

VIEWS AND VISTAS

The Newsletter of the
**WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
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Vol. 40, No. 11 December 2017

From the Minister

Ukraine Christmas Exchange

Following our mission trip to Ukraine in May and months of planning, we are pleased to welcome youth from Father's House Orphanage this Christmas. They will arrive on December 18 and depart on January 8. Both the Woods and Ramlows, from West Granville, will serve as host families.

This is a life-changing experience, not only for the Ukrainian youth, but for our host and church families. This exchange will give us an opportunity to open your minds and hearts, giving you new perspectives, deeper global understanding, and memories that will last a lifetime.

Host families will have an orientation dinner at West Granville on Sunday Dec. 5 at 5:00 PM.

Be sure and check our website below. Following is a greeting from one of the chaperones.

<https://ukraineexchange.wixsite.com/kievtomke>

Hello everyone!

My name is Anastasia, I have been involved in the life of Father's House since I was 7 years old and it has been a privilege to watch the kids grow into confident young people they are today.

What a blessing it is to learn that you all have opened the hearts, families and doors of your houses to our young people over Christmas holidays. There is not a day that goes by when the team at Father's House does not thank the Lord for you and prays for your families.

I will be honored to be a chaperone and a communication bridge between the youth and the families hosting them. I hope my language skills are enough to build a communication line between the two languages and cultures.

If you have any questions regarding our young people or if you wish to contact them before the trip, do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to answer your questions and/or arrange a meeting via Internet.

I am also excited to introduce to you my partner chaperone, Slavik. He is one our graduates who has been adopted to the United States years ago. His English is much better than mine because he lives in America. Also, our young people really look up to Slavik.

*Thank you very much for your willing to become a part of these children's lives.
I am always open for communication.
Blessings,
Anastasia*

God Bless and Merry Christmas
Pastor Dee

WORSHIP

November 26 Thanksgiving Sunday
Christ the King Sunday

Pulpit color change to white

Special Music: KT Budde

Scripture: John 1:12-18 *Grace upon Grace*

Sermon: *Grace and Gratitude*

December 3 Advent 1

Hope & Advent Candle

Sunday School Advent Breakfast 8:30

Pulpit color change to blue for Advent

Holy Communion

Bell Choir

Scripture: Numbers 6:24-26

May the Lord Bless You

Sermon: *The Promise of Blessing*

December 10 Advent 2

Peace & Advent Candles

Children's Church Mice *Peace Like A River*

Scripture: Matthew 25: 1-13 *Oil & Bridesmaids*

Isaiah 40: 1-11 *Comfort You My People*

Sermon: *Ready, Set, Go*

December 17 Advent 3

Joy & Advent Candles

Choir Cantata: Combined Choirs of West

Granville and Wauwatosa Avenue United

Methodist Church

Youth decorate Christmas Tree after worship

December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

Morning Worship ~ Color change to red

No Sunday School nor Coffee Hour

10:30 Love & Advent & Christ Candles

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-7 *When the Time Came for Her to be Delivered...*

Sermon: *Love in a Manger-Mary Remembers*

Children's Choir: *Away in a Manger*

December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00 PM Lessons and Carols

Adult Choir, Brass Choir, Marimba, and Flute
(Please note due to Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday, there is no 5:00 PM service.)

December 31 First Sunday of Christmas

No Sunday School

Christmas Caroling

Scripture: *Luke 2:8-20 Shepherds*

Sermon: Carol - The First Nowell

January 7, 2018 ~ Epiphany Sunday

Children and Youth Lead Worship,

Cindy Anderson and Angela Stapleton

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENT BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 3 at 8:30

All Sunday School Families are invited to join us for breakfast and an advent-themed craft. Please tell your friends. We are grateful to Brad Meyer for cooking our breakfast.

CHOIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Sunday, December 17 at 10:30

For this Advent Worship Service the West Granville Choir will join with the Choir of the Wauwatosa United Methodist Church for a Christmas Cantata. The cantata is "JOY" by Joel Raney. Scripture readings will be narrated by Pastor Dee. We look forward to this special event.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Packaged and canned goods may be donated **December 3** and **January 7** to the Communion Sunday Food Drive narthex box.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

9:15-10:00 Sunday mornings in Perseverance Hall. Everyone is welcome!

