



Gramling United Methodist News - November 2018

14941 Asheville Highway, PO Box 58, Gramling, SC 29348 • 864.472.2551 • gramlingumc.org

☞ Sundays: Classes, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. ☞ Wednesdays: Supper, 6 p.m.; Activities, 6:30; Adult Choir, 7 p.m.

Make Every Day Thanksgiving Day

Greg Anderson, in *Living Life on Purpose* tells a story about a man whose wife had left him. He was completely depressed. He had lost faith in himself, in other people, in God--he found no joy in living. One rainy morning this man went to a small neighborhood restaurant for breakfast. Although several people were at the diner, no one was speaking to anyone else. Our miserable friend hunched over the counter, stirring his coffee with a spoon.

In one of the small booths along the window was a young mother with a little girl. They had just been served their food when the little girl broke the sad silence by almost shouting, "Momma, why don't we say our prayers here?" The waitress who had just served their breakfast turned around and said, "Sure, honey, we pray here. Will you say the prayer for us?" And she turned and looked at the rest of the people in the restaurant and said, "Bow your heads." Surprisingly, one by one, the heads went down. The little girl then bowed her head, folded her hands, and said, "God is great, God is good, and we thank him for our food. Amen."

That prayer changed the entire atmosphere. People began to talk with one another. The waitress said, "We should do that every morning."

"All of a sudden," said our friend, "my whole frame of mind started to improve. From that little girl's example, I started to thank God for all that I did have and stop majoring in all that I didn't have. I started to be grateful."

A thankful heart is a hallmark of a Christian. While we all face struggles on occasion, God's Grace has always given us what we needed when we needed it. My prayer is that every saint of God at GUMC will live into their high calling to be a gracious people, full of Grace with a thankful heart. Every day should be a day of thankfulness for the abundant blessings of God in our lives.

Let us move forward boldly in the place God has prepared for us. God has given us great opportunities for ministry; let us seize them with the same passion and gusto that Jesus offered Himself on the cross that His love may be known throughout the world.

Have a Blessed and Joyous Thanksgiving,
All Glory to God! **Pastor Rick**



Thanksgiving Fellowship

Sunday, November 18, 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to gather for this annual potluck supper in the Social Hall.

Turkey and ham will be provided by the church. So please bring sides, desserts, and drinks to share.

November Meetings (Social Hall)

Charge Conference: Sunday, Nov. 11th, 4 p.m.

Trustees: 6 p.m. Monday, November 19th

Finance Committee: TBD

Church Council: 5 p.m. Sunday, November 25th



Henry and Bonnie Gramling

Henry grew up in Gramling with three siblings, Blanche, Marion and Ruba.

Bonnie grew up in Newberry, S.C. with her brother Larry. Their paths crossed when they were Freshmen at Clemson University. A mutual friend, Debbie Wolfe Whittingham, introduced them. They dated for their 4 years at Clemson and were married December 18, 1976.

After their wedding and graduation, Henry returned home to work for Gramling Brothers. Bonnie began teaching in District 1 schools.

Henry and Bonnie have 3 children, Rhett, Trey and Rebecca. Bonnie was a stay home mom for 9 years. She returned to District 1 and taught First Grade and Kindergarten for 28 years at Campobello-Gramling School. She retired 2 years ago. Henry is president of Gramling Farms. He and his partner, Eric Nix, broker hay throughout the state and custom spread fertilizer and lime. In the off season, Eric builds custom fences.

Henry and Bonnie have 3 granddaughters-Polly Demark, 11, Kennedy DeMark, 8, and Camden Gramling, 10 months. They love having sleep overs and spending time with them. These three little girls are their heart!

Bonnie is enjoying retirement. She is busy being a grandmother that attends plays, picks up from school and babysits! Bonnie is monitor for Release Time, coordinator for GUMC mobile meal route, financial secretary for GUMC and a member of Nurture and Children Committee. She, also, serves on Spartanburg County's Foster Care Review Board 7C. In her spare time, she loves reading, decorating, cutting grass and going to Lake Junaluska.

Henry has been a member of Spartanburg District 1 School Board of trustees, for 28 years. He has served as chairman twice. He is an advocate for public education. He is current chairman of Administrative Council at GUMC. He enjoys working in his barn and playing with his 3 granddaughters. Henry is a fix-it man extraordinaire!!!

