

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Jesus Christ to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
Ephesians 2:8-10



Grace Notes

FEBRUARY 2007

Our Vision for the Remodeling of Kokomo Grace

- Commitment to our people now and to people not yet here.
- Enhance our ability to gain more people for Jesus Christ.
- Become more child and parent friendly.
- Increase the attractiveness and comfort of our educational classrooms.
- Upgrade restroom facilities and make them accessible for all ages.
- More effective and efficient use of space for ministry.
- Facilities become more user friendly and more inviting.
- Positioning our facilities for the 21st century.
- Lower level of the building has had no significant updating since the 1960's.
- Take steps to do ministry from this location for foreseeable future.
- Reduce energy costs with upgrade to energy and cost efficient HVAC.

Administrative Council Meeting
Monday, February 5
7:00 pm

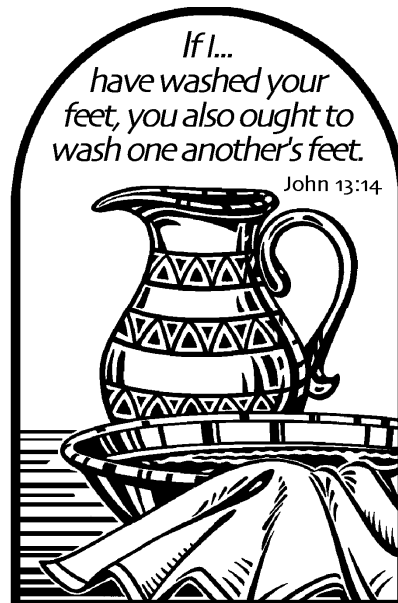
We look forward to the Leadership of our various Ministry Teams coming together for the first time in 2007. As we share our ministry plans for the coming months, we will also offer additional information about the remodeling of the lower level and look forward to Miracle Sunday, April 15. The Administrative Council is open for all persons to attend.

Miracle Sunday Set for April 15

With seed money that has been provided by the Nancy Givens Estate that she asked to be used to improve the Christian Education program and facilities of Grace United Methodist Church and other funds that have been wisely cared for by the Trustees of our church, we have \$350,000 already set aside for this \$770,000 project. We are, in faith, moving forward to complete this project by the fall of 2007. Your church leadership is inviting us all to make a three year faith commitment to fund the remaining funds needed to complete the project. It is our prayer that on April 15, we will celebrate a Miracle Sunday at Grace Church and be able to proclaim that we have responded by fully funding this important remodeling effort. Pray that God will guide each one of us as to what God wants us to do to make Grace UMC a facility that is ready for the 21st century of ministry.

*If I...
have washed your
feet, you also ought to
wash one another's feet.*

John 13:14





LENTEN CALENDAR

February 18-March 25
Grace Night Out (see page 4)

February 20
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

February 21
Ash Wednesday Service
7:00 pm

February 24-March 31
UMM Lenten Breakfast

April 1
Palm Sunday Service - Pastor Chris
8:15 am & 9:25 am

April 5
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 pm

April 6
Good Friday Service
7:00 pm

April 8
Easter Sunday Service - Pastor Steve
8:15 am & 9:25 am



MAYORAL CANDIDATE
RICK HAMILTON TO
SPEAK TO
UM MEN

Our February speaker will be recently announced candidate for Kokomo Mayor, Rick Hamilton. Rick is a Grace member, who is currently the President of the Kokomo Howard County Chamber of Commerce. Rick has served in the past as a City Councilman, and formerly was head of the local cable company.

Grace UM Men invite all to attend their Monday, February 26 meeting, and hear Rick discuss his decision to seek the Republican nomination. Women are always welcome to attend UM Men meetings. Advance reservations are needed only for the meal. Reservations for the 6:00 p.m. catered meal may be given to Val Harris @ 453-6952.

