

The Messenger
Grace United Methodist Church

16 Hillcrest Drive Ravena, NY 12143-1409

> www.graceumcravena.org 518-756-6688

> > Pastor Kim Krause

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.

July 2017

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Family and Friends of Grace UMC,

I look forward to being in worship with you on July 2nd and in ministry with you in our time together. Before our official time together, I wanted to introduce myself (at least a bit) so you have some sense of who your next pastor will be.

I grew up in Liverpool, NY (near Syracuse) – so I am used to snow and cold. I was involved in music while in the Liverpool School district – chorus, symphonic band, and field band (marching and formations) and also played guitar for the youth group I was involved in at Grace Episcopal Church in Baldwinsville, NY. Music has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and has been a piece of my faith as well. I look forward to serving a church that has an active music ministry.

My first calling was to teaching. I received my BS in Mathematics from SUNY Albany and MS in Education from SUNY Potsdam. I taught for 12 years, with my last 6 teaching high school math at Bethlehem CSD. During these years I was active at Calvary UMC in Latham – choir, bells, leading youth choir, youth group advisor, attending and leading Bible studies, and participating in an alternative worship group. It was in my last few

years while teaching that I realized that God was calling me to do something different and totally unexpected – the call to ordained ministry.

I attended Andover-Newton Theological seminary in Newton Centre, Massachusetts and student pastored at Scotia UMC under the supervision of Rev. Jan Rowell for 2 years. My first appointment was to a 2-point charge – Waterford UMC and Melrose UMC – for 3 years. Due to changes within the Waterford congregation, there was a need to reduce their charge from ¾-time to ½-time. This resulted in a different 2-point charge of Waterford UMC and Clifton Park UMC. Over the next couple of years these congregations made the decision to become one church and in September of 2014 they became a new and legal entity – Living Hope UMC.

And now I have been appointed to be the pastor of your church – Grace UMC. I trust that God will lead us in a direction that allows us to be true disciples of Jesus Christ. This will take some time, as we need to learn more about each other, listen to each other, pray together and for each other, and learn together how we are called to be The Church.

In Christ's Service,



Pastor Kim



YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will be meeting **July 6**th at 6pm. This is an ecumenical group so please spread the word to any and all interested. We will also be planning to go hiking and a light picnic on **July 16**th following Sunday service. Please contact Wendy for more information at 518-956-4711.

FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our children's day celebration and picnic. As always we had quite a feast thanks to the generosity of the congregation. During children's day three students received their bibles: Sidney Young, Grant Leonardo and Abby Kennedy.

Our Sunday School staff was also recognized. Thank you to Rebecca Shook, Amy Devine-Young, Michelle Wagner, Rick Robertson and Annie Coryell for their help with the youth Sunday School this year.

For our final outreach project we were able to donate 19 birthday bags to the Food Pantry. Each bag contained a cake or brownie mix, frosting, candles, plastic tablecloth and paper products and additional party hats or decorations

to help those in need celebrate a special birthday. Thank you for your help with this project!





Upcoming events:

Save the date! Tuesday, August 8th at 6:30pm, we will be having our very own Amazing Race in Ravena. Come join us as teams race against each other

to perform tasks and complete challenges, with the winning team taking home a prize! Youth of any age are welcome to participate and adult volunteers are needed. Please contact Kate if interested.

Thursday, August 17th at 6:30pm will be our annual Backpack Blessing and free community dinner. As always we will be offering school supplies and backpacks to individuals in need. Please keep your eyes on back to school sales and pick up items to donate! We appreciate your help.



BARGAIN SHED

The weekly sales are continuing at the Bargain Shed. The "spot sales" are random and change each week. Donations have been abundant and the shop if filled with wonderful deals on clothes, shoes, accessories, linens, toys, glassware and many miscellaneous items.

Receipts to date total \$2,018.75!

Many thanks for all the donations we have received and for your patronage.



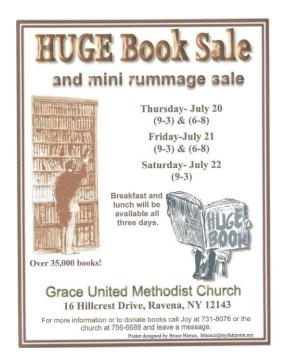
Congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a birthday or an anniversary in July!

- 3 Joshua Dedrick
- 3 Janet Mantynen
- 3 Quaniesha Porterfield
- 4 Velma Armstrong
- 5 Alan Baumback
- 5 Jean Lyons
- 5 Wanda Whitney
- 7 Christine Frazee
- 10 Mike Ellis
- 10 Mark Gordon
- 12 Lidia Ruso
- 13 Jan Bradshaw
- 14 Ken & Cindy Bliss
- 14 John & Pam Ginder
- 14 Ethan Roe
- 14 June Baumback
- 16 Matthew Ginder
- 22 Mike Mattick
- 25 Leland Case
- 26 Karen Black
- 29 Adam & Donna Newton
- 29 Trey Coryell

BOOK NOOK NEWS

Our YTD total sales were not available at publication time this month.

Don't forget, we are having another big book sale this summer from July 20th through July 22nd. Any and all help to set up would be most appreciated after church on Sunday, July 16th through Wednesday, July 19th. (Times are on the accompanying July Calendar.) Many hands make light work.







MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our Annual Fall Fair will be held on Saturday, September 30th. There will be a planning meeting on **July 18th** at 6:30pm. All are welcome!

GRACE'S COFFEE HOUSE – ANOTHER BIG HIT

Plenty of talent and laughs were enjoyed at the June 9th Coffee House here at Grace UMC. Be sure and ask those that attended what entertainment was seen!

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

Taken From the Wednesday, November 30th *Today's Turning Point* with Dr. David Jeremiah:

Freedom is not the right to do as you please; it is the liberty to do as you ought.

-Anonymous



INDEPENDENCE DAY LESSONS FOR CHURCH LIFE

- **Return to the basics** On July 4th we commemorate the origins of our country. In terms of faith, we also periodically need to hear again the foundational stories of Creation, the Israelites and, of course, Jesus.
- Honor the gift of freedom "For freedom Christ has set us free...do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1, ESV). We strive as citizens to preserve and live out our national freedom. Likewise, as citizens of God's kingdom we live gladly in the freedom of salvation and share that gift with others.
- **Enjoy community** July 4th is known for picnics, parades and other

community gatherings. Similarly, the church is nourished by coming together for worship, meals and other special events.

• Be light in the darkness — As fireworks brighten the sky with light and color, the church is called to display the Gospel's unique light in a dark world. Our word *dynamite* and the Greek word for *power* — as in, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8) — share a root. Through God's power in us, we share Jesus — dynamically! — with others.

-Heidi Mann





Friends in the Lord

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." It's important to choose friends who help us be more like Jesus. How many words can you make from the word *friendship*?

FRIENDSHIP

2-letter words:		
3-letter words:		
4-letter words:		
5-letter words:		
Nords with 6 or more letters:		

Answers include: in, is, hi, he; hip, end, sip, dip, rip, nip, pie, sir, hid; ship, send, ride, dine, find, fine, drip, shed, dish, rined, ripe, hide; friend, fisher, diners, rinsed, shrine, finish, shinier, insider, hinders, inspired, refinish, finished

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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 **August** issue of *The Messenger* is **July 23rd**. Please give or e-mail articles to Barb Bullock at:

bbullock812@gmail.com