



# GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April—May 2019

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## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Palm Sunday Services,  
April 14  
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.*



**MAUNDY  
THURSDAY**



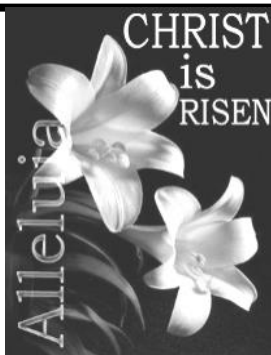
**APRIL 18**

Grace Church  
Worship Service  
6:30 p.m.



**GOOD  
FRIDAY  
APRIL 19**

**APRIL 21  
EASTER SUNDAY  
ONE SERVICE  
9:45 A.M.**



**SENIOR CHOIR  
EASTER CANTATA  
“Near the Cross”**



**Cambridge  
Walk of the Cross  
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**Grace Church  
Worship Service  
6:30 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary**





## MUSINGS FROM PASTOR DAN

The following was written by speaker and author Joshua Harris and is in his book *"I Kissed Dating Goodbye."* Joshua says it was something that he put on paper as the result of a dream he had while in Puerto Rico for the 1995 Billy Graham Crusade and published in his magazine the same year. It is very good and worth serious introspection upon completion.

### THE ROOM

*Pastor Dan*

In that place between wakefulness and dreams, I found myself in the room. There were no distinguishing features except for the one wall covered with small index card files.

They were like the ones in libraries that list titles by author or subject in alphabetical order. But these files, which stretched from floor to ceiling and seemingly endless in either direction, had very different headings. As I drew near the wall of files, the first to catch my attention was one that read "Girls I have liked." I opened it and began flipping through the cards. I quickly shut it, shocked to realize that I recognized the names written on each one. And then without being told, I knew exactly where I was.



This lifeless room with its small files was a crude catalog system for my life. Here were written the actions of my every moment, big and small, in a detail my memory couldn't match. A sense of wonder and curiosity, coupled with horror, stirred within me as I began randomly opening files and exploring their content. Some brought joy and sweet memories; others a sense of shame and regret so intense that I would look over my shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

A file named "Friends" was next to one marked "Friends I have betrayed." The titles ranged from the mundane to the outright weird "Books I Have Read," "Lies I Have Told," "Comfort I have Given," "Jokes I Have Laughed at."

Some were almost hilarious in their exactness: "Things I've yelled at my brothers." Others I couldn't laugh at: "Things I Have Done in My Anger", "Things I Have Muttered Under My Breath at My Parents." I never ceased to be surprised by the contents.

Often there were many more cards than I expected. Sometimes fewer than I hoped. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume

of the life I had lived. Could it be possible that I had the time in my years to fill each of these thousands or even millions of cards? But each card confirmed this truth. Each was written in my own handwriting. Each signed with my signature.

When I pulled out the file marked "TV Shows I have watched", I realized the files grew to contain their contents. The cards were packed tightly, and yet after two or three yards, I hadn't found the end of the file. I shut it, shamed, not so much by the quality of shows but more by the vast time I knew that file represented.

When I came to a file marked "Lustful Thoughts," I felt a chill run through my body. I pulled the file out only an inch, not willing to test its size and drew out a card. I shuddered at its detailed content. I felt sick to think that such a moment had been recorded.

An almost animal rage broke on me. One thought dominated my mind: No one must ever see these cards! No one must ever see this room! I have to destroy them!" In insane frenzy I yanked the file out. Its size didn't matter now. I had to empty it and burn the cards. But as I took it at one end and began pounding it on the floor, I could not dislodge a single card. I became desperate and pulled out a card, only to find it as strong as steel when I tried to tear it.



Defeated and utterly helpless, I returned the file to its slot. Leaning my forehead against the wall, I let out a long, self-pitying sigh. And then I saw it. The title bore "People I Have Shared the Gospel With." The handle was brighter than those around it, newer, almost unused. I pulled on its handle and a small box not more than three inches long fell into my hands. I could count the cards it contained on one hand.

