



Gramling United Methodist News - May 2018

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

Pastor's Corner:

Well, the days are numbered - time is passing so quickly. Some days I look back over the many days of my life, some good, some bad and some just ho-hum. Some days I look into the future and wonder just what it will be like - to be retired, to have time to spend with Fred, to travel and not be worried about leaving a parish in the hands of someone else. Yet I know deep down that some will be good, and some bad and some just ho-hum!

And then I read something written by Frederick Buechner, he's always been one of my favorite authors. He talked about Today and pretty much said that all our yesterdays are coming together in this one moment called Today. And all our tomorrows flow from our Today. Today is the most important day - it is a gift, given and all moments are the most important moments for they are present now. Today can never be lived again. There is only one Today. Today will soon be yesterday.

So whatever is going on in your life right now - live it and feel it. If you're going through some hard times, Psalm 46 tells us that God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in the midst of trouble. Or if there are things on your mind and you're picturing different scenarios in your mind, hear the Gospel of Matthew speaking about worry in chapter six. Do not worry about your life. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Or maybe something wonderful has happened, Rejoice! Again I say, Rejoice!, Philippians 4:4.

Today, while my mind is running in circles trying to plan moving and packing boxes and how to get three different pianos moved to three different locations, get furniture moved out of the beach house and Fred's, so I can move some of my things in - and then there's finances to think about . . . Visiting people, preparing worship, praying, studying for sermons. . . cleaning house, fixing the toilet, what to eat for lunch and supper . . . the list goes on and on. It was so good to read those words from Buechner and realize that all of this is a gift, the gift of life and to live every moment as though there are no other moments.

*Peace and love to all,
Pastor Rebecca*

Wednesday Night Live!

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 Children's choir practice for their spring musical.

Prayer meets at 5:30, Adult Choir 7 p.m.

May 2nd:

Last WNL in the gym before summer break.

May 9th:

Children meet at 6 p.m. for supper in the Social Hall, followed by dress rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

Habitat Work Day: Saturday, May 5, 12:30-4pm. We'll be doing vinyl siding. **Meet at the church at noon to carpool or meet at the site in Spartanburg.** Let Jeff Harrison know if you'll be on the GUMC crew! (Eat lunch before you come.) Call or text 864-608-6305; email: jbharrison1@gmail.com .

New Membership Meeting

Pastor Rebecca will be meeting with **anyone interested in joining the church** at 10 a.m. in the Pastor's Study downstairs, **beginning Sunday, May 6th**. Please contact Pastor Rebecca if you would like to attend and learn more about being part of GUMC.



Mother's Day Children's Cantata

Sunday, May 13th during worship is our annual Children's Cantata. This year the kids are telling the story of Moses and the Exodus in **Are We There Yet?** It's always a fun time of learning for the kids as well as the congregation!

Epworth Mother's Day Offering

Epworth Children's Home is an organization of the SC Conference serving many children in need. Please give generously to support this ministry. *Make your checks to Gramling UMC and mark "Epworth."*



Graduate Recognition Sunday:

On May 20, we will honor our graduates during worship and have a covered-dish **luncheon following the service**. Please bring meats, sides, desserts, and drinks. *If anyone knows of a church member that is graduating this year or has graduated since last May, please let the church office know as soon as possible.*

Memorial Day Service

On Sunday, May 27th, we will **meet during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday School hour in the cemetery**. We will decorate with flags to honor those who had served in our military.

Vacation Bible School is coming June 11th-14th!

We'll gather 6-8:30 pm Sunday through Thursday nights, with supper and activities for children. **Sign up to help and let the children in our community know they are welcome to come!** See Bonnie, Lucy, or Nancy for more details.



District 1 Community Back- to-School Bash

Our Second Annual event is set for **Sunday, August 26th** from **2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** District 1 area parents and children are invited to come enjoy games and snacks while visiting stations set up on our church grounds. Many local help agencies will be here in one place where families can find assistance they may need. Keep your eyes and ears open for more announcements on how you can be part of this church event to serve our community.

2018 General Tithes & Offerings, week 16

Budget needed to date: \$90,503; Received: \$67,910

Electronic Giving Options:

GUMC now accepts **electronic donations through our website, gramlingumc.org**. Just click on "Online Giving," and you will be directed to a secure website to set up one-time or recurring payments.

Another way to give electronically is through your bank's online billing system, in which you notify your bank directly and they then send us your donation by mail.

Prayer List and Prayer Chain

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 . Country Christian Care, Fair Play
 Barbara Runion . Golden Age Room 110
 Betty Jean Campbell . The Bridge, Hendersonville

Church: Gramling UMC

Pastor Rebecca
 Gramling Church Leaders
 D.S. Paul Harmon
 Bishop Holston

World: District One Schools/ administration, teachers & staff
 Immigrants/Israel/Iraq/US leaders/ SC leaders

Military and Civil Defense - Ed Hershberger

Family & Friends

Donnie Johnson
 Nancy Hamilton
 Jim Fletcher
 Stan Hilley . Sandra Wingo
 Christine & Tim Fisher . Cindy Riddle
 Vernon Williams . Anne Carroll
 Brooke Harty . Laura Gramling
 Jackie Golightly . Lin Fisher
 Amanda Bradburn . Will Brown
 Polly & Wally Harper
 Helen Burrell . Wanda Ballenger
 Gina Franco . Sue Pruitt
 Donnie Hodge
 Mark Mullen . Will & Catherine Gramling
 Lee Bryan
 Jane Fisher . Lin Fisher
 Peggy Dean
 Craig Sims . Mary Lou Ridgeway
 Andrew Tweedy . Rick Pruitt
 Doug Nash . Laura Gramling
 Matthew Gansereit (Carlton) . Ruba Nix
 Jim & Lucy Crowley
 Barry Johnson . Tom Ramsay
 Claircy (Gordon) Purrington . Ruba Nix
 Jerry Drew . Ed Hershberger
 Jack & Barbara Quinn . Bonnie Gramling
 Donald Wilhoite . Joann Garner
 Tony Morrow . Lucy Granger
 Bob Hoover . Mary Lou Ridgeway
 Donna Fowler . Paula Rhymer
 Judy Vanadore . Sandra Wingo
 Karen Harrison . Sarah Harrison's mother
 Kay Hensdale . Sandra Wingo
 Travis Sloan



Happy Birthday in May!

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|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Bailey Johnson | 12 Jared Birdno | 22 Bessie Fisher | 28 Joe Woodfin |
| 1 Louise Sowell | 12 Phillip Gramling | 22 Ellie Mitchell | 28 Katy Bernham |
| 4 Emily Hodge | 15 Kathryn Mitchell | 26 Allyn Wong | 29 Anita Nussman |
| 7 Glenn Foster | 16 John Gramling III | 26 Ruba Nix | 29 Ben Gramling III |
| 10 Blake Johnson | 18 Tommy Atkins | 27 Martha Condrey | 31 Jeff Nussman |
| 11 Susan Davis | 19 Maura Rhymer | | |

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 Address Service Requested



Pastor Rev. Rebecca Wilkins

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