

Word of Grace

God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. Ephesians 2:20, 21 (The Message)

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Welcome, Pastor Earl

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A Final Word

Dear Faces of Grace, Hands of Grace, Spaces of Grace, Voices of Grace,
Family of Grace,

Grace and peace to you all. This will be my final word as your pastor, even though by the time you read this, I will actually not be your pastor. Earl will have taken over that position and role. And I know you will be blessed by his love, his spirit and his faithfulness.

It has been a blessed seven years, and I will be forever grateful for the time we have spent together. Though we never married, I am thankful for the relationships that developed over time. I pray that each one of your lives continues to grow in the grace of God. And I would hope you pray I do likewise.

My family was extremely blessed to be a part of this church and the community. We were received well and offered many opportunities to participate and grow as persons within the church and community. Thank you for loving all of us so well.

As Grace continues to go on to perfection, that perfection of love for God, love for self, and love for neighbor, I would hope you never forget the root of your faith – Jesus the Christ. I would hope you never forget to reach out to everyone you meet with the love of God that has been so lavishly poured out on you and me through God's gracious and saving gift of Jesus the Christ.

Reach out to the lonely and oppressed, the hungry and the poor, the naked and the captive. Reach out to the stranger in your midst and welcome them as the child of God they are. Do this not as a favor to me, but as a faith statement of who

you are in Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Savior.

Amen?

I think I heard an Amen.

Thank you again for the blessings of these past seven years. It has been a privilege, a pleasure, a blessing, and an honor as pastor to greet you in the name of Jesus. God loves you, and so do I.

Peace,

P.S. Pastor Earl, welcome. May the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ fill you with everything you need as pastor.

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Welcome for Pastor Earl

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) has planned two events to welcome Pastor Earl and Diane Detwiler to Grace United Methodist Church. On **July 5 dessert and coffee will be available before the worship service. A potluck luncheon for Earl and Diane is planned after the worship service July 12.**

Supporting Our Pastor

When a new pastor is assigned to a church, the congregation has the unique opportunity to develop a relationship with the new pastor and his wife. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is charged by *The Book of Discipline 2008*:

- To encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastor(s) and staff and their family(s).
- To promote unity in the church.

In order to promote unity and to support our pastor, SPRC offers the following guidelines:

- We're ALL on a journey to perfection. As children of God, we must love each other and help each other on our journeys.
- All conversations with the pastor, his wife, staff, and other members of the congregation will be done in love.
- If a person has issues related to the sermon, he/she will address them with the pastor or drop them. Rumor mongering is not acceptable.
- Criticisms of the pastor will be directed to SPRC—not other

members of the congregation or the pastor.

- Pastor Mic should NOT be contacted about Grace UMC matters. He would be happy to talk about family and personal matters. Pastor Earl should be contacted for pastoral guidance.

We thank God for sending us Earl and Diane. We all have the responsibility to contribute to the unity of our church and to support our pastor and his family.

*Staff-Parish Relations Committee
Jean Woods, Chair*

Missions Ministry

Angel Food Ministries July delivery & NEW order times:

Mon-Thurs July 6 - 9, 10 am - 3 pm

Friday July 10 4 - 6 pm

Saturday July 11 11 am - 1 pm

No orders may be placed after 1 pm on Monday, July 13.

Delivery date is Saturday July 25, 8:30 am. The July menus may be picked up in the church office, or you may go to emporiagrace.org and follow the link to angelfoodministries.com.

NEW! Orders for Angel Food at Grace UMC may now be placed online for your convenience.

Sole Sundays

The Missions Ministry is sponsoring Sole Sundays in July and we will be collecting new shoes for the Back to School Clothing Give-away. Shoes in children's sizes pre-school to adult, boys or girls, will help so very much. Just bring your donation of shoes during the month of July and leave them in the basket (Sole Train). The clothing give-away date has been set for August 8, 2009.