INTERFAITH KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

The Reverend Mary Carlin and I represented Milwaukee Presbyterians by participating in the Kristallnacht Commemoration. Kristallnacht means "night of the broken glass". It marked the beginning of state-sponsored anti-semitic attacks in Nazi Germany and the beginning of the Holocaust which killed 6 million Jews and 5 million other human beings. It was an honor to be invited to participate in concert with other faith communities, to lift up voices of tolerance and respect. Shalom, Dee

Thank you for participating in the commemoration marking the 79th anniversary of Kristallnacht. We were gratified when we learned that you agreed to attend our event and play an active, part in it as a representative of one of Milwaukee's various religious denominations.

While the Jewish people prides a long history spanning several millennia and a rich tradition and culture, it has witnessed throughout its history numerous occasions of discrimination, persecution and violence, reaching their nadir with the Holocaust. Your participation in this event, remembering a time when hatred and bigotry prevailed. over respect and compassion, was very meaningful as a statement that cooperation and understanding are needed to create a better future for all of us.

Thanks to your help, Holocaust Education Resource Center HERC reached out to over 170 people who attended the event. We hope that you will continue to play a leading role in HERC's future undertakings and programs. Please feel free to reach us at the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource center at any time should you ever have a need for Holocaust education or any of our services.

Nursery Ministry

We are looking for people to help care for the youngest members of our congregation. You may contact our Nursery Coordinators, Jon & Amber Luecke, for more information. There is a paper sign up in the nursery or sign up on-line.

Nursery Volunteers

[Click here to help out!](#)

Thank You to Snow Shoveling Volunteers

Thank you to Tracy Browning, daughter of Helen Kidd and David Robarge, for volunteering to shovel the snow this year. We are grateful for your service.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

The Worship Committee is pleased to announce our next Lenten Bible study focusing on Moses. Every Lent, we select a special study. Starting in February, Adam Hamilton's 6-week study, "Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet", will guide us through Moses's amazing journey to save the people of Israel from their captivity in Egypt. The study features video footage of Hamilton's travels to Egypt, Mt. Sinai, the Nile, and the Red Sea.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Birthday ~

Congratulations to Eleanor Ellner on the occasion of her 80th Birthday to be recognized on December 17th.

Congratulations to ~

Arither and Jarvis Ntaba on the birth of Mackenzie Lillian born on November 3.

Afi Alogavi on the birth of daughter Samuella born on November 13.

Military

Kali Grogan, United States Navy
Evan Reiss, United States Airforce
JT Lorbiecki, Wisconsin air national Guard
Jacob Roy, United States Marine Corps Reserve

Immediate Need

Dan Ryan, recovering from surgery
Judi Holmes-Jensen, continuing care
Llew and Alice Tietz, continuing care
Prentice Jones, cancer treatments

Long Term

June Herman, rehabilitation in Sheboygan
Marilyn Allan, continuing care
Barb Terpstra Troka, continuing treatment
Gene Ellner, cancer (brother-in-law of Eleanor)
Linda Ryan, shoulder
Madison Ford, Children Hospital
Nicki Rupke, special care
Marjorie Holmes, continuing care
Ruby Tylenda-Emmons, special needs & continuing care
Lil Sullivan's mother, Lois Spangle
Berit Swanson, wife of the late
Rev. Harold Swanson

Sympathies

We give thanks for the life and witness of Norma Streich who entered the Church Triumphant November 8 at the age of 82. The Memorial Service was held November 11 at West Granville Church. We surround Bob, Billie, Ken, Alison, Trevor and family with our prayers during this sacred time.

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet for lunch and fellowship on **Friday, December 8 at 1:00 p.m. at Brisco County**, and at various restaurants on the second Friday of each month. All ages are invited and welcome! See Nancy Baum for this month's location, 414.355.9111.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT

We will have a Men's Night Out on **Tuesday, December 12** at DeMarini's Pizzeria at N88 W15229 Main Street, Menomonee Falls, from 6:00 to about 8:00. Bring your appetite for food and fellowship! Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex and Perseverance Hall. Contact Scott Prill for more info at sprill@milwpc.com.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

David Pearson ~ Pearson5033@icloud.com
1517 SE Flavel St., Portland OR 97020

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 29 - 101 November 5 - 111
November 12 - 95 November 19 - 62

