

Grace Presbyterian News

August 2017

The Coming Total Solar Eclipse – A Wonder of Nature and a Spiritual Experience

Mike will lead a class on this Sunday, August 6, at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, August 21, 2017 will provide the best opportunity in many years for people in our part of the world to see a total eclipse of the sun, whose path extends from Oregon to South Carolina. There has not been a coast to coast total eclipse across the (Lower 48) of the United States since 1918. The maximum duration of totality for this eclipse, 2 minutes and 40 seconds, also occurs along the path quite near to us, (near Princeton and Hopkinsville, Kentucky.) So, having seen 5 total solar eclipses, I wanted to share some information and enthusiasm about this upcoming epic event.

Other Christian Education News and Events

If you are interested in teaching the children's Sunday School class (ages 3-6) on a rotating basis, please sign up on the table in the narthex or let Emily Mayne know. Teach as many or as few Sundays as you'd like. Curriculum and supplies are provided.

Save the date for Rally Day, Sunday morning, September 10. We'd love to have everyone participate in this kick off of the Christian Education School Year. More details to come in the September newsletter.

We have a Bible study-based Sunday School class that meets regularly each week at 9:45 am. In September Bob Gammon will lead a short series on the Apostles' Creed as an alternative Sunday School experience. If anyone has yet other study ideas, please see Emily Mayne, chair of the Christian Education Committee.

Presbyterian Women Lunch – Tuesday, August 8, at Noon

Presbyterian Women and their families and guests are welcome to meet for lunch on Tuesday, August 8, at 12:00 noon, at Fat Larry's Restaurant, 7537 U.S. Highway 70. The PWs who meet on second Tuesday through the year, wanted to stay in touch through the summer this way, so come along if you can.

Young Adult Event

The Young Adults will have an outing on Saturday, August 12. We'll convene around 5 pm for an evening out (dinner and an escape room). Childcare is provided.

Youth Outing – Saturday, August 26

Youth Outing - Urban Air Trampoline Park - Saturday, August 26

Join us for some fun at Urban Air Trampoline Park in Cordova! We will meet at the church at 9:30am on Saturday, August 26th. Cost is \$25 for an hour and a half of jump time which includes: trampolines, warrior course, battle beam, tubes playground, and jump socks. Bring some extra money for lunch, because we will grab some lunch together after all of that jumping! We will return to the church by 2:30pm.

Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study Conference – Saturday August 26; 9am-1pm

The Presbyterian Women's Horizons Bible Study Conference meets on Saturday, August 26, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center, Highway 57, just west of LaGrange, Tennessee, to get an overview/kickoff of the coming year's study book. The study book for the coming year is *Cloud of Witnesses – The Community of Christ in Hebrews*.

A Reminder of Weekly Events at Grace Presbyterian Church in August 2017

Sunday Prayer and Praise begins at 9:30 p.m. (We sing and pray for those on the prayer list by name.)

Sunday School begins at 9:45 p.m.

Sunday Worship begins at 11:00 a.m.

Bell choir rehearses most Sundays after worship at about 12:00 noon.

Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Pot Luck Lunch after Worship – Sunday, August 13

A Financial Update from the Commitment Committee

For the first six months of the year, the church's income has exceeded expenses by \$2,311. That's the good news. Even more good news is that our expenses for the year thus far are \$6,084 below budget projections. However, there is some news that's not so good. The church's total income for the first six months is also below budget, by an amount of \$2,518. The primary contributing factor to this shortfall in income is that we are \$2,639 below expectations in pledged offering for the year to date. If you have made a financial commitment to the church for the current year and are somewhat behind in your giving, we ask that you try to get caught up, if possible, in the near future. Our current budget reflects some modest expansions of our church's ministry that became possible because of the faithfulness and generosity of our congregation, and we remain very much on track to have a balanced budget for the year. Grace Presbyterian Church's financial condition is currently very stable, and the session is most appreciative of all those who support the church through their giving.

John Price, chair

Game Night – Friday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m.

We get together at the church for monthly game night on Friday, August 25, starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring your games and snacks and we will have fun.

