

amazing

IN YOUR LIFE | IN OUR COMMUNITY | IN THE WORLD

Grace

A monthly publication of Grace Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek, California

June 2024

Dear Grace Church Family,

As we move into the month of June and summer schedules, I want to share some updates and news. Below are a few items of interest—please let me know if you have questions or comments.

June Sermon Series – 2 Corinthians

During the five Sundays in June, I will be preaching a sermon series from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. Paul talks a lot about the heart. In 2 Corinthians, Paul uses the word "heart" fourteen times in just 13 chapters. "Heart" appears in each of the first eight chapters.

In the midst of a conflict, Paul models vulnerable, honest conversation, with a heart that is "wide open." Paul has learned how to have an open heart for reconciliation, a trait we could all use today, as individuals, churches, and nations. If you have a chance, please go ahead and read 2 Corinthians on your own as preparation for worship in June.

Micro Homes Update

The plans to build a 6-unit Micro Home Village and one office/laundry unit with Hope Solutions in the church parking lot is finally coming to fruition. The project developer, Firm Foundations Community Housing, has completed its work with the architect and engineering teams and we have building permits in place.

We have recently signed the lease agreement and other necessary documents with the Presbytery of San Francisco and with Hope Solutions. The construction will be led by Pulte Homes along with a number of other trade partners. HomeAid Northern California has also been integral to the project's development

Here are some key dates for the coming months:

June 24: Factory Site Mobilization (the Units will be built at a site in Dublin)

July 2: Church Parking lot Site work begins

August 27-28: Transport of Units to Walnut Creek

October 1: Target Project Completion

New Faces

A note of thanks to everyone who helped with the Retirement Farewell for Judy Williams on April 28. You will find some pictures and a note from Judy inside this edition of the newsletter. Please also welcome our new Administrator, Debora Chew, who is off to a great start. In addition, please note the article on the six new members who recently joined the church and make an effort to welcome them to Grace.

Grace and peace,

Mark

**Submit articles
for the next issue
by June 17, 2024**

Sunday Worship at 10 AM

www.gracewc.org
[www.youtube.com/
@GracePresWC](http://www.youtube.com/@GracePresWC)

**Office Hours: Tues-Fri
9:30 am—3:00 pm**
Closed Monday & Saturday

**Reach us anytime by email:
gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com**

Phone: 925-935-2100

**Sr. Pastor Mark Burnham:
925-433-5459 or
revmrb@gmail.com**

Pastor Emerita: Charie Reid
Music Director: Jumi Kim
Treasurer: Linda Neyer
Asst. Treasurer: Wendy Watkins
Financial Scty: Faye Hutchings
Administrator: Debora Chew
Preschool Director: Joy Martin



JUNE SUNDAY WORSHIP

- June 2: 2 Cor. 1:1-11 – Consolation
- June 9: 2 Cor. 2:1-10 – Forgiveness
- June 16: 2 Cor. 4:1-18 – Treasure in Clay Jars
- June 23: 2 Cor. 5:1-21 – Walk by Faith
- June 30: 2 Cor. 8:1-15 – Generosity

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Robert Stark	06/02
Lynn Binsacca	06/05
Carol King	06/09
Jan Zimmerman	06/12
John Bean	06/15
Lynn Lyons	06/15
Pamela Bouey	06/16
Roger Schultz	06/16
Alice Aldrich	06/20
Dirk Meyer	06/20
Leslee Prah	06/22
Ralpha Storbeck	06/22
Jane Burkland	06/23
Dan Owens	06/26
Jerome Williams	06/26
Victoria Lucido	06/28
Jon Littig	06/29

Welcome,

New Members

On April 7, 2024, **Ann McCullough** was welcomed by Session into membership.

Ann was born and raised in Berkeley. She attended the Anna Head School for Girls (now Head Royce) and UCLA and CAL. Her degree is in Theatre Arts. She married Rob in 1977 – he was a civil engineer. They lived in Hawaii & Guam where Ann worked in retail jobs. When they moved to Tucson, she was the jobsite secretary for a concrete subcontractor. Ann and Rob moved to Los Angeles for the same company. They moved to Tyler, TX in 1983 to work for a construction attorney. When they moved to Dallas in 1991, they started a construction consulting firm where Ann was the CFO. They joined Westminster Presbyterian Church Dallas. Their son, Michael, was born in Tyler and lives in Pleasant Hill with his wife, Stacy, and their daughter Ruby. Ann's sister, Lyn, lives in San Francisco. Rob passed in 2020. Ann decided that it was time to move back to the Bay Area, connect with old friends, meet new friends, find new things to do, and enjoy being a grandmother.

