Kilian and Diane Martin for helping check in people at the Red Cross Blood Drive. Twenty-one units of blood were collected.



We are back to online worship only!

I am thankful for the guidance and support of our bishop here in Minnesota. In his recent email, Bishop Ough writes: "Doing no harm, acting for the common good, and protecting the most vulnerable among us is how we love our neighbor. What this means: I'm asking you to limit your in-person gatherings to ten people or fewer while wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Group gatherings have been the most significant source of the spread of COVID-19 in recent weeks. We have the power to help change the trajectory of this pandemic."

He also goes onto say: "Remember, the church is not closed! We will continue to be creative in how we minister in these unprecedented times, and together we can make it through this pandemic. Our actions now will save lives. And isn't that the business we are ultimately in? Salvation—life for all people!"

The summer and fall enabled us to have our drive-in and outdoor "in-person" worship services. Using Covid safety protocols we had two indoor services in October. Our in-person gatherings typically had attendance in the 20 to 30 range. Our online YouTube worship "views" are over 100 each week with some climbing much higher. I know we are reaching people who had not been previously connected to Grace church, and I hope you are finding it to be a meaningful and supportive experience. Thank you for adapting and being safe this way!

As we return to online worship only (until, further notice), I pray that you will be able to be the church at home with renewed intent. This month of November will certainly be a month of decisions, changes and adjustments in many ways! Now especially is the time for your personal spiritual centering. Develop some daily practices of gratitude and generosity in this month of Thanksgiving. The most important things have not changed. You can still worship. We can still have our hearts stretched with compassion. We can still be people of hope. You are still a follower of Jesus Christ in your work roles. (I hear more of you will still be working at home until the spring.) You are still the church, in your family, in your social media activities, and in your financial choices.

This experience is reminding us once again that even though we miss the company of one another in the comfort and familiarity of our building, ultimately and most truly, you are the church. Church is people wherever we are. We are putting that into practice! Continue exercising faith, hope and love as we worship together on YouTube.

Let's increase our use of Zoom and Facebook to keep connected. Let me know if you would like to organize/facilitate some of that! Also as your personal ministry, will you