And then the tears came. I began to

weep. Sobs so deep that they hurt. They started in my stomach and shook through me. I fell on my knees and cried. I cried out of shame, from the overwhelming shame of it all. The rows of file shelves swirled in my tear-filled eyes. No one must ever, ever know of this room. I must lock it up and hide the key.

But then as I pushed away the tears, I saw Him. No, please not Him. Not here. Oh, anyone but Jesus. I watched helplessly as He began to open the files and read the cards. I couldn't bear to watch His response. And in the moments I could bring myself to look at His face, I saw a sorrow deeper than my own.

He seemed to intuitively go to the worst boxes. Why did He have to read every one? Finally, He turned and looked at me from across the room. He looked at me with pity in His eyes. But this was a pity that didn't anger me. I dropped my head, covered my face with my hands and began to cry again. He walked over and put His arm around me. He could have said so many things. But He didn't say a word. He just cried with me.

Then He got up and walked back to the wall of files. Starting at one end of the room, He took out a file and, one by one, began to sign His name over mine on each card. "No!" I shouted rushing to Him. All I could find to say was "No, no," as I pulled the card from Him. His name shouldn't be on these cards. But there it was, written in red so rich, so dark, so alive. The name of Jesus covered mine. It was written with His blood. He gently took the card back. He smiled a sad smile and began to sign the cards.

I don't think I'll ever understand how He did it so quickly, but the next instant it seemed I heard Him close the last file and walk back to my side.. He placed His hand on my shoulder and said, "It is finished." I stood up, and He led me out of the room. There was no lock on its door. There were still cards to be written.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Bill Brooks, Chairperson**

Grace Church continues to be in a strong financial position. The operating account netted almost \$13,000 in receipts over disbursements in 2018 due to very generous year end gifts of three of our members.

Our capital budget broke even in 2018 with one very generous member contributing to this fund regularly. We also netted a positive \$5,800 in our rental account from 503 Race Street.

We have 122 giving units and the breakdown of the contributions are as follow for 2018:

- ◆ 6 giving units gave \$75,000 during the year. (\$6,500 and above)
- ◆ 16 giving units gave \$76,000 during the year (\$3,500 to \$6,500)
- ◆ 100 giving units gave \$80,000 during the year (less than \$3,500)

This is very enlightening information. It is alarming to think that only 6 giving units contribute one third of our budget and 22 giving units contribute two thirds. What will happen if these 22 giving units are no longer able to do so.

Even though our budget closed strong in 2018, consider where you are with your giving and pray about where God wants you to be. After all, everything we have belongs to God. Let's use His gifts wisely to keep Grace Church functioning to be a beacon of light in Cambridge and the surrounding community.

Thank you for your generosity and dedication to the work of our Lord through Grace United Methodist Church.



## GRACE CHURCH MISSIONS

**Diane Twilley, Chairperson**

The Soup 'n 'Sweater Day, held on January 25th was a huge success. We served around 95 guests. They each received chicken noodle soup or chili and got to fill a bag with warm clothes. Thank you to everyone who donated clothing for the cause.

We were so glad to see Pleasant Day clients come again this year. What fun those folks are. Staff member, Missy LeCompte has more energy than one small body can contain. She played games with everyone before they left and the place was hopping.

Mark your calendar for next year January 31, 2020. Be sure to keep us in mind when you are cleaning those closets out—

warm sweaters, jackets, coats, hats and gloves are needed most!

It is almost the end of our time to be working with the Cold Weather Shelter for this year. March 24th is our last Sunday to be there. It was great to be able to cook and serve on Sunday nights for so many in need. Thank you to all those that helped with this mission. This year the number of people we served was the largest yet. Some nights it was 40 or more. This was due in part to the new trailers which were made available for use in December. These trailers allowed additional space to house more people.

We tend to take for granted we will always have a warm meal to eat and a clean bed to sleep in. But not everyone does! It is heartwarming to be able to give them a warm meal and see their smiles. We had one young boy who asked to say grace on Sunday nights. What a joy he was. His Mom, he and his older brother found a place to rent in February. While I was glad for them, I have missed him.