Consolidated General Fund 31-Oct-17

Operating Statement

Income

YTD pledged receipts	\$117,873
YTD prepaid pledged receipts	14,000
YTD non-pledged receipts	19,808
YTD Budget Balance Transfer	16,600
YTD per capita	3,480
YTD other income	1,695
2016 balance forward	<u>11,301</u>
TOTAL	\$184,757

Expenditures

Payroll	\$98,930
Programs	5,408
Mission	8,145
Operations	<u>47,754</u>
TOTAL	\$160,237

Balance on hand \$24,520

Pledges received - THANK YOU! We are 1/3 of the way to our goal. Please return your financial commitment as soon as possible. Your continued financial commitment helps keep our church programs running. Thank you!

The Finance Committee

Stewardship Dedication

There is still time to turn in your **Stewardship Dedication Pledge** for 2018. We thank you for responding to God's gracious call by supporting the church. Please contact finance chair Joe Hrovat with any questions.

- Have you considered giving through on-line banking? Several families are now sending regular contributions through their own on-line banking.
- Have you considered naming West Granville in your Memorial gifts, IRA or Estate Plan?

OPEN CIRCLE EVENTS

Open Circle Christmas Party on 12.13.17

All women of the church are invited to attend the *Open Circle Christmas Party* on **Wednesday, December 13 at 7 pm**, graciously hosted by *Marna Tess-Mattner*, at her home in Wauwatosa. We'll sing carols, disburse funds to missions, enjoy scrumptious holiday treats, exchange "Secret Pal" gifts and choose new "Secret Pals" for next year. If you did not have a Secret Pal in 2017, please bring a wrapped gift to exchange.

Directions: Hwy 45 South to North Avenue-East exit. Continue east to Wauwatosa Avenue (76th Street). Turn right on to 76th Street and continue to the first stop light, which is Milwaukee Avenue. Turn left (East) onto Milwaukee Avenue. Go through two stop signs (stopping first!). At 64th Street/Upper Parkway South, turn left. Tess-Mattner's is the fifth house on the right: 1542 Upper Parkway South. Qys? Call Marna at 414-771-7970 evenings.

Open Circle is an informal gathering of women of the church with a focus on fellowship and mission. Our name symbolizes the circle of friendship which is always open to any and all women who are interested in joining any or all of the events we sponsor, organize, and coordinate. Please feel free to join any of the activities. No formal sign-up necessary!

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for any of our **2018** events:

January 14: Sunday matinee after lunch;

February 5, Valentine Tea and card-making
at Deb Crane's, 7:00;

March 24: 9am, make blankets, salad luncheon

April 13-14: Retreat at Christ Pond

May 20: pick up flowers; orders due May 13;

June 17, Strawberry Festival on Father's Day.

all the preceding dates are subject to change! And there will, of course, be more details prior to each event.

NOTES FROM YOUR PARISH NURSE

December. The end of another year. For many of us, we approach December and the holiday season with mixed feelings. Some of us may be grieving the loss of a loved one who has recently died. Some of us are likely a bit frantic getting our homes decorated, shopping for that perfect gift, and planning a menu for a party or family gathering. Children often approach this season with much joy and anticipation of the first snowfall as they hope for that special gift from Santa. Although the holidays may produce warm feelings and memories for most of us, this time of year the holidays can also translate into days of intense sadness, anxiety and loneliness, especially if a person is dealing with illness or a personal crisis. Our faith reassures us that God loves us and He is with us every step of the way.

Joyce Rupp, a well-known Catholic spiritual writer, retreat leader and speaker, has written a poem that I believe speaks to the closing of one year and the hope of a new year that is unknown to us.

THE ROAD OF LIFE

Another year is coming to an end.

I can feel her tug at my calendar;

I can sense her insistent movement.

I can hear her call to cross over.

Outside my window the trees are empty

and the air has the ripeness of snowfall.

I cast an inward glance to the past

and feel a deep desire to catch its glow.

Something in me wants to hold on,

to gather all the good things close to me.

A part of me yearns for security

keeps encouraging me to grasp it all.