Henry and Bonnie enjoy being involved at church. They feel blessed to have Rick and Cheri, as new friends, here, at Gramling. They love their Sunday School class and going to Wednesday Night Live. If it is a Saturday in the fall, Henry and Bonnie will be watching Clemson football.

Henry and Bonnie are blessed in SO many ways! God First and Go Tigers!!!!

2018 General Tithes & Offerings, week 43

Budget needed to date: \$241,069.61 (\$5606/wk);
General Offerings received to date: \$222,528.21

Landscaping Fund donations: \$1500

HVAC Fund donations: \$26,485

Online giving is available at gramlingumc.org.

Prayer, Praises, and Concerns: Call Lin Fisher (864-420-6080) or Anne Carroll (472-9434), or email newsletter@gramlingumc.org and Lin will forward your request.

Are any in your community suffering? They should pray. Are any celebrating? They should sing praises to God. Are any sick? They should call the elders of your church and ask them to pray. James 5:13-14a

Assisted Living, Nursing Home

Jane Fisher . White Oak at North Grove
 Joyce Evington . Wesley Ct. Assisted Living
 Jean Johnson . Skylyn Place Assisted Living
 Rebel Brackett . Lake Emory Care
 Helen Burrell . Woodbridge Assisted Living
 Carl Lane . Clemson Downs
 Carolyn Brackett . Simpsonville Rehabilitation & Health Care
 Barbara Runion . Golden Age, Room 110
 Betty Jean Campbell . The Bridge, Hendersonville

Church: Gramling UMC

Rev. Rick Brown
 Gramling Church Leaders
 District Supt. Rev. Cathy Mitchell
 SC Conference Bishop L. Jonathan Holston

District One Schools:

Administration, Teachers & Staff

Military and Civil Defense - Ed Hershberger

Family & Friends

Polly & Wally Harper . Henry Gramling
 Rebel Brackett . Frances Shults
 Linda Allison . JoAnn Foster
 Julian Pruitt . Rick & Sue Pruitt
 Judy Erwin . Will Brown
 Kevin Hudson . Laura Gramling
 Rebecca Davis . Cindy Riddle
 JoAnn Foster
 Scott & Martha Condrey
 Rev. Wayne Culp . Rebecca Culp
 Barbara Quinn . Bonnie Gramling
 Janne Thamis . Peggy Campbell
 Natalie Honadel . Ed Hershberger
 Tom Tindal . Georgianna Connell

Autumn Blackmon & Family . Paige Weissenberger
 Infant Samuel Ceremuga . Anita Nussman
 Bob Hogan & Family . Gloria Sugenor
 Turner Hammett . Lucy Granger
 Stan Hilly . Sandra Wingo
 Christine & Tim Fisher . Cindy Riddle
 Donnie Hodge
 Mark Mullen . Will & Catherine Gramling
 Craig Sims . Mary Lou Ridgeway
 Andrew Tweedy . Rick Pruitt
 Matthew Gansereit (Carlton) . Ruba Nix
 Claircy (Gordon) Purrington . Ruba Nix
 Donna Fowler . Paula Rhymer
 Judy Vanadore . Sandra Wingo



Happy Birthday in November!

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|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 Ann Louise Granger | 6 Ronnie Campbell | 14 Allie Pressley | 22 Boomer Buff |
| 3 Catherine Gramling | 6 Steve Fowler | 16 Frank Beeson | 24 Susan Woodham |
| 3 Steve Pressley | 10 Jake Gramling | 17 Carlene Miller | 25 Polly Harper |
| 5 Deborah Rice | 11 Thomas Ramsay | 20 Nancy Bell | 25 Rev. Rebecca Wilkins |
| 6 Mary Thompson | 13 Derek Martin | 21 Robertson Gramling | 28 Abby Lane Cunningham |
| 6 Monica Parris | | | |

Wednesday Night Live!

Come enjoy fellowship and other activities. Everyone is invited!

6 pm – Supper in the gym for all, at no charge. Enjoy a great menu with fruit and/or vegetables, along with a little dessert.

6:30 Hand bell practice for all ages . children, youth, and adults!

Prayer at 5:30 in the parlor . for anyone who wishes to join in this special time of group prayer for our church and community and world.

>>Adult Choir 7 p.m. in the main building.<<



Gramling United Methodist Church
 PO Box 58
 Gramling, SC 29348
 Address Service Requested



Pastor: Rev. Rick Brown

(want electronic copy only? e-mail newsletter@gramlingumc.org)