Once again the local Girl Scout troops donated cookies to our backpack program. The troops sell boxes to send overseas and to give to a local project. When troops have a cookie booth you will see where you can buy a box of cookies to be donated. We have been lucky to be chosen as one of the local groups to receive cookies. We got 7 cases to be divided up in the backpacks for the next few weeks.

I hope everyone got to see the bulletin board in the hallway. We had some pictures posted of folks doing mission work and some thank you notes from the children at Sandy Hill and Choptank Elementary Schools.

I can't thank everyone enough who helps keep Missions going by donating on the first Sunday of the month. We helped a single Mom in January with her rent and another lady in February to keep her heat on. We have also helped several families with food in February... all because of your generous donations and prayers!

## JUNIOR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Bonnie McCollister, Director**

Hello Spring! In April, the Children's Choir will sing at the 11:00 a.m. service on Palm Sunday, April 14th instead of Easter Sunday. The Senior Choir will present their Easter Cantata "**Near the Cross**" on Easter morning, April 21 at 9:45 a.m.



Mother's Day is May 12th and the children will sing for the 11:00 a.m. service that day.

Mark your calendars so you don't miss these special dates for both the Children's and the Senior Choir.

Happy Easter & Happy Spring to all.

## TRUSTEES COMMITTEE

Skip Redmer, Chairperson

It is April already, the time has "sprung forward," and Spring has officially arrived. Time does seem to fly by quickly when we stay busy. As trustees, I believe, it's a given that there will always be something to do to keep us busy.

We have been busy investigating the leaking issue next door at 503 Race. Brandyn Spear has been contacted, scheduled, and has done some investigative work on the roof of 503 Race. It was found that the "scuppers" that allow the water to drain from the flat roof were totally clogged with dirt and debris. Now that the drainage system is clear and working properly we will continue to monitor the moisture issues inside.

Also, at 503 Race, I have contacted and met with a representative from Salisbury Door and Hardware regarding the handicap entrance door. Rust has taken its toll in some of the steel framing which is requiring some replacement and updating. We should have some estimates to review in a few weeks.

For several years, the large circular stained-glass window

above the choir loft has been dimly lit. Well, that has finally come to an end. Early in February, Ronnie Coulbourne was contracted to remedy that situation. There is now up-to-date LED up-lighting behind the glass that beautifully highlights the image of Jesus. Our thanks to the "WinGS" group for offering to take care of the financial part of this project. Also, thanks to Ronnie and his men for a job well done.

Recently, some of the Baraca leaders approached me with a request to upgrade their microphone system to wireless which would eliminate having microphone cords laying on the floor which creates a trip hazard. That request has been fulfilled and a new 4 mic system has been installed. This new equipment was funded fully by the Baraca class. Many thanks to the class.

Lastly, we are working with our choir director to fulfill her need for a computer to help her organize and create a digital library of the choir's music, past, present and future.

Have a great spring and a Blessed Easter season.

HE HAS RISEN INDEED!!

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Beverly Mullikin, Chairperson

We welcome all who would like to serve on this committee. We are a small group of friendly, smiling people who care about all our church members. Please let us know if you need a meal, ride, visit or prayer by calling the church office (410-228-4353) or Bev Mullikin at 410-228-3650.



Our current project is to produce a new Church Member Directory. We're still in the process of selecting a Photography Directory Company. Our next meeting for this purpose will be Monday, April 15th at 5:30 p.m. in Dr. Hines room. Come help us with the early planning as we will be needing many willing volunteers.

## BRENDA'S CORNER

Brenda Gremillion, Music Director

Spring is here!! Spring means Easter and Cantata! What a joy to be able to present this glorious music to our church! Our choir is working hard to share this beautiful Cantata, "**Near the Cross**," with you. We will also offer many of the great anthems of Easter over the next month, many of which you are familiar with.

What a joy and blessing it is to work with such a gifted and committed choir. I am truly blessed and I am so grateful for this opportunity to serve Grace Church!

I am in the process of reorganizing and classifying our choral music, and updating our senior choir music. Lots of wonderful things are ahead! Our choir is fortunate and grateful to have such support for our music program. May the Lord bless each one of you this season of Easter.

