

**MARCH 2022**

**Volume 3, Issue 3**

# Amazing Grace

**Grace United Methodist Church, 55 Albright Drive**

The season of Lent is upon us. Lent is a time period of forty days (not including Sundays) when in the church we focus on Jesus's journey toward the cross. Lent is representative of Jesus's time in the wilderness where he fasted and was tempted by Satan. As the church, we have utilized Lent in a number of ways. The focus of Lent is penitent. We reflect on our own sin and grieve our sinfulness. We confess and seek reconciliation. It is a time for fasting from convenience and or abundance with intention of prayer and worship to supply our needs. We remember the Father in heaven is the one who is our strength and our salvation. Lent has a very different feel in the church than the rest of the seasons. It is the time to bury the Hallelujahs and receive ashes. We bring out the burlap and mourn with Job on the ash heap. We remember that we are from the dust of the earth and to the dust, we will return. We walk with our mortality before us as we remember the penalty paid, the offering made, the free gift of Jesus Christ the crucified redeemer. We are solemn and pensive but we do not forget our hope nor ignore what Christ has done for us. We grieve with the promise, we sorrow with joy, we lament with hope, we die with resurrection, and we are broken with completeness. We have received forgiveness, we are restored, we have been reconciled, and redeemed.

The grace of God the Father Almighty, the love of Christ the Son, and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you always. Let us embrace the cross of Jesus Christ and celebrate in his final victory!

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## Defenders of the Faith

### ***“It’s All In A [Biblical] Name”***

There are approximately 3,000 people named in the Bible. Many of those share the same name and/or have more than one name. Christian converts Apollos (Acts 18:24) and Artemas (Titus 3:12) bore names of Greek gods. Only one woman served as sole ruler of Israel or Judah (Queen Athaliah). About 1,000 names appear for the first time in 1 Chronicles. Isaiah’s son Maher-shalal-hash-baz (Isaiah 8:1) has the Bible’s longest name, and it’s a 5-way tie for the shortest names: Uz (Genesis 10:23), Er (Genesis 38:7), Og (Numbers 21:33), Ir (1 Chronicles 7:12), and So (2 Kings 17:4). In addition to Methuselah, six people lived more than 900 years. Noah is also a woman’s name, given to one of Zelophehad’s five daughters (Numbers 26:33). The most common name in the Bible is Zechariah; there are 32 in the Old Testament, but only one in the New Testament (John the Baptist’s father).

There are several personal names in the Bible that are familiar to many, but others that may not be as recognizable. Below are names of people included in the Bible. Some are more familiar than others. They are not in chronological order and two are not at all in scripture. Your mission if you accept it, is to place all personal names in proper time-order, what book the name first appears, and what two people are ‘fictional.’ Also, one name is real, but the historical date is debated (hint: Job). Get your study cap and Bible. Godspeed in your efforts. Have fun! Ready, and go.....

Miriam  
Vashti  
Micah  
Calvin  
Jedidiah  
Jared  
Lydia  
Deborah  
Naaman  
Rebekah  
Jemimah  
Dinah  
Abigail  
Rhoda  
Japheth  
Ben-Hur  
Hamurel  
Jephthah  
Publius  
Tamar  
Dodo  
Rachel  
Dorcas  
Balaam  
Ichabod  
Nimrod



**IMAGE – “?” John Everett Millais painting (1867)**

#### **Aiding sources and recommendations:**

“Who’s Who In The Bible” – (Reader’s Digest 1994)



## Prayer Squares

We have prayers squares that were requested to be made and are awaiting pickup. If any of the below squares are yours please contact Jan Blum ([janet.blum56@gmail.com](mailto:janet.blum56@gmail.com)) or (717) 965-0593.

Name on the prayer square (person requesting)

Joe (Tony and Kim Miller)

Anna (Barry)