Annual Back to School

Give Away- The annual Back to School Give away will be held Saturday, August 8. Grace will again help families provide school clothing for their children. We ask that you begin to help us prepare for this wonderful mission opportunity. As you do your spring cleaning – please check for any school age, (pre-K through high school) like-new clothing. Check the clearance racks at clothing and shoe stores. Get the word out! Tell your friends and neighbors that we are collecting items. Shop garage sales and offer to pick up leftover items from garage sales.

All donations can be dropped off at the church. Thank you for helping with this project. If you would like to be part of this wonderful mission outreach please contact Cindy Krisman 343-6663 or contact the church office 342-2240.

Missions Camp

Missions Camp will be held **July 13-16** 6 -8 pm (Monday through Thursday). Circle your calendars and reserve this date because we will be doing some really great things! Children who will be entering 2nd grade in the 2009-2010 year through high school are eligible for registration.

Giving Thanks

The Membership Ministry thanks everyone who helped and participated with the "Battle of the Bands and BBQ" fundraiser. We thank God for all His blessings upon us and enjoying the day with us. Thank you to the Membership Ministry for your hard work in making the day a success. Thank you to the bands who gave beautiful praise to God. Thank

you to those who helped with donations of food and beverage, those who helped set up and break down and to those who came to listen and eat. A special thank you to Sutherlands for donating the water and T-shirts.

Nancy Boling
Chair, Membership Ministry

Health and Wellness Ministry

The May 16 Health Fair was a success! Over 76 people attended for:

- 56 Hearing and Vision Screenings by the Lion's Club Mobile Screening Unit.
- 11 units of life-saving blood collected by the Blood Mobile -- five of these were first-time donors!
- 65 people had their cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure checked.
- 80 adults and 50 children's spiritual gift books were handed out
- an exciting pasta-making demonstration
- pH testing
- bicycle safety information
- mental health information
- delicious healthy snacks
- exercise and fitness demos

Many thanks to the 30+ volunteers who made our gift to the community possible.

REMEMBER: The first Sunday of each month is Blood Pressure Sunday. Blood pressure screenings are conducted before the service in Fellowship Hall. It's quick, easy and doesn't hurt. Prevention is key!

Hope for Africa Children's Choir

On Friday, July 31, at the end of Vacation Bible School Week, First United Methodist Church and Grace United Methodist Church will co-host the Uganda, Africa Children's Choir. The choir of 22 children, ages 6-12 years are on tour across the United States. The concert will be in the First UMC sanctuary at 7 p.m. on Friday the 31st. We hope you will plan to attend and hear this wonderful choir!

We need persons willing to host some of these folks overnight in their homes on Friday night. First and Grace UMCs need five families willing and able to host one adult and two to three girls and three families willing and able to host one adult and two to three boys. Each family is responsible for feeding their guests breakfast on Saturday morning and then have them back to the church between 9 and 10 a.m. on Saturday. Families will need to all meet together at some point on Friday in order to create a rapport between the families and the choir, to share the "Do's and Don'ts" for the children and clarify other issues where necessary.

We hope some of you will be willing to share your home with the choir on the night of the 31st and ask that you **contact the church office** as soon as possible if you can do that. We are most excited to have these young people coming to Emporia. Grace UMC will provide lunch and First UMC will provide dinner on Friday; if you are interested in helping with the meals, please let us know that also. We look forward to having a wonderful time with these youngsters!

Education Ministry Men's Summer Study

Tony Dungy's *Uncommon: Finding Your Path To Significance* Wednesday evenings at 7. Facilitator: Ken Hanson

New Summer Bible Study – Begins June 30

Three Simple Rules for Christian Living
- Six sessions provide extended reflection for adults on three principles of Christian life: do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God.
Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the parlor
Facilitator: Brenda Street

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.....

Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light



WHO: Grace UMC, First UMC, LaEsperanza and anyone who enjoys having fun! (All ages from pre-K to Adult)

WHERE: 823 Merchant

WHEN: July 26-July 30, 6 – 8 p.m.