Added Grace Meetings

February Meeting

Added Grace will meet at 11:30 AM on Tuesday February 6, at Grace Church in Fellowship Hall. John and Diane Auzins will be our hosts for the meeting and our speakers will be Nikki & Trent Nettleton. They will be talking about their Ministry to Bosnia. Nikki is P.J. Smith's granddaughter. The cost of the meal will be \$5.00. Reservations can be made with Peggy Hobbs on Sunday January 28 or February 4 or by telephone at 452-4394.

March Meeting

Added Grace will meet at 11:30 AM on Tuesday March 6 at Grace Church in Fellowship Hall. John and Mary Lou Snead will be our hosts. Come and meet our new Associate Minister, Pastor Chris Roberts, our guest speaker. Reservations can be made with Peggy Hobbs on Sunday February 25, or March 4, or by telephone at 452-4394.

A Special Thank You...

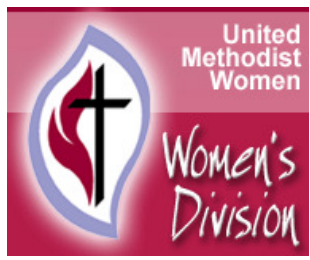
To the Good People of Grace Church:

My brother, Bruce Clark, grew up in Grace Church and loved it all of his life. Even when he was so ill that everything that he did took great effort, he thoroughly enjoyed working on the bazaar. Ushering brought him special pleasure and he was pleased to serve on the Board of Trustees. He had a special place in his heart for the church cottage and all that it meant, to help young people bond with each other and to the church.

In the hour before he went to the hospital, he asked me to make these gifts to the church: \$10,000 for the Bruce Clark Scholarship Fund, \$5,000 for church cottage maintenance; \$5,000 for the scholarship fund for Mary Ann Buell Scholarship Fund.

I thank you for providing my brother with such a meaningful spiritual life and warm fellowship.

*Sincerely,
Ruth Ann Clark*



UMW Reading Program

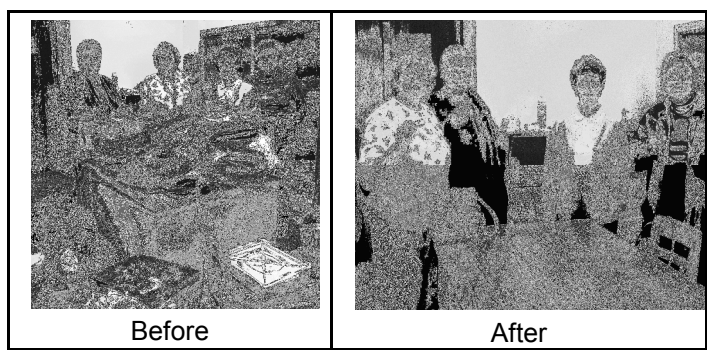
The 2007 Reading Program Booklet is now available in the UMW Library bookcase. Those of you who participate in the program as well as those of you who would like to participate may see the listing of new books there.

Kroger Certificate Program

There has been a change in the Kroger Certificate Program. We now buy certificates at face value, sell them at face value and when a certain amount is accumulated we receive a rebate check from Kroger. In 2006 we raised \$1,405.00 for missions through this program. Those of you who shop at Kroger, please consider buying Kroger certificates. It's an easy way of giving to missions and it really does make a difference. You may buy certificates on Sunday mornings in the parlor before the 9:25 service, and after the service in Fellowship Hall.

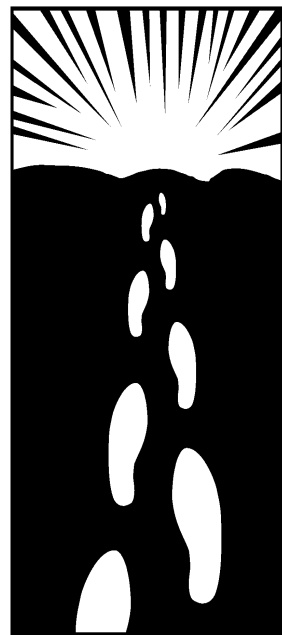
Care Closet Update

The Central Middle School Care Closet is still in need of sweat pants for boys and girls. This is probably the most in demand item that we need at the Closet. And even though the weather has been warm, quite a few coats, hats and pairs of gloves and mittens have been taken from the closet for kids without. We need to replenish our supplies. You may place your donated items in the Care Closet tub located in Fellowship Hall.