Prayer squares with no name attached

Pat Sailor

Dakota

Judy

Kim

Frank

Haley Strong



- 3-01 Jon Becker, Ryan Miller
- 03-02 Margaret Brown
- 03-03 Brett Miller
- 03-04 William Harrison
- 03-09 Susan Marsh, Thomas Martin
- 03-11 Bobbi McFalls, Logan Miller, Donald Pritchard
- 03-14 Dorothy Johns
- 03-15 Eric Dubbs, Stanley Ferree, Larry Reed
- 03-16 April Gross, Duane Myers, Susan Paul, John Spangler
- 03-17 Amelia Bulson, Jeremy Cruys, Lauren Howard
- 03-18 Joshua Downey, Hunter Holtz, Linda Moore
- 03-19 Evan Johnston, Krystal Martin
- 03-20 Dalton Koch, Larry Kuntz  
Josh Masenheimer
- 03-22 Brett Berwager
- 03-26 Chloe Carroll
- 03-28 Phillip Dehoff, Robert Holtz
- 03-29 Barbara Shorb
- 03-30 Joshua Ginter
- 03-31 Jill Dillon

### From Missions

The 2 local mission projects that Grace is involved with are Ruth's Harvest and PAL (Provide a Lunch). Both are through the Council of Churches.

Ruth's Harvest is also known as the "back pack" program. We pack bags with entrees, snacks, vegetables, drinks and breakfast items for children to take home for the weekend. The schools that we serve are Clearwater Elementary, Hanover Street Elementary, Washington Elementary and St. Josephs. The day of packing or the next day, the bags are delivered to those schools. At this time we are serving approximately 16 children.

The day Grace is scheduled, we need about 6 volunteers. It only takes about 1 1/2 hours. If you are interested in helping, please call Mae Woodard, 717-632-0124. Upcoming dates are: March 17, April 28 and May 24.

### PAL

PAL is served at the Council of Churches on Carlisle Street. We prepare, serve a meal and clean up. At this time all meals are carry out. The time is 8:30 - approximately 12:30-12:45. All ingredients are there to be used. We are serving approximately 130 people, including meals on wheels, Monday thru Friday and 100 on the weekends.



## Cultivate News

Please join us during Lent for a simple soup, bread and fruit supper at 6pm in the Multipurpose Room. There is a sign up at the hospitality desk. You do not need to bring every item for an evening. We will be having these suppers on March 9, 16, 23 and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Following dinner at 6:30pm, we will move to the sanctuary for music and a discussion of the daily devotional, *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield. Please read the first two weeks for March 9<sup>th</sup>.



# CONNECTING WITH COUNCIL

**Chair:** Linda Mixer

**Members:** Denny Blum, Ron Carter, Pastor Todd Christine, Karen Coons, Ed Davis, Duane Myers, Amanda Myers, Amber Quance , Brian Jenkins

## February Council Highlights

- Youth Spring rummage sale to be held in April pending the Path leadership submitting rules and regulations, charity designation and list of volunteers.
- Path Youth Spaghetti dinner to be held Mother's Day weekend.
- New Treasurer Julie Smeltzer is now being trained by Caryl and has started performing some of her duties.
- Council approved giving Hank Woodard \$500 funding for the Last Supper Play with a requirement of reserved tickets and a suggestion of a community collection.
- Council approved a weekend couples retreat to support spiritually healthy marriages hosted by Pastor Todd and Autumn. Date and registration fee to be decided.
- The Christmas Bazaar will not be considered for approval by Council until the following parameters are met: the designation of a chair, co-chair and table heads consisting of un-related members; a timeline of meetings leading up to the event. This will be reviewed again at the April Council meeting.
- The Facilities Committee is addressing the handrail inquiry for the Sanctuary and still gathering information regarding a street sign.



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

- Vacation Bible School Planning Meetings have begun! Please see Meredith if you would like to be included in planning an awesome VBS this summer!
- Easter Family Fellowship is scheduled for April 9th! Save the Date!
- Thank you to all who donated to Operation Valentine. The children packed 14 packages for our church members in need! Thank you also to Barb Zeller and Deb Kellenbenz who coordinated delivery!
- Parent's Night Out - March 19<sup>th</sup> - Drop off your children for an evening of fun and learning! This event encourages kids' God-given curiosity to wonder, explore, and experiment! It also includes a short wrap-up session that helps kids understand that God created everything and science is the way we can understand God's creation on a deeper level.



**March 19th 7:00pm**



The Children's Ministry Department has formed a new relationship with Park Hills Elementary. There many needs that go unfulfilled in our community and we're hoping to help where and when we can. So far, we have secured \$400 in shoe donations for needy families of the school. And we are working with Coats of Friendship - a local non-profit organization serving York County - to donate coats for children of the school as well. I hope that as our relationship grows, we will be able to serve the children of this school more. Please see Meredith Howard if you are interested in serving the children of our community.