



The Messenger
Grace United Methodist Church
16 Hillcrest Drive
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Rev. David E. Smith
Pastor

Dedicated to building a strong Christian family for all of God's children, working together for the purpose of putting our faith and love into practice.

June 2015

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Endings and Beginnings

June is a month filled with endings and beginnings. For students and teachers it is the end of school and the beginning of vacation. For others is the ending of a time of learning and the beginning of efforts to find a job. For some it will be a time of making plans for leaving home for good and establishing a place of their own. For many churches it is also a time of endings and beginnings as the current pastor leaves and new one is appointed.

I ask that as I finish my ministry as your Interim Pastor that you help your new pastor and one another adjust to this time of change. Make time during these summer months to gather together to support one another and your new pastor during this time of transition. Remember that your pastor won't be familiar with the way Grace does things or what special celebrations and events are parts of Grace's ministry.

Help your new pastor become your partner in the ministry of Grace. Share with him or her your dreams for Grace. Allow him or her to be there for you in times of crisis. Let him know if you or a family member is hospitalized or dealing with a difficult situation. He or she will want to be there as a channel of God's comforting presence. Please allow him or her to be the one who officiates at the funeral of a loved one, the Baptism of your child, or the joyous occasion of a wedding. He or she is the person who will be there to follow-up afterwards. In order to allow you to begin to develop an effective ministry with your new pastor, I will not accept an invitation to officiate at any religious service once I leave Grace.

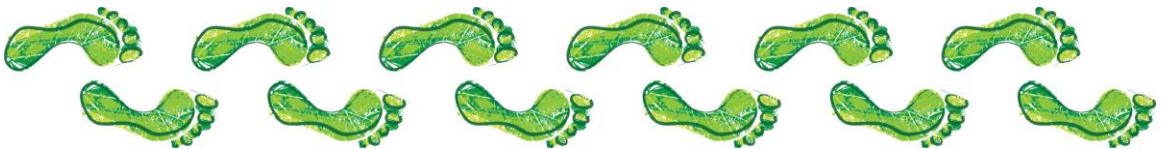
My time here at Grace has been one during which I have seen you reach out in ways large and small to share the Good News. You have been a blessing to many including your pastor. I am confident that the best is yet to come for Grace. You and your new pastor will be in my prayers that you will grow in numbers and effectiveness as you make disciples for Jesus Christ and develop new ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are called to be God's instruments in transforming a troubled world into one where God's way of love rules.

Yours in Christ's Service,



David E. Smith

David E. Smith, Interim Pastor



JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES

6/7 – Peace with Justice Sunday – Second Sunday of Pentecost

Scripture	1 Samuel 8:4-20, 11:14-15; 1 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:25-35
Sermon	Who Is In Charge?
Psalter	853 Psalm 138
Hymns	154 All Hail the Power of Jesus Name 533 We Shall Overcome 2036 Give Thanks
Theme	True power comes from God.

6/14 – Children’s Day – Third Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; 2 Corinthians 5:10-17; Mark 4:26-34
Sermon	Surrounded by Love
Affirmation	“I Believe” by 1986 Fonda-Fultonville UMC Confirmation Class
	I believe that God loves, understands, is with, and is ready to help me at all times.
	I believe that this is true even when I am hurting or feel all alone.
	This love is revealed in:
	God the Creator who made all things and provides for all my needs.
	God the Son, Jesus Christ, who died for me.
	God the Holy Spirit, who is present with me even now.
Hymns	707 Hymn of Promise
2282	I’ll Fly Away
2051	I Was There to hear Your Borning Cry
Theme	We are surrounded by God’s love.

6/21 – Choir Sunday – A Service of Music

Scripture	2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41
Theme	Never Alone
Processional	2002 I Will Call Upon the Lord
Call to Worship	347 Spirit Song
Anthem	
Children’s Time	Cherub Choir
Prayer of the Day	496 Sweet Hour of Prayer
Response	2272 Holy Ground
Message	512 Stand By Me
Offertory	Special Music
Doxology	

Prayer of Dedication
Concerns of the People
Prayers of the People
Choral Response 2193 Lord Listen to Your Children Praying
Benediction 377 It is Well with My Soul
Postlude

6/28 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43
Sermon Called to Optimism
Psalter 848 Psalm 130
Hymns 558 We Are the Church
 328 Surely the Presence of the Lord (twice)
 394 Something Beautiful
Theme We are called to move forward confident that God can transform our lives.

JUNE IS EARLY!

This issue is about a week and a half early and I apologize to anyone who wanted to get an article in for the June newsletter if we were unable to hook up. If there is anything that you want announced to the congregation, please let Fran Lobdell know and she will make sure that it either goes into the Sunday bulletin or out via email which will reach almost everyone.

BOOK NOOK

The Book Nook total as of 5/3/2015 was **\$4,525**.

The Book Nook will be participating in the Ravena Yard Sale Day by offering a special \$2/Bag Sale.

VERY GENEROUS donations have made it possible (and necessary) to have a summer Book Sale. As of this writing, the tentative dates are July 29, 30, 31 and August 1. More on this in the July issue of *The Messenger*.

FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Don't forget to show your support for our Sunday School children by attending church service on June 14th.

There will be a special Children's Moment, and the children will be our greeters, acolytes and they will take the collection. They've been practicing the doxology and Lords Prayer so they can lead the congregation, too. While everything isn't completely planned out yet, there is sure to be other special presentations by the children.

Following the morning service join us for the annual church-wide picnic. Details will be coming out soon.