Each month the Care Closet ladies go to the closet and sort items that have been donated. When we open the door, there are bags and piles of clothes needing our attention. It generally takes an hour or two to go through the items and put them on hangers or on shelves. Above you can see the crew enjoying some cookies after the job is done. If you have any questions or would like to join the Care Closet Team, please contact Lois Hunkler at 865-9163.

P.S. Don't forget to bring your wash clothes to Betty Corn for the Church Women United project. We need them by March.



“Walk a Mile in My Shoes”

Get you mittens, hats, comfortable boots and warm coats ready! Grace Church has a team participating in this year's Kokomo Rescue Mission's annual “Walk a Mile in My Shoes.” The walk is on February 10 at 9 AM and benefits Open Arms, which is a shelter for Homeless Women and Children. We could have some fun as well raise money for a worthy cause! Last year, we toured the Open Arms facility on north Main Street, which gave us a real sense of how Open Arms serves women and children in the community and how we might meet some of their needs. This year we have several members who are planning on walking, so talk to Jim and Linda Henry, Greg and Jan Wall, Linda White, Karen Foust, Anne Elliot, Lana Afseth, Dave Durham, if you would like to donate money, but cannot walk. Talk to Susan Garner, if you are interested in walking or would like to buy a “Walk a Mile in My Shoes” yard sign. They will be available after the church service on February 4th.

Consider joining the “Grace’s Chilly Walkers”, Mission Ministry Team

Altar Flowers Altar Flowers are needed for April. Please contact the church office to schedule your opportunity.

Grace NIGHT OUT "Personalities of the Passion"

Sunday, February 18th - Sunday, March 25th
6:30 p.m.

On February 18th Grace Night Out will begin a new 6 week series entitled "Personalities of the Passion." This series will follow the same topic as the Sunday morning Sermon Series. During Grace Night out, the following personalities will be presented.

Mary, Mother of Jesus - Mary reflects on the first Christmas and the first Easter.

Simon - a Cyrene and his wife, Ruth reflect on carrying a condemned man's cross.

Petronius - a look at the crucifixion from the perspective of a Roman Centurion.

Barabbas - a contemplative look at the prisoner who was released in stead of Jesus.

A Stranger in the Crowd - on the day Jesus was crucified. What would a normal Jew do when they heard this man being called their King?

A Heart to Change the World - a puppet presentation by the 5th grade youth.

In addition to those who would like to participate in a small group, we are also looking for Table Leaders. Please contact the church office to let



us know if you want to be in a small group or a Table Leader. Table Leaders are also encouraged to recruit people to be at their table. To sign up, please contact the church office at 457-5329 or if you have any questions, please contact Melinda Showalter at 455-1468.

February Preaching Schedule

Feb 4	Steve Beutler
Feb 11	Steve Beutler
Feb 18	Steve Beutler
Feb 25	Chris Roberts

Kokomo Grace United Methodist Church 2007 Goals

Growth through discipleship

- Membership grows a minimum of 5% per year.
- Attendance grows a minimum of 5% per year.
- Bible Study grows a minimum of 5% per year.
- 200 people regularly commit to Bible study that includes small group discussion.

Reaching others for Christ

- Share the love of Jesus Christ with others by impacting 1000 lives in the name of Jesus Christ each week.
- Share the Love of Jesus Christ through OUR GIFTS and OUR SERVICE by increasing our Mission Giving by 5%.
- Share the Love of Jesus Christ by increasing our mission participation.
- Share the Love of Jesus Christ by increasing local mission time and money.