Then a tiny thimble-full of light

*Moves its way through my insecurity;
It weaves a thread of courage,
Sending sparks into a dark.
Up and up it rises through my spirit
until it meets my controlling grip.*

*The firefly flickers of God's grace
are enough to embrace the unknown.
A surge of powerful surrender
takes over all my looking back,
and ever so gently and hopefully
I risk the road of another new year.*

I am wishing each of you a blessed Christmas and a new year of peace and promise.

Sincerely,

Lil Sullivan, Parish Nurse

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1 Marcie Mangas-Prill
1 Barbara Hackbarth
4 Darren Hartman
5 Sally and Bob Schwarz, 1970
5 Mary and Tom Roberts
6 Kathy Weberg
7 Heidi Heiser
8 Tim Grogan
9 Roger Harry
11 Delbert Clay
12 Autum Ann Ryan
12 Autumn Zinda
17 Abel Bichler
18 Lorelai Ryan
20 John & Nancy Rupke, 1964
20 Michelle Fitzgerald
22 Becky Wood
22 Nancy Rupke
22 Paul Martens
25 Eleanor Ellner's 80th Birthday!!

If your dates are missing or in error, please inform the church office.

Youth Mission Trip planned for 2018



*SWAP - Sharing With Appalachian People
Pine Mountain, Harlan, Kentucky
July 22-28, 2018*

We are registered to work with the Mennonite Central Committee of SWAP, Sharing With Appalachian People, for the summer of 2018. SWAP is one of the favorite and rewarding experiences our young people treasure in mission. Registration is open now. Contact Ben Anderson or the church office for a Registration Form.

Senior High Trips ~ Master List

SWAP Neon, Kentucky (1986) Bob Streich, Randy and Deb Anderson, Dee.

Springfield, MO (1987) Randy and Deb Anderson, Dee and Cindy Anderson.

Camp Clearwater Forest Minnesota (1988) Randy and Deb Anderson & Dee and Cindy Anderson.

Milwaukee Service Week/Hunger Taskforce (1989) Dee Anderson.

Two trips to **Camp Stronghold**, IL (1990-1) Dee, Tammy and Patrick Wood.

Jamaica hurricane repair (1993) Dee Anderson, Tammy and Patrick Wood.

Wisconsin Dells and ROPES Course (1994) Dee, Tammy and Patrick Wood.

SWAP CCC Camp, Harlan Kentucky (1996) Dee Anderson, Ann Handle.

Camp Wesley Woods in Iowa (1998) Dee Anderson, Deb Anderson.

Heartland Presbyterian Camp (1999) Dee Anderson, Casey Krueger.

Montreat West Youth Conference, Colorado (2000) Casey Krueger.

SWAP Isom, Kentucky (2001) Dee Anderson, Casey Krueger.

Montreat West Youth Conference, Colorado (2002) Dee, Casey Krueger.

Synod Camp Clearwater Forest, Minnesota (2003) Dee Anderson, Casey & Brian Krueger, Steve Otten, Andrea Fornal.

Montreat West Youth Conference, Colorado (2004) Dee Anderson, Elizabeth Sandretti.

Montreat West Youth Conference, Colorado (2005) Elizabeth Sandretti & Christine Kordus.

Springfield, MO (2006) Dee Anderson, Dick Fischer, Lon Crane, Amy Tess-Mattner, David Mikec, Pat Lorbiecki.

SWAP Hindman, Kentucky (2007) Dee Anderson, Lon Crane, Melissa Karow, Steve and Carol Otten.

Montreat Youth Conference, North Carolina (2008) Dee Anderson.

SOS Memphis, TN (2009) Dee Anderson, Steve Otten, Lon Crane.

Howell Nature Center, Michigan (2010) Dee Anderson, Jen Emory, Dawn Anderson, Dick Fischer.

Montreat Youth Conference, North Carolina (2011) Dee Anderson, Lynn Fehr, Rev. Fiona.

SWAP, Kentucky (2012) Dee Anderson, Lynn Fehr, Leigh Otten, Haley & David Serebin.

Benton Harbor, Michigan (2013) Dee Anderson, Cindy Anderson, David Serebin, Jerry

Johnson.

Montreat Youth Conference, North Carolina (2014) Elizabeth Sandretti, Ed Kress, Jane Stone

YouthWorks, West Virginia (2015) Jen Emory, Lynn Fehr, Sandy Roy, and Brad Meyer.