I look forward to seeing you on Easter morning at 9:45 a.m. for our celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

## GRACE CHURCH NEWS



OUR DEARLY DEPARTED












Jean Newcomb  
2/9/19

Catherine (Kitty) Jones  
3/10/19



# April 2019












Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>April</b> Showers bring <b>May</b> flowers	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  Lenten Lunches 12 Noon	<b>3</b>  Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon	<b>4</b>  10 to 11 a.m.  Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Worship on Radio</b> Mission Collection  Communion EMG & 11:00 a.m. 	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  Lenten Lunches 12 Noon	<b>10</b>  Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon	<b>11</b>  10 to 11 a.m.  Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  Palm Sunday  Children sing 11:00 a.m. worship	<b>15</b>  Membership Committee meets 5:30 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon	<b>18</b>  10 to 11 a.m.  Maundy Thursday Service— 6:30 p.m.  Sr. Choir Practice 7:30p.m.	<b>19</b> Walk of the Cross 4-6 p.m.    Good Friday Worship Service 6:30 p.m.	<b>20</b>  Dorchester Co. Ladies Prayer Breakfast Christ Church 8:00 a.m.
<b>21</b>  Easter <b>Worship on Radio</b>  ONE SERVICE 9:45 A.M. Sr. Choir Cantata 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon	<b>25</b>  10 to 11 a.m.  5:30 p.m.—WinGS Meeting  Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>SUNDAY SERVICES</b> 8:45 a.m.—Early Morning Grace 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School 11:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship  			



# May 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>SUNDAY SERVICES</div> <div>8:45 a.m.—Early Morning Grace</div> <div>9:45 a.m.—Sunday School</div> <div>11:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship</div>						
<div></div> <div>Remember - our fallen heroes. They are the reason that we are free.</div>						
<div>5</div> <div>Worship on Radio</div> <div>Mission Collection</div> <div>Communion</div> <div>EMG &amp; 11:00 a.m.</div> <div></div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>One Board Meeting</div> <div>6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon</div>	<div>9</div> <div></div> <div>10 to 11 a.m.</div> <div>Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div>
<div>12</div> <div></div> <div>Children sing</div> <div>11:00 a.m. worship</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon</div>	<div>16</div> <div></div> <div>10 to 11 a.m.</div> <div>Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Dorchester Co. Ladies Prayer Breakfast Bethel AME 8:00 a.m.</div>
<div>19</div> <div>Worship on Radio</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon</div>	<div>23</div> <div></div> <div>10 to 11 a.m.</div> <div>5:30 p.m.—WinGS Dr. Hines</div> <div>Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>
<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div></div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Prayer Warriors for Cancer—12 noon</div>	<div>30</div> <div></div> <div>10 to 11 a.m.</div> <div>Sr. Choir Practice— 7p.m.</div>	<div>31</div>	<div></div>



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## WOMEN IN GRACE SERVING (WINGS)

**Diane Twilley, President**

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*Women of Grace are united in Christian fellowship and vow to love God and encourage one another to use our God given gifts and talents in service to Grace UMC and our community.*

**W**omen in Grace Serving usually meets the fourth Thursday of the month from September thru May. We would love to have you join us.

The group was excited to be able to finance the repair of the large Memorial window in the Sanctuary. A new LED light was placed behind it to bring out its beauty. Thank you Skip Redmer and Coulbourne Electric for making this happen.

In a previous newsletter we told you about helping out at the Eastern Shore Hospital Center with items for Christmas. We also mentioned they have a large number of patients that are labeled "unremembered" which means they have no family or visitors. WinGS has decided to adopt one female and one male patient to keep in touch with. We will make sure they are remembered throughout the year for different occasions, as well as give them a monthly allowance that can be spent in the Main Street Café and A. May Thompson Shop on the premises. The tour of the facilities for our February meeting was very enlightening and gave us the opportunity to see all that is offered to the patients.

At our March meeting, the WinGS members brought in various personal items to donate to the Hospital Center for discharge bags given to patients who are being released.

Please join us for a meeting and see what a difference you can make by being a part of the Women in Grace Serving.