A Family we belong to

- Be a welcoming family where Christ is celebrated through small groups, worship and fellowship.
- Promote a friendly welcome and socialization with all who attend a worship or fellowship activity.

Christ Centered Worship

- Continue to revitalize worship through meaningful and vibrant worship for the current membership and for reaching the unchurched as measured by increased worship attendance and participation.
- Enable and encourage increased participation by laity of all ages in worship.

Excellence

- Revitalize our building by remodeling Fellowship Hall, downstairs rooms and restrooms.
- Improve public relations with improved communications and publicity.
- Become more like Christ as we strive for unity in our church.
- Give our best for the glory of and service to God in everything we do.

Reprinted from January 2007 Grace Notes

Make Music a
Part of Your Life

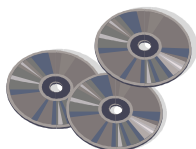


Grace United Methodist Church recently received a note from Wishart Bell the director of the Vesper Chorale and the "Magnificat Concert" in December. He had some encouraging words for all

of the people who made the concert possible: "Last night was the Vesper Chorale's first rehearsal of the new year. We took a few minutes at the end to discuss the December Concert. My choir was so impressed with your folks. They thought your singers were more serious about making this a good concert than many we have worked with. I left that rehearsal even more gratified. So kindly pass my additional thanks on to your people." The Grace United Methodist Church staff would also like to extend a gracious thank you to all who participated.

Music for the first half of 2007 will be special in many ways. Most Sunday Services will include at least two ensembles. They include the Altar Choir, Youth Choir, Chamber Ensemble, Gospelairens, Vesper Handbells, Youth Handbells, Carol Choristers and Cherub Choir. These ensembles are preparing music that will be an important part of worship at Grace United Methodist Church. A new ensemble schedule is available for anyone interested in receiving a copy.

The Altar Choir is growing! We would like to welcome Rachel Bates (soprano), Jeb Templeton (tenor) and Dawn Templeton (Alto). An open invitation is still in place for anyone interested in singing in the choir or participating in any of the ensembles. Contact Randy Manning or one of the church staff if you would like to participate.



CD's or tapes are available for each Sunday Worship Service. Contact the church office for more information.

UMM Lenten Breakfast Series for 2007

Serving at 8:00 a.m.

Reservations required.

Contact host Church by the Thursday preceding breakfast.

Freewill Offering

Theme for 2007

"My Walk with Christ"

February 24	Grace UMC	Rev. Ray Probasco
March 3	Shiloh UMC	Rev. Chris Roberts
March 10	Main St. UMC	Rev. Kevin Miller
March 17	Parr UMC	Rev. Kerry O'Brien
March 24	Grace UMC	Rev. Judy Adams
March 31	St. Luke's UMC	Rev. Jim Jacobs

Contributions: support for Rev. Jeff Newton
Kokomo Urban Ministries



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

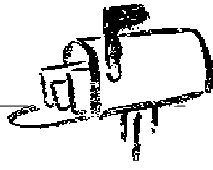
Tuesday, February 20th, from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, the Grace UMC Youth will serve a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Your donations will assist the youth with their summer activities such as Institute, Camps & Icthus.

We hope everyone will fill Grace's Fellowship Hall and eat up all the yummy pancakes. It is the last chance to fatten up before Lent begins. Tell your friends to come too!



Alpha

Opportunity to share your talents--Alpha needs some helpers with meals each Wednesday from around 5-7:15. You may volunteer for one week or more. Kitchen leaders will be there to work with and direct you. Or, if you like to bake, we can also use cookies or desserts. If you're willing share your gifts with this outreach, call Donna Brownfield at 455-1764.



