



Grace Notes

Community of Grace UMC

MAY 2018

304-525-3581 E-Mail: communityofgraceumc@gmail.com

Matthew 6:

25"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

27Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? ...

33But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Friends in Christ,

Several years ago, my daughter, Sarah, and I were blessed to take a trip to the Grand Canyon while visiting my sister in Arizona. At our last stop, Sarah asked if she could get a book about the canyon. Always encouraging reading, I agreed. The title of the book she bought is "Death at the Grand Canyon". It chronicles every known fatality that has ever happened in that national park. On our 5 hour drive back to Phoenix, Sarah regaled us with stories of mishaps and missteps.

I came across this book recently while organizing a book shelf. It brought back some wonderful memories and it reminded me just how precious life is. One moment can change our lives forever. An accident, an injury, a diagnosis from our doctor, the death of a loved one....all these things send us reeling as our mortality confronts us. Life is a precious gift. Here today and gone....we don't know when.

Worry is an emotion that sometimes takes up a lot of space in our heads and our hearts. Scripture reminds us that worry adds nothing to our lives. It tells us that instead of worry, we should seek the Kingdom of God and his righteousness.

Life is meant to be lived. Let's not squander the gift we've been given with worry, or idleness. Trust God with your life. Live your life with joy.

Let us Pray:

Lord, you know the worry of our hearts. But we know that worry does not add to our lives. Help us to focus on you and on living the life you have given us. Give us the courage to live one day at a time, one moment at a time, with our eyes always on you.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Have a blessed day,

Pastor Donna

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Nelson Smith	May 1
Sam Maynard	May 2
Marissa Miller	May 3
Dean Dippolito	May 4
Clete Damron	May 5
Bob Hood	May 6
Christopher Thomas	May 16
Juanita Heiner	May 16
Sue Lloyd	May 16
Mindy Clark	May 19
Peggy Wills	May 20
Rachael Geiger	May 22
Becky McDonie	May 26

Anniversaries:

Judy & Bill Muth	May 11
Kim & Rob Preece	May 27
Lois & Joe Geiger	May 29

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 6 Celebration of Mission Events
First Methodist UMC 1pm
District Conf. 3pm 1st UMC
- May 12 Mother's Day Celebration of Women
catered dinner 5:30pm Tickets-\$6.00
There will be a special speaker
- May 18 Habitat For Humanity—COGUMC is
joining with Highlawn Presb. Church
and First Church of the Nazarene and
local businesses to build a new Habitat
home at 59 26th St. A fund raising dinner
will be at 6pm at Highlawn Presb.
2814 Collis Ave.
- May 29 or 31 VBS Training Class 7pm
- June 3 Recognition of 2018 Graduates
- June 24-28 VBS Theme—"Shipwrecked—
Rescued By Jesus" Meal 5:30pm,
Program 6pm-8:30pm**

ABOUT MOTHER'S DAY

In 1907, a young woman named Anne Jarvis began a national letter-writing campaign asking members of Congress and all Americans to set aside a special day honoring mothers. A devoted daughter, Miss Jarvis had lost her own mother a few years earlier, and she hoped to persuade others to recognize the importance of mothers' love and dedication. A year later, at Jarvis's request, her church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, celebrated the first Mother's Day. The idea spread rapidly throughout the country. By 1914, celebrating Mother's Day had become so popular that Congress declared the day a national holiday and President Woodrow Wilson called for a nationwide celebration honoring mother

Origins of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear – Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his [General Order No. 11](#). "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

Red Poppies



In 1915, inspired by the poem “In Flanders Fields,” Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children’s League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans’ organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their “Buddy” Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

National Moment of Remembrance

The “[National Moment of Remembrance](#)” resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans “To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to ‘[Taps](#).’”