Visitors in Worship in July 2017, who signed the register

Madelyn Carroll, Southaven, MS; Michelle Clifford, Bartlett; Gabriel Davenport, Bartlett; Jackson Gammon; Andy Gay, Cowan, TN; Kevin, Whitney, Caroline Getman, Memphis; Nadiyah Gibbs, Memphis; Cliff, Kristen, Casey, Ellie Gurlen, Memphis; Christian Hayes, Memphis; Jim, Judy Henderson, Somerville, TN; Sherry Hathaway Hodges, Lee's Summit, MO; Mary Anne Hughes, Hickory Valley, TN; Shannon, Emma, Luke, Max Kreuziger, Pardeeville WI; Wendy, Richard, Asher, Piper, Charis, Toby, Verity, Judah Lawson, Jackson TN; Paula Malnati, Milford, MA; Dan and Roseann Mayo, Bartlett; Shawn McGoldrick, Memphis; Dan, Kathy Pauls, Topeka, KS; David Phalan; Bebe Pinkly; Hollie Price, Bartlett; Joyce Redden, Milford MA; Judy Rutkauskas, Bartlett; Martha Starnes, Hapeville GA; Randy, Linda Starnes, Maple Grove MN; Ted, Kim, Samantha, Emily, Olivia Upshaw, Bartlett; Dave. Karen, Corey, Caleb Weiss, Havertown PA; Steve White, Olive Branch.

How to become a Member of Grace Presbyterian Church by Pastor Mike Krech

We welcome all people to worship with us and be part of the life of Grace Presbyterian Church at a pace in a way that seems right for them. As I sometimes say, "We want to be welcoming without being pushy." But if you are not formally a member of Grace Presbyterian and would like to become a member, please know that we receive members in three ways. If you have never professed faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and you are ready to do this, then that is the first way. This can be accompanied or soon followed by your baptism. If you have professed faith in Christ and you hold membership in another congregation, I can write to that church and ask them to transfer your membership to our church. If you have professed faith in Christ, but you are not on any other church's roll, then you can be received by re-affirmation of faith. Church membership is an appropriate way to indicate publicly your faith in Christ and to clarify your relationship with our particular congregation. I will be glad to discuss this with anyone who is considering it and try to answer questions that you may have.

August 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 <i>Clyde Getman</i> | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Eclipse Class 11:00 Worship/ Communion <i>Nathaniel Smith</i> | 7 | 8 12:00 noon PW Lunch at Fat Larry's Restaurant <i>Karen Gordon McAdams</i> | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 9:30 a.m. Presbytery Meeting at Evergreen 5:00 p.m. Young Adult Outing <i>John Price</i> |
| 13 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/ Cong. Mtg. to Elect Nom. Cmte. 12:00 Pot Luck Lunch <i>Scott Hunter</i> | 14 5:30 p.m. Session Mtg. | 15 <i>Bob Harrold</i> | 16 | 17 | 18 <i>Olivia Cooke</i> | 19 <i>Leonardine Campbell Adam Price</i> |
| 20 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/ Don McKim <i>Chelsea Guenther</i> | 21 Total Eclipse of the Sun | 22 | 23 <i>Eve Gammon</i> | 24 <i>Jenny Pickren Murnan</i> | 25 6:30 pm Game Night <i>Ginger Johnson</i> | 26 9:00 am PW Bible Study Conference at Pinecrest 9:30 Youth Outing to Trampoline Park |
| 27 9:30 Prayer & Praise 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship <i>Wendi Glenn</i> | 28 <i>Elizabeth Pickren</i> | 29 | 30 <i>Tiffany Bopp</i> | 31 | | |

**Scheduled to Serve in August
Elder Closing Church Duty**

August 6: Ruth Ellen Cox

August 13: Bob Harrold

August 20: Sara Lawson

August 27: Paula Bishop

Usher Schedule

August 6: Cole Price, John Price

August 13 & 20: Brooks Keiser, Jim Pickren

August 27: Hugh Bishop, Scott Hunter

Elders Serving Communion

August 6:

Paula Bishop, Bob Harrold, Harold Howard,
Jim Pickren, Janet Vawter

Scripture Readings for Worship:

August 6: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17;
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

August 13: Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 105;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

August 20: Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133;
Romans 11:1-2a,29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

August 27: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124;
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

A Prayer for Social Justice

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that the barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease, and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace Presbyterian Church

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Sent With Love To: