

Welcome To Grace United Methodist Church

We are glad you are here!

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. Sunday School

November 8, 2009

The Gathering

Gathering music, fellowship, sharing with family and friends, announcements.

Call to Worship (Psalm 42)

Our souls long for you, O God.

When shall we behold your face?

Our souls are uneasy.

When shall hope lead us to praise you again?

During the day, your steadfast love sustains us.

During the night, your song washes over us.

Our hope leads us to praise you.

We praise you, our song of hope.

Opening Prayer (Ruth 3–4, Psalm 127)

Lord, we come into your house as people seeking a heritage. We need your provision in our lives, just as you provided for your daughter Ruth. A foreigner without status, you gave her a home, a family, and a heritage. Your provision is enough; it is all we need. Bring us into your heritage and form us into your people, mighty God, restorer of our lives!

Opening Hymn: UMH #384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Children's Moment

Prayer of Confession (Mark 12)

Lord of all, the nations are yours. The poor are your treasured ones— widows, orphans, the aliens you protect. Your justice reigns over all. Forgive us when our ways devour your beloved. We don't mean to cause harm, yet we do. Forgive us when we consume more than our fair share, all the while knowing that our excesses deny the poor the things they need to live. Forgive us for building bigger closets, and not clothing the naked. Forgive us for vacationing in leisure, when multitudes long simply for rest. Hear our prayer, Holy One. May your justice and grace reign forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance (Hebrews 9)

We long to mend our ways. Christ can bear these sins for all who eagerly wait for him. His sacrifice on our behalf, his grace toward us, washes us anew.

The Renewal

Opening Prayer

The Word

Invitation to the Word (Isaiah 25, John 11): O God, you speak to us in scripture. You call us out of darkness and invite us to feed at the banquet of life, a smorgasbord of good things. As you have with the saints of every age, prepare our ears and hearts, that our ears may hear your word and our hearts may respond with love. Give us ears to hear and hearts to receive. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Mark 12:38-44

Karl Luth, Reader

Witness to the Word

Pastor Mike Fender

The Response

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering, Offertory and Doxology

Mr. Andrew Salyer

The Sending Forth

Benediction: To live as God's people of abundance, while not giving in to the pull of our culture, you're going to need the power of the Holy Spirit. Lift your hands and hearts, in the name of the Father, who sustains us, and the Son, who instructs us, and the Spirit, who leads us. Go forth to love and serve the Lord— the one who loves the widow and the orphan. Sing the Lord's song of hope in dry lands!

*Choral Benediction: UMH #408

The Gift of Love

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Thanksgiving: for the Youth that participated in Rack-n-Run.
Prayers for our Active Duty Military Personnel: Tom Alexander and Jamie Perry.
Prayers For Upcoming Events and Our Community: Turkey Bash
Prayers for: Our Home Bound and Nursing Home Members; All Congregations in Jacksonville;
Our Bishop; Our District Superintendent; Our Pastor; Our Church; Its Ministry; and Its Stewardship.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks for your generous donation to U.N.I.C.E.F. on October 25th. The total of \$135.67 has been sent to UNICEF Headquarters.

VETERANS' DAY

Once again we will be serving breakfast to the veterans of our congregation, on November 11th, at 8:00 am. Your service to our country was invaluable and you need to be recognized.

TURKEY BASH

It's "Turkey" time and we need your votes for "Turkey of the Year". The winner will be announced at our TURKEY BASH, Sunday, November 15th at noon. Voting is VERY IMPORTANT, so please step into the parlor, find the money cans and vote. You are allowed to vote as much as you want. Votes are a penny for each vote !!!

JD GROUP

The JD group will meet Nov. 17th at the home of Lois Herbst on 3 Shiloh Ct. We will be finishing the plans for the Christmas Brunch on December 12th for all women of the church. We will also be making small simple Christmas gifts to sell at the Brunch. Please call Lois, 245-6202, or Ruth Norris, 243-6219 with regrets. All women of the church are welcome.

OLDER ADULT PROGRAM

The November Older Adults Program will be about Christmas Quilts. It will be held on Wednesday, November 18th at 1:00 pm. Stacia Paxton, a very experienced seamstress who has been attending Grace Church with her husband, will be giving the program. She also plans to donate a table runner for the holidays. Watch for the runner to be displayed in the parlor – it could possibly grace your Christmas table this year.

MISSION EMPHASIS

Our Mission Emphasis for November is the Giving Tree. The Tree will be in the Parlor and will have "ornaments" for Chaddock School and Cunningham Home. Please take a heart or two, buy the suggestion on the heart and bring it back, unwrapped. Delivery will take place the week of Thanksgiving.

REMINDER

Please don't forget to call HELPS Ministry when you have used furniture, beds, rugs, appliances, dishes and other items. They will be used to assist those who are in need of extra help. You can call 217-245-7559 to contact Les or Kathleen Finkle and they will arrange for a pick-up of your items. All donations are tax-exempt and a receipt will be given if requested.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Food Bank Sunday

9:00 a.m. Fellowship - Parlor

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship – Deaf Faith Community

1:00 p.m. Deaf Youth Ministry

4:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth

5:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

1:30 p.m. Handwork Group

4:30 p.m. Lay Leadership

6:00 p.m. Men of Grace

7:00 p.m. Deaf Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

8:00 a.m. Veterans Day Breakfast

11:30 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. Food & Fellowship

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

7:15 p.m. Staff Parish Committee

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

10:00 a.m. Set up for Turkey Bash