SWAP Pine Mountain, KY (2016) Dee Anderson, Joy Hartman, Brad Meyer, Ken Alderden, Michelle Pogorzelski.

Montreat Youth Conference, NC (2017) Dee Anderson, Joy Hartman, Sandy Roy.

COMMUNION GROUP:

Rachael and Farrukh Daniel,
Will Emory, Sandy Roy, Aaron Tracy, Liz Tylanda

USHER/GREETER TEAMS:

Rachael Daniel, Jeff Ellner, Joy Hartman,
Sarah Ramlow
24th at 7:00, Rob and Lois Pearson, Pat Grogan

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

3: Snowden 10: Chirambo 17: Nyadzi

WEST GRANVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dee M. Anderson, *Pastor*

Angie Murray, *Church Office Secretary*

Carol Buck, *Newsletter Editor*

cagbuck@sbcglobal.net 12.24.17

MASTER SINGERS OF MILWAUKEE CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

The Master Singers of Milwaukee (in which Marna Tess-Mattner sings) will be performing its "Welcome All Wonders!" concert on **Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 3:00 pm**. Both concerts will be at **ST. JOSEPH'S CHAPEL, 1501 South Layton Blvd. (27th & Greenfield Ave. in Milwaukee)**. Parking is available on the west side of the chapel (enter from 29th Street just south of Greenfield) and at the Sacred Heart lot at 1545 South Layton Boulevard (enter from Layton).

Tickets are \$20 (General), \$18 (Seniors 55+) and \$10 (Students). Advance tickets may be purchased in any of four ways:

1. See Marna Tess-Mattner.
2. Call 888-744-2226.
3. Online at www.mastersingersofmilwaukee.org <<http://www.mastersingersofmilwaukee.org>>
4. Mail a check with your ticket order to:
Master Singers of Milwaukee
7635 West Bluemound Road, Suite 215
Milwaukee, WI 53213

(Tickets ordered by mail, phone or email will be held at the Will Call table unless you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

For more information about the Master Singers and upcoming concerts, please visit the website at www.mastersingersofmilwaukee.org <<http://www.mastersingersofmilwaukee.org>>

THANK YOU ~

A special thank you to you and the members of the Mission Partners Committee for the gift of \$1000.00 to Presbyterian Homes & Services for the Chaplaincy program at the Dickson Hollow community. This truly is a wonderful and transformational donation as it is the Founding gift to establish the Chaplaincy Fund at Dickson.

Our founding mission of high quality service to seniors in the Dickson Hollow community is possible with thoughtful support of donors like you.

Support of the spiritual life program helps to light the way for our loved ones, ensuring that a caring ear and words of understanding are available to all residents, family members, and staff. All who seek meaning and community through worship services, music, Bible study, counseling, and prayer are welcome, regardless of their faith background. Many residents and family members tell us that this commitment to living out our faith is one of the most important aspects of living in a PHS community.

Your commitment to our mission "*To honor God by enriching the lives and touching the hearts of older adults*" is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me if I can be helpful in any way. Thank you for your thoughtful support of this important work.

Blessings, Monika Walloch
Gift Planning Officer
Presbyterian Homes Foundation

THANK YOU ~

Our congregation wishes to thank our brothers and sisters in Christ at West Granville Presbyterian for your kind thoughts, words and prayers following the October 1 shooting in Las Vegas. We share the shock of our country, and indeed the world, that such a terrible act would come to our hometown.

I can report to you that none of our congregants were injured in the event. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance had "boots on the ground" within days, and a member of the PDA worshipped with us on Sunday, October 8. With the past few months bringing widespread disasters across our country, we were heartened that PDA could provide help and resources for our community.

We have a lifestyle phrase at MVPC, "Laugh Often and Fear Not!" Laugh often for the joy Christ brings in living for and through him, and fear not, as the Scriptures tell us 366 times (once for every day of the year) to not be afraid. The events of October 1 challenged that phrase. But in the midst of such tragedy, we have witnessed incredible acts of courage, selflessness, compassion, caring and love; the power of the Holy Spirit moving the human spirit. Our community jointed together as #VegasStrong.

Again, thank you for lifting us up.
The love of Christ be with you.
Laugh Often and Fear Not!
Jeff Patterson, Clerk of Session, MVPC
Mountain View Presbyterian Church,
Las Vegas, Nevada