On May 5, 2024, the following members were welcomed by Session into membership:

Dirk Meyer grew up in Peoria, Illinois. He was baptized and confirmed at the First Federated Church (Presbyterian). He married Carolyn Schroeder in August 1963 and they had three daughters. Dirk worked an engineer for Caterpillar Tractor in Peoria, then transferred to Davenport, Iowa, and then to San Leandro, California. As mentioned in the May 5th service, Dirk spends his summers in Wisconsin. We look forward to seeing him once again in the Fall.

Hannah Circle Meeting

June 11 at 10 am in the Library



In our Bible Study - "**Sacred Encounters**": **The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke—Acts**, The community of faith relies on the power of Jesus Christ in times of crisis.

Lesson 9 - People Encounter Jesus Through the Word of the Disciples - The story in Acts 9 is of a woman with two names, Tabitha and Dorcas. Tabitha is the only woman in the New Testament to be designated a disciple, though she was certainly not the only woman who followed Jesus
Scripture: Acts 9: 36-43

A Zoom link will be sent for those who cannot come in person. Invite a friend or neighbor; all are welcome. One doesn't have to attend Grace Church to be part of Hannah Circle.

Faye Hutchings, Moderator



(New Members continued)

Mark Donnell grew up in Oakland, California. He was a member of Faith American Lutheran Church in Oakland. Mark is a retired carpenter. He has attended many protestant churches and was born again in 1992. **Anita Donnell**, Mark's wife, was born in China and raised in Hong Kong. She came to the U.S. as an international student. God graciously provided Anita with Mark as her spouse. She is a retired social worker who worked in Oakland's Chinatown. She and Mark worked as building managers for ten years. They both attended the Berkeley Chinese Community Church. Because of commuting, they decided to join Grace Church which is near their home.

Mary Schoenfeld was born in Toledo, Ohio. She had most recently attended Lafayette Methodist Church before joining Grace Presbyterian Church. Mary has two daughters.

Mary Ann Lundy grew up in West Virginia as Mary Ann Weese, a fifth generation Weese there. She graduated from West Virginia University where her father taught. She was very active in the church in Morgantown, WV. She went to Union Theological Seminary in NYC and graduated in 1947, one of five women and 65 men in her class. She married Richard Lundy, a classmate. She chose to be a lay person in ministry in parishes in Clear Lake, CA, Champaign, IL, Univ. of Idaho, Wayzata, MN. She was Director of the Women's Unit in Presbyterian Church USA in Louisville and was Chair of Ecumenical Decade Comm., USA. She retired to Santa Fe with her husband, **Rev. Donald Wilson**. She moved to Walnut Creek, CA in 2024.



Thank You from Judy Williams

Dear Grace Church friends:

Thank you for my wonderful retirement send-off on Sunday, April 28th. All of your warm comments and wishes, cards, and hugs have meant so much to me. I know many people were involved in putting together the celebration and I thank you for the effort. The generous cash gift was most appreciated and it will be saved for a future trip or home renovation project. I enjoyed my 17 year tenure as your Office Manager and the best part was getting to know so many of you. I hope to be able to greet many of you at church in the future.

All the best to all of you.

Best regards,
Judy Williams



Message from John Littig

Thank you to my Grace friends for your heartfelt cards and emails. Also, my apologies for any unknown phone numbers that were accidentally deleted. *(Note: Jon's wife, Mary Ann Littig, died on April 22, 2024 in Tennessee.)*

Sunday Worship at 10 AM
June 2024

WELCOME STATEMENT

*We welcome and celebrate
all who join with us*

—the young and the old,
the rich and the poor,
the gay and the straight,
the strong and the weak,
the meek and the brave
—and though we are
different one from
another, we are united
in loving and praising God
and in loving each other.



Prayer Chain

If you have concerns that would benefit from the power of prayer, please contact Faye Hutchings or the church office.

In-person SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES are at 10:00 AM.
Join friends for Fellowship time after church.

Livestream worship in on <https://www.youtube.com/@GracePresWC>—Every Sunday at 10:00 am.

**Recordings of past services available on our YouTube channel. Or,
Watch recordings of worship services anytime at www.gracewc.org**

Listen to the latest Sunday sermon on your phone. Dial 925-236-2487

Church Membership: Please speak to Rev. Burnham for information.

Meetings and Gatherings

Bible Study, Wednesdays at 10 am in the Library or on Zoom.

**Sunday, June 2, Worship with Communion at 10 am
Session Meeting at 11:30 in the Library or on Zoom**