Volunteers and Snacks Needed !!!!!!!

Contact Kathy at 342-2240 or 481-1932

Teaching opportunities available:

Sunday School Teachers for children and youth classes
Contact Kathy at 342-2240

July Events

Our regular weekly schedule:

- Sun**
9 am Music/Sunday School
9:15 am Sun School
10 am Worship Service
6:30 pm Worship Service
- Mon**
7 pm Boy Scouts
- Tues**
9 am Bible Study
- Wed**
5:30 pm Worship Planning
7 pm Voices of Grace

- Sunday July 5**
9 am Welcome Brunch for Pastor Earl
12 pm Membership Ministry
12 pm Health & Wellness

- Monday July 6**
Boy Scouts hosting Boy Scout Troop
From San Marcos, TX (overnight)

- Tuesday July 7**
6:30 pm
Girl Scouts

- Wednesday July 8**
2 pm Abigail & Joanna Groups
5 pm Abundant Harvest

- Thursday July 9**
10 am Angel Food Orders
5:30 pm SPRC
7 pm Finance Ministry

- Friday July 10**
4 pm-6 pm Angel Food Orders
5 pm Yeager Wedding Rehearsal

- Saturday July 11**
11 am-1 pm Angel Food Orders
2 pm Stephanie Yeager Wedding

- Sunday July 12**
12 pm Health & Wellness Ministry

- Monday July 13**
6 pm Missions Camp

- Tuesday July 14**
6 pm Missions Camp
7 pm Phebe Group

- Wednesday July 15**
6 pm Missions Camp

- Thursday July 16**
6 pm Missions Camp

- Friday July 17**
Henton Wedding Rehearsal

- Saturday July 18**
Henton Wedding

- Sunday July 19**
11:30 am Church Council
1 pm Education Ministry

- Tuesday July 21**
6:30 pm Girl Scouts

- Wednesday July 22**
1:30 pm Create to Share

- Thursday July 23**
5:30 pm WOW Group
7 pm Usher/Greeter Training

- Saturday July 25**
7:30 am Angel Food Distribution
4-7 pm Ice Cream Social

- Sunday July 26**
4 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
Vacation Bible School FUMC

- Monday July 27**
5 pm Abundant Harvest
Vacation Bible School FUMC

- Tuesday July 28**
Vacation Bible School FUMC

- Wednesday July 29**
Vacation Bible School FUMC

- Thursday July 30**
Vacation Bible School FUMC
5:30 Parish Visitors

Ice Cream Social Fundraiser



Saturday, July 25, 4-7 pm
Suggested donations: \$4 adults \$2 children under 6 for homemade ice cream, pie or cake, drink
Sign-up sheets will be available July 5 and July 12.
All proceeds from the Ice Cream Social will go to Grace's

general budget. For more information, call Carole Followwill at 343-0974 or Charlene Utley at 343-1542.

In the Word

- July 5 Ezekiel 47-48
Daniel 1-5
- July 12 Daniel 6-12
- July 19 Hosea 1-7
- July 26 Hosea 8-14

Greeters & Ushers Training

Thursday, July 23 7-8:30 p.m. at GUMC in Fellowship Hall. All Ushers and Greeters need to come as the training will cover all the duties, including handling emergency situations. The Membership Ministry will be conducting the class. If you would like to serve as an usher or greeter we would love to have you join us.

Flint Hills Prayer Calendar

- July 5 Extension Ministries
- July 12 Manhattan: College Ave
- July 19 White City
- July 26 Fancy Creek/Swede Creek

Let us pray.

Heavenly and merciful Father, we lift up the Flint Hills District of the United Methodist Church. Always we seek your guidance as we strive to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We pray for the churches, ministries, and United Methodist organizations, that they will listen to your wishes for them so that their activities will be pleasing to you and help them to foster discipleship. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.