

Grace Notes

Community of Grace UMC

July 2018

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

Let Your Light Shine

"I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one." -Psalm132: 17b

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." -John 1: 1-5. NRSV

At 2018 Annual Conference, Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball reminded us that

"Each of us individually and as a congregation are called to prepare the way, to shine the light of our anointed one, Jesus Christ.

As a symbol of our commitment to the enduring and unbroken succession of Christ, and our dedication to seek the faith and wisdom that come from Christ, and because we need to remember that we are connected in the ministry of Christ and need one another's prayers to amplify the light that Christ brings, each of the West Virginia Churches will receive the gift of an oil lamp."

Each church has received the same oil lamp. Beginning July 8 that lamp will be on our altar as a call to prayer - for the mission and ministry of the church in West Virginia and around the world, and for unity in the body of Christ and particularly in the United Methodist Church.

The Bishop offered a blessing for the oil lamps that will burn in each of our churches throughout West Virginia:

"We are better together in sharing the light, hope, and life of Christ than we are separately.

May God bless the lights of these lamps as a reminder that we can trust in the presence of Christ to bring life, hope, light to all people and that we are called to bear testimony and witness to the light and love of Christ in the living of these days.

May these lamps also remind us of our connection with each other every time we gather for worship, and that we have a Christian responsibility to build relationships with each other, learn about each other, and to pray for each other as part of our commitment to building peace around the world."

Let the new light on the altar remind you that we are each called to shine God's light to the world, and together we shall dispel the darkness!

In Faith,

Pastor Donna

JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Birthdays:

Ben Dickens	July 2
Judy Muth	July 6
Amanda Pack	July 6
Joy Pack	July 9
Addie Fry	July 11
James Dolin	July 12
Kay Dickens	July 14
Thomas McComas	July 15
Kim Ward	July 15
Josh Chambers	July 19
Ross Cummings	July 19
Susan Eakle	July 19
Opal Jones	July 19
Dan Evans	July 29
Brian Johnson	July 31

Anniversaries:

Larry & Marissa Miller	July 9
Jack & Julie Bybee	July 22

July 8 Anniversary Celebration for Debbie Webb during the 10am service honoring her dedication and volunteer service to our music ministry.

July 28 Back-To-School Bash 11am-1pm with games, food, inflatables, haircuts, backpacks.

Summer Book Study – “Anatomy of Peace”
 Contact Pastor Donna if interested in this short study. Study begins July 9, 6:30pm.

If you attended the Food Handlers class in June, your Food Handlers Certificate is available in the church office.

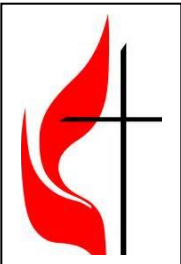
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

To all my fellow church people:

I have prayed to have our van ministry pick up and to fill both vans on Sunday mornings. So far, it’s working and we’ve added a few more people to the ministry. So my thought is if I pray for people for the van ministry to come, the drivers will come too. I am asking each and every one of you to think about and talk with God about becoming one of our drivers. The great thing about this is (1) it’s not every Sunday—usually once a month, (2) getting to meet members who could use a little help getting to church, (3) the good feeling of doing something that only takes a couple of hours of your time.

Please feel free to contact me anytime. All we ask is for a copy of your driver’s license and a little of your time before and after church.

Thank you very much:
 Virginia Dickens
 Transportation Van Coordinator
 304-634-7723



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304-525-9664 E-Mail: Community of Grace UMC@gmail.com