BARGAIN SHED NEWS

The Shed has been open for a few weeks now and we continue to be blessed with donations.

Also, as news of what we sell and our reasonable prices spreads, we see new friends all the time – many saying they are glad they stopped in and that they'll be back.

If you have not visited us, stop in any Tuesday morning, Thursday evening or Saturday morning. You will be most welcome!

We'll have a YTD sales total for the Bargain Shed sales in the July issue.





Congratulations to all those who will be celebrating an anniversary or a birthday in June:

- 2 Erin Haslett
- 5 Pam Ginder
- 6 Jim & Peggy Sherman
- 15 Jay & Sue Ruso
- 16 Edna Kniffen
- 17 Janet & Ron Mantynen
- 20 Kristina Mantynen Gish
- 22 Beth Spoor
- 26 Jeffrey Schoenig

CROP WALK 2015

Once again, Grace United Methodist has done an outstanding job to support Church World Service ministry to the hungry.

We had seven walkers-4 youth and 3 adults, including Pastor David. A big Thank You to Janet Mantynen for counting all the donations!

The final figures are not in yet, but we exceeded last year's \$1,000 + figure. The local food pantries will receive 25%. They thank you, and I thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

God bless you,
Jan Bradshaw



STAY SPIRITUALLY FIT

Prayer is like exercise: Neither is an end in itself. Just as exercise is intended to make us physically fit by strengthening our muscles so we can manage more activity, engaging in prayer leads to more prayer. The harder one works at exercise, the greater the results. But if we give up the routine, the results won't hold. The same goes for prayer.

Writes Rev. Kate Braestrup in *Beginner's Grace* (Atria Books), "There will be no moment – in this life, anyway – when I will be able to say, 'That's it! I've prayed, and the prayers have paid off: I'm a fully conscious, totally grateful, and unstintingly generous person. I can just start stuffing myself as soon as the plate hits the table.'"

Rather, she notes, “The more you give, the more you will be able to give; the more you receive, the more you will be willing to receive; and the more you pray, the more you can ... pray.”

PRIORITIES

My father used to play with my brother and me in the yard. Mother would come out and say, “You’re tearing up the grass.”

“We’re not raising grass,” Dad would reply. “We’re raising boys.”

– *Harmon Killebrew*



THE ORIGIN OF FATHER’S DAY

One Sunday in 1909, Sonora Smart Dodd listened to a sermon honoring mothers. Her mother had died some years before, so her father had raised her by himself. Dodd wondered why there wasn’t a day to honor fathers, so she arranged a tribute to her father at a church in Spokane, Washington. The date was June 19, 1910. Many people believe this was the beginning of Father’s Day.

Another account holds that a West Virginia church held a tribute service for fathers in 1908, following a mine explosion that killed 360 men.

Regardless of which story is correct, President Calvin Coolidge was the first president to designate a special day to honor fathers. In 1924, he proclaimed the third Sunday in June as Father’s Day.

WHAT IS A DAD?

A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall
but instead picks you up, brushes you off,
and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who wants to keep you from making mistakes
but instead lets you find your own way,
even though his heart breaks in silence
when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who holds you when
you cry,
scolds you when you break the rules,
shines with pride when you succeed,
and has faith in you even when you
fail.

– *Unknown*



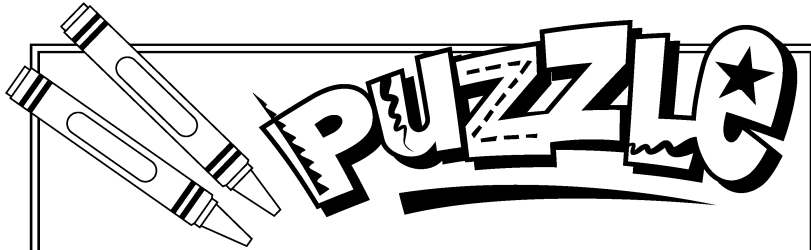
AWASH IN SUNLIGHT

St. Francis of Assisi – perhaps best remembered for his love of animals and his belief that God cares about them in special ways too – was said to have lived with an exuberant “attitude of gratitude.” He wrote, “Such love does the sky now pour, that whenever I stand in a field, I have to wring the light out when I go home.”

As summertime begins, what natural wonders amaze you and make you grateful: sweet-smelling grass? warm, gentle rain? blooming flowers everywhere? pristine, blue skies? Just for fun, write an exclamation like that

of St. Francis, glorifying God for his creation.





Written for our learning

Not only did God give us the Bible as his Word, but he also gives us many people to teach us his ways. Our greatest teacher is Jesus, God's Son.

Directions: Complete Matthew 19:16-17 by filling in the blanks (using words from the Word Bank) and then unscrambling the three words and writing them on the tablets.

WORD BANK	ask do eternal If good good Why
	good Jesus life man One Teacher

A _____ came up to _____ and asked,
 “_____, what _____ thing must I _____
 to get _____ life?” “_____ do you
 _____ me about what is _____?” Jesus replied.
 “There is only _____ who is _____.
 _____ you want to enter _____ ...

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Matthew 19:16-17, NV

Answers: A man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?” “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life ... obey the commandments.”

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JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook, please join the church page by *liking us* at Grace United Methodist Church, Ravena, NY. Find out what's happening each week from Sunday's Service sermon title and hymns to meetings and special events.

OR VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.graceumcravena.org



Deadline for articles for the **July** issue of *The Messenger* is **June 21st**. Please e-mail or fax articles to Barb Bullock at:

bbullock812@gmail.com

or

fax to: **731-8994**