We promise to uphold our church by our presence

Dec 24
979

Dec 31
196

Jan 7
291

Jan 14
254

To Everyone at Grace,

Thank you all for your warm welcome and generous hospitality as we moved to Grace UMC. With the busyness of the holidays, our family's sickness, and the short notice to pack boxes and move, this was a difficult transition. Yet, your kindness made our transition much easier. The parsonage is beautiful and we are already loving it here in Kokomo. Thanks for your work preparing the house, the welcoming gifts, the delicious food, and your prayerful support. We are looking forward to getting to know you and working with you to build God's Kingdom for many years to come.

*Blessings to you all,
Pastor Chris, Renee, Bethany, Kennedy and Wesley Roberts*

Dear Grace:

I want to thank Pastor's Steve, Grace Marie, Rob and Larry for there visits and prayers. A big thank you to the congregation for there prayers and thoughts while I was ill.

Thank you,
Harriet Cassingham

Dear Staff and members of Grace UMC,

Thank you for bringing the church closer to me through visitations, a beautiful red Christmas poinsettia and bulletins relating new of a very active church.

Sincerely,
Connie Chapel

Dear Steve and Grace Church Congregation,

We thank you for your thoughts and prayers in this time of sadness for us. The plant you sent is very nice and is in our sunny dining room. We thank you for the plant! We often think of you, particularly at this time of the year. We enjoy reading about your happenings and the joys and sorrows of the congregation. The cards we have received from the Grace Church family have been greatly appreciated. May you all have a happy new year.

Bill & Judy Brown

February Anniversaries



2nd	Ora & Phyllis Sharp	61 yrs
12th	Dick & Kay Ann Persinger	9 yrs
17th	Greg & Kelli Goodnight	1 yrs
21st	Eldon & Jean Conner	42 yrs



February Birthdays

1-Alice Simons Brad Burkhalter Bryce Hughes Christopher Pinto	18-Bill Bassett Kent Shively
2-Verlon Rohrer Jim White	19-Steve Currens Lee Ann Hughes
3-Gail Hart	20-Beth Juliot
4-Kelli Hart Alexis Stamper	21-Ray Puterbaugh Jeanne' Harland
5-Betty Fields Janie Miller	22-Betty Edwards-Pencek Elinor McClure Jim Tappan
6-Mary Carter Greg Wall	23-Mark Todd Chris Roberts Grant Afseth
7-Joy Loop June Beck	24-Heather Snead 25-Suzanne Davis Bruce Hayes
8-Chuck Showalter Gladys Prather Fern Laitinen Jayna Beutler Jayne Miller Ricky Emry	28-Dorothy Wachob Judie Emry
9-Anna Tobias	
11-Sue Cox Shannon Russ Zach Rodgers	
12-Mark Brown	
13-Jerrajean Conkle Edward Roesener Lois Hunkler	
14-Mary Ellen Gilbreath Carl McNulty Val Harris Nicole White	
15-Clay Kelly Elijah Ransom Riley Packard	
16-Sue Blazier	
17-Sue Harrison Ora Sharp	

*Giving As
God
Has Given*

Dec 24
\$20,487.15

Dec 31
\$21,213.32

Jan 7
\$23,570.91

Jan 14
\$7,285.11

GRACE NIGHT OUT FOR KIDS is coming!

Note: The children begin Grace Night Out one week earlier than the adults!

February 11th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Children Age 4 through 5th Grade

There will be **music!!** LeeAnn Hughes will be directing the Cherub and Chorister Choirs.



How about **crafts**? Oh, yes, Beth Juliot and Karen Foust are planning wonderful, creative crafts.

Mary Hedges, Julie Maupin, Doc Hunkler, and Cheryl Currens will be presenting the **lesson** for the evening.

Jayna Beutler, Ann Bradshaw, Jayne Miller and Jerry Hodges will be leading/directing the 5th Grade students in one of the Grace Night Out dramatic presentations that will take place on March 25th. These kids will be doing a puppet presentation that you won't want to miss entitled: **"A Heart to Change the World"**

Check out Room 102

Good News! We have over 35 children on our rolls from age 4-Grade 1. Can you believe it! WOW! With so many kids in this age group, we opened Room 102 for our Pre-school and Early Elementary age students.

