



Painting Pictures

Do you have any strange quirks or habits? Most people do, but we often don't like to admit it. I have some that I am aware of and probably a few that I don't know about. The first one I will admit to is the need to keep doors closed – particularly doors that go outside the house. I'm sure this quirk drives Elaine crazy.

In our house, when I go into the garage, I cannot leave the door open – even a little. I feel the need to close the door tight. I think the reason behind this obsession is related to growing up. My mom always told me to close the door. If I leave a door open now, I can imagine my mom yelling at me. It is easier to close the door than to hear that voice in my head.

I also don't like the food touching on my plate. The potatoes, vegetables and meat must be separated. This one is not quite an obsession, but it is still my preference to keep different foods at a distance.

When I was learning how to drive, my dad told me that I needed to turn everything else off when I turned off the ignition. That meant the radio, any fans, or any other device in the car must be off. Dad told me that if I left them on, I could weaken the battery when I re-started the car. I don't know if that was true, or if it is true anymore, but I still feel compelled to turn everything off. Elaine used my car a few weeks ago and when I started the car the next day, the radio was blasting and the defrost fan was on. I'm thankful the car didn't blow up!

Do you have any quirks? Probably. Usually they are of little consequence, but there are a few that are church-related that are best eliminated. Do you know people who have a specific place to sit in the same pew each week? That in itself is okay; however, if you get angry because some visitor sat in your spot, you will need to change your behavior.

Do you roll your eyes in worship when someone wears something you consider inappropriate or in bad taste? Stop it! Jesus is the only judge. Do you have a particular place for your car in the parking lot and you get frustrated if someone parks there? I must admit I am uncomfortable having a place marked minister. We should have a contest and the winner gets to use the minister's space for a month.

Finally, if the minister is giving a really terrible sermon, do you try to get his attention and show him your watch so he knows it's time to quit? Wait, that one's okay! God wants us to examine ourselves regularly to make sure we are living in the way the Lord intends. If there are things we do that do not fit the teachings of Christ, we need to change. If what we do is silly, but not harmful or insensitive, it is okay.

Jim

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Please keep the following sick and homebound friends and members of Grace in your prayers.

Ruth Archer
Matthew Beebe
Mary Cummings
Ed & Norma Draime
Mick & Cheryl Dwyer
Robert Dwyer
Ray Groff
Sandy Groff
Bonnie Hess
Liz Jacobs



Stephanie Jacobs
Susanna Kanney
Marilyn Lawson
Mardelle Lee
Leighton Nelson
Virginia Paddock
Terri Pope
Rosie Slinger
Grayson Stoner
Jeanne Westrick

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayer concerns for now will be listed in the monthly "Grace Notes". Only additions to the list will be shown on a weekly basis in the bulletin and added to the next newsletter. If a name can be removed, please let the secretary know.

If you have a prayer request, please complete the card found in the pew racks, or contact the office. If someone can be removed from the list, please let us know.

Please inform the pastor or the Church Office if anyone is sick, hospitalized, needs prayer or a visit.



LENT

Lent begins on February 14th this year which is Ash Wednesday. See page 9 for a list of the community Lenten services. These services always make the Lenten season more meaningful. On all except Ash Wednesday, a soup supper is served at 5:30 p.m. followed by the service at 6:30 p.m.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your church contribution statements are available on the table outside of the sanctuary. If you cannot find yours, or wish to have it mailed, please contact the office. Also, if you would prefer monthly envelopes rather than weekly, let the secretary know.



FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR...

I want to thank everyone who put so much of their time and talent into making the Christmas season so special. We had talent from inside our church with Terri Pope, Janice Brust, Anna Mae Cummings, Paula Ream, Chad Corbin, Tom Kanney, Tara Kanney and Faith Baker singing for us. You would have heard Terri and her friend, Phyllis Mahaney, playing the clarinet as you came into church as well as during the service. Sarah Covert was back to play the trumpet, and she brought another friend, Andrew Kellman, from Tuslaw, to play a trumpet duet for us.

This year has been full of music. Along with everyone mentioned above, we have also had Joy O'Connor playing violin, Julie Sarver and Tami Hendrix playing flute, Cameron Keyser on drums, Zachary Smith on trumpet, and a flute group from Malone. And last, but certainly not least, our own wonderful choir!

Thank you everyone for all the time you gave to make our year special!

May God be with you and your family this year!

Holly

Happening at Grace

WOMEN OF GOD

The Women of God will meet for their study entitled "Follow" on Monday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m. All women are welcome to come.

STAFF VACATIONS

Darla is escaping the cold and heading to Florida for the month of February. I will be on vacation from January 30th through March 1st. In my absence, Pat Close will be handling the office duties.

The bookkeeper, Linda, will be out from February 1st through February 24th; and March 5th through March 31st. Contact Anna Mae Cummings or Criss Davis if you need anything "financial".



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

PLEASE NOTE: Senior Fellowship does not meet during the months of January and February.

CHOIR

TEMPORARY TIME CHANGE

In consideration of those who would like to attend the Community Lenten services, the time for choir practice will temporarily be 4:00 p.m. from February 14th through March 28th.

BLOOD PRESSURE PROGRAM 2018

2018 will be the 23rd year of the "Blood Pressure Program". Due to the fact that the number of those who have taken advantage of this program has declined; in 2018 we will only take blood pressures every other month. If you wish your blood pressure taken at any other time, please contact Janet Kohler or Sandy Groff.

Many thanks to those ladies who continue to volunteer to administer this program.

Thank You

THANK YOU Alex Beebe, Cliff Beebe, Matthew Beebe, Stan Crofut, Brandon Fedorko, Jason Ramsey, Chris Slinger, and Rosie Slinger.

Thank you to these great folks who said "yes" when asked to help put away all the many tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall from two funerals. The Community Service people from Massillon came, so several of our people didn't have to work, but they all volunteered to help. Thank you, thank you!

Sincerely,

Anna Mae Cummings

Hi Everyone!

Thanks so much for the poinsettia, cards, and candy you gave me.

It was so nice of you, and I certainly appreciated it.

Blessings to you all!

Bob Bushman

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS



Susan Mizer	February 5
Stephanie Morgenroth	February 5
Vicki Bickel	February 9
Susan Kaserman	February 9
Marc Moyer	February 11
Aiden Castile	February 14
Edgar Draime	February 14
Owen Arnold	February 16
Jeffrey Arnold	February 16
Meggan Walls	February 16
Randy Kaserman	February 18
Bete Fete	February 19
Janice Rittmaier	February 20
Holly Baker	February 22
Vicki Bennett	February 22
Grace Woodall	February 22
Ken Keller	February 24
Susan Reed	February 25
Kaylee Ramsey	February 26

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

“Birthday Sunday” will be celebrated on **February 25th**. Join us in Fellowship Hall following the church service to celebrate all those having birthdays in the month of December.

If your birthday does not appear in “Grace Notes” during the appropriate month, please contact the office so you can be included.



Robert & Susan Reed - February 11, 1984

Robert & Nancy Garver - February 26, 1961

KIDS'



ORNERS

God’s Workshop meets each Sunday during the church service for children ages 2 through 11. We learn about the Bible through stories and crafts.

The **Youth Class** led by Kristie Ramsey continues to meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Hey kids---

When you come to God’s Workshop, try to remember to bring some change (e.g. pennies, nickels, dimes) with you. We are collecting coins. This will be our way of giving back to God (our offering). When we collect enough, we will use this money to buy some canned food to give to someone who needs it. Remind your parents you need a little bit of change each Sunday.

YOUTH ROOM PAINTED

Thanks to everyone who came out on a snowy Saturday to paint the Youth Room. It turned out great. Our start was a little delayed due to the winter storm but with all the helpers, young and old, experienced and beginners, we got the job done. Now for a few finishing touches and the place will look like new. Thanks again to everyone.

THIS & THAT

DO YOU HAVE A WINTER HOME?

Do you head for warmer weather in the winter? Don't forget to let the church office know how to find you. Let the secretary know when you are leaving and returning, along with your alternate address and phone number so we can be sure you get your newsletter and notifications.

CHURCH DIRECTORY INFO

If you have **any changes** (i.e. marriage, name change, children to add, address, phone number, cell phone, email, etc.), please let the church office know with a note, a call, or an email. Forms available on table outside sanctuary.

Also, if your birthday or anniversary does not appear in the newsletter during the appropriate month, notify the church office so we can update our records.

An updated directory will be available in the spring. Please give the secretary any changes, additions, etc. by February 28th.

DEVOTIONALS

The "Our Daily Bread" and "Upper Room" are great devotional guides and available free of charge to you. They are displayed on the bulletin board shelf and table outside the sanctuary.

CEMETERY PLOTS STILL AVAILABLE

Many years ago, the church was given several cemetery plots. We recently looked into this and would like to offer them to anyone who might need them.

We have one plot at Rose Hill Memorial Park. The transfer fee for a new deed is \$95.

We have four plots at Sunset Hills. They charge \$300 for a new deed.

In addition to your cost to transfer the deed, we would ask for a small donation to Grace Church. We were told the plots at Rose Hill are worth \$1200 and the plots at Sunset Hills from \$3000-\$4000; so this would be a huge savings to you if you should choose to purchase one or more of these plots. Contact Anna Mae Cummings for additional information, or if you are interested in purchasing.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

If you are interested in "remembering" or honoring someone with a dedication of flowers to be displayed on the altar, the cost is **\$40**. You can call the church office to reserve an open date. You can choose to keep the flowers or leave them and they will be distributed to shut-ins.

NEWSLETTER BY MAIL/EMAIL

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, just call the office and give your e-mail, or you can email the information to the church. Also, if you would like to have your newsletter mailed to you, let the secretary know.

GRACE CHURCH RECYCLING

Say, if you've updated your cell phone, bring the old one to the church and deposit it in the basket on the round table. We are also collecting inkjet cartridges AND aluminum cans (which can be put in a bag and placed UNDER the round table). The big yellow bins in the parking lot are also there for you to drop off your paper and cardboard. Grace Church will get money for all these items. We thank you and the EARTH thanks you for recycling!

NOTIFICATIONS OF HOSPITAL STAY

Due to H.I.P.A.A. laws, health care providers are not permitted to release information concerning patients unless given written permission. Therefore, we are not always up-to-date on members' status in a hospital or other health facility. Please let us know, or have a family member contact us, when you are admitted or released from a facility so we have accurate information and can make visitation attempts, and let others know any information you would like passed on.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event church services are cancelled for any reason, you will be notified by the "Telephone Call System". A notification will be made 2 hours before Sunday service is to begin. Notification may also be posted on the church website. If local officials sound warning sirens indicating a severe weather event during the Sunday services, everyone should seek shelter in fellowship hall.

THANKS FROM SALVATION ARMY

To Grace United Church of Christ:

We are writing to express our deepest thanks for the recent donation of 33 pairs of gloves and 27 hats from Grace UCC. In-kind donations such as these help us to give help to the homeless as well as area families in need.

With this contribution from Grace UCC, you have demonstrated a deep commitment to our work of helping to give families in need a helping hand. The continued support plays a key role in our success in giving hope to those who need it most, especially in the cold winter weather!

It is our hope that this thank you will help to communicate our very big thanks for your generosity. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you.

Sincerely,

Thomas and Linda-Jo Perks, Majors
Corps Commanding Officers

WELCOME 2018 CONSISTORY

As you settle in to your new positions and responsibilities, please remember to **check your mailboxes** located in the room next to the bookkeeper's office as that's where the secretary puts anything regarding your committee or responsibilities. Also, **PLEASE** let the secretary know of any news, upcoming events/dates, and anything else that might be of interest to the Grace Church family, so that it can be put in the bulletin and/or monthly newsletter. It is always nice to have a report on events after they happen as well, to let others know what's happening at Grace. The deadline for newsletter submissions is always on the monthly calendar and bulletin.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Administration: Paula Corbin
Board of Deacons: Criss Davis
Finance Committee: Anna Mae Cummings
Property, Safety, Housekeeping: Kurt Moyer and
Tom Kanney
Memorial and Scholarship: Sandy Groff
Missions: Pat Close
Worship and Music: Paula Ream & Karen Porter
Evangelism: Ken Barnes
Christian Education & Camps: Kristie Ramsey
Personnel: Executive Committee
Pastor-Parish: Ken Barnes
Nominating Committee: Consistory

2018 CONSISTORY OFFICERS

President	Paula Corbin
Vice-President	Criss Davis
Secretary	Kurt Moyer
Treasurer	Anna Mae Cummings

2018 ELDERS AND DEACONS

ELDERS:

Ken Barnes
Paula Corbin
Criss Davis
Sandy Groff
Karen Porter
Paula Ream

DEACONS:

Anna Mae Cummings
Pat Close
Tom Kanney
Kurt Moyer
Kristi Ramsey

**CONSISTORY MINUTES
GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Massillon, Ohio
January 16, 2018**

Members Present: Ken Barnes, Pat Close, Paula Corbin, Criss Davis, Sandy Groff, Tom Kanney, Kurt Moyer, Karen Porter, Kristie Ramsey, Paula Ream

Members Absent: Anna Mae Cummings

Non-Members Present: Beth Fete

President Paula Corbin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ken Barnes opened with prayer.

The previous minutes were then reviewed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

****It was MOVED by Sandy Groff and SECONDED by Karen Porter that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Anna Mae Cummings

Beginning checkbook balance 12/1/17	\$ 7,676.41
Income for December	\$13,548.20
Expenses for December	\$ 8,603.89
Ending General Fund balance 12/31/17	\$ 12,620.72

****It was MOVED by Pat Close and SECONDED by Criss Davis that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.**

Investments Report: Submitted by Anna Mae Cummings

The Church Investment Account gained \$2,093.66 for an ending balance of \$105,769.10.

The Scholarship Investment Account gained \$4,799.33 for an ending balance of \$280,892.09.

****It was MOVED by Paula Ream and SECONDED by Pat Close that the reports be accepted as presented. Motion carried.**

The Pastor's Report:

No report. Pastor Jim was not in attendance due to the inclement weather.

Paula appointed the following as committee chairpersons:

Administration/Church & Ministry: Paula Corbin

Board of Deacons/Stewardship: Criss Davis

Finance Committee: Anna Mae Cummings

Property & Safety/Housekeeping: Kurt Moyer/Tom Kanney

Memorial & Scholarship: Sandy Groff

Missions/Outreach & Membership: Pat Close

Music & Worship: Paula Ream/Karen Porter

Laylife & Fellowship: Sandy Groff/Anna Mae Cummings

Evangelism: Ken Barnes

Christian Education and Youth/Camp: Kristie Ramsey

Personnel: Executive Committee

Pastor Parish: Ken Barnes

Nominations: Consistory

Paula reviewed all the committee chairperson's duties with everyone.

Administration/Church & Ministry: Paula Corbin

Nothing to report.

Board of Deacons/Stewardship: Criss Davis

Nothing to report.

Finance Committee: Anna Mae Cummings

No report.

Property & Safety/Housekeeping: Kurt Moyer/Tom Kanney

Nothing to report.

Memorial & Scholarship: Sandy Groff

Nothing to report.

Missions/Outreach & Membership: Pat Close

Nothing to report.

Music & Worship: Paula Ream/Karen Porter

Nothing to report.

Lay life & Fellowship: Sandy Groff/Anna Mae Cummings

Nothing to report.

Evangelism –Ken Barnes

Nothing to report.

Christian Education/Camp Committee: Kristie Ramsey

Kristie reported the youth room was painted and we have had an offer to replace the carpeting. Kristie is looking for furniture for the youth room.

Personnel –Executive Committee

Nothing to report.

Pastor Parish: Ken Barnes

Nothing to report.

Nominating Committee - Consistory

Nothing to report.

Old Business

John Kanney ran the cable to the TV in the entranceway.

New Business

Holly reported the organ has 3 stops that are not working so she will call Schantz Organ to get an estimate to repair it.

**It was MOVED by Pat Close and SECONDED by Kurt Moyer that we start a Facebook page. Kristie and Tom will handle this. Motion carried.

**It was MOVED by Sandy Groff and SECONDED by Pat Close that we adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Fete,

Recording Secretary



Community Lenten Service Schedule 2018

2/14 Community Ash Wednesday

Host: First Christian Church (No supper)
1020 Wales Rd. NW
Preacher: Scott Haynes

2/21 Wednesday Worship

Host: Forty Corners Church of God
3474 Beaumont Ave. NW
Preacher: Steven Gower

2/28 Wednesday Worship – *Your Kingdom*

Host: St. Timothy Episcopal Church
226 Third St. SE
Preacher: Emily Seitz

3/7 Wednesday Worship - *Bread*

Host: Faith Lutheran Church
107 Sixth St. SW
Preacher: Roger Alber

3/14 Wednesday Worship – *Sins, etc.*

Host: First Baptist Church
20 Sixth St. SE
Preacher: Nancy Bacon

3/21 Wednesday Worship - *Temptation*

Host: Christ Lutheran Church
3545 Amherst Ave. NW
Preacher: George Baum

Soup Supper – 5:30pm/Worship – 6:30pm