Dave and Betsy Durham have been purchasing appropriate toys and setting up a very delightful room. Last Sunday I heard Christopher Pinto didn't want to leave his new room, he was so pleased that there was a room "just his size"!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During Worship we have a children's church experience for children ages 4 through Grade 2. The children begin worship in the Sanctuary with their parent. At the appointed time, the children are excused to attend an age appropriate worship experience in Room 102.

If you place your child in the Nursery before worship and think he/she would benefit from this worship experience geared to children, let Carisa know that you would like for your child to attend Children's Church. Carisa will see that your child is taken to Room 102.

We've opened the Nursery



As most of you know, Carisa Durham was hired last year to tend to the babies and toddlers that attend our Nursery during the Worship Hour as well as Sunday School. She has done such a marvelous job, and the parents and children are enjoying the new Toddler/Nursery complex so much, that we have over 35 children on our rolls! So, we hired Adriene Riggle to help.

In the reorganization of the entire Children's Department the Education Ministry Team has divided the Children's area into the following age categories:

- **Birth**—Walking—Adriene Riggle, Coordinator—Nursery
- **Walking**—Age 3—Carisa Durham, Coordinator—Toddler Room
- **Age 4**—Grade 1—Betsy Durham, Coordinator—Room 102
- **Grade 2**—Grade 5—Mary Hedges, Coordinator—Room 101

Betsy Durham and Mary Hedges are also doing a lot of work to coordinate, teach and scheduling volunteers. They are giving many, many hours of volunteer service and we as a church should let them know how much we appreciate their time and gifts.



Four-year-old Mitch loved candy almost as much as his mom did. He and Daddy had given mommy a beautiful heart-shaped box of chocolates for Valentine's Day. A few days later Mitch was eyeing it, wishing to have a piece of it.

As he reached out to touch one of the big pieces, the mommy said to him, "If you touch it, then you have to eat it. Do you understand?" "Oh, yes," he said, nodding his head. Suddenly his little hand patted the tops of all the pieces of candy. "Now I can eat them all."



I wonder what Carisa is going to make with the Toddlers on February 11th?

Our Mission Statement

United Methodist Church is a Christ-centered fellowship called to offer the best we can possibly give to God, as we care for our community and world through...

...worshiping, glorifying, and honoring God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

...inviting all to grow in the knowledge of the Lord.

...living a Spirit-filled life through our actions and words.

...offering the love of Christ to everyone.

G – Growth through making disciples of Jesus

R – Reaching our community and world

A – A family where all people can belong

C – Christ-centered worship and learning

E – Excellence for God's glory

Ministers

The Congregation of Grace United Methodist Church

Pastors

Stephen A. Beutler Chris Roberts

Larry Newberg, Visitation Pastor

Our Missionaries

Oscar Ramos, Hispanic Ministry of North Indiana Conference

Jeff Newton, Kokomo Urban Outreach Ministries

Dr. Robert Marke, Medical Missionary, Kissy, Sierra Leone

Specialized Ministries

Randy Manning, Director of Music

Barbara Hobbs, Pianist/Organist

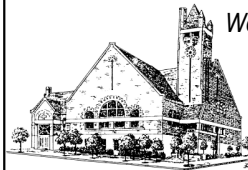
Jacque Hunt, Ensemble Director

Debra Long, Volunteer Parish Nurse

Phill Montgomery, Counselor

Cindy Lovegrove, Office Manager

Carisa Durham, Childcare Provider



Worship & Education Center - 219 W. Mulberry

Offices - 212 W. Walnut

Kokomo, IN 46901

Sunday Worship: 8:15 am & 9:25 am

Phone: (765) 457-5329

Web page: www.kokomograce.org

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Grace