

GraceNOTES

The official newsletter of Grace United Methodist Church in Arlington, Texas

May 2018

www.Graceumcarlington.org

CELEBRATING FRIENDS AND FAMILY

PAMELA PINKERTON-WHITLEY

In keeping with the theme of celebrating friends and family, I wanted to highlight some of our younger youth at Grace. Earlier this year we asked the following questions: What do you enjoy doing for fun? How important is family to you? What are our goals for this year? What is it about yourself that you are most proud? What experience has had the most impact on your life thus far? Following are their responses.

Maiya, age 10—She likes riding her bike for fun because she likes to see things and she can ride with other people. Going to church is important. Family is the second most important thing because they support you. She enjoys playing games and watching TV with her family. She is most proud of herself for the good things that she does because it encourages her to be a better person. The experience that has had the most impact on her life is getting into her middle school and being the best she can be.

Zaniah, age 10—She likes playing volleyball for fun. Her family is important because she has a home and food to eat. She is proud of herself because she gets good grades in school. Her mom inspires her. In 2018, she says her goal is to get a vlogging camera (a camera used for video blogging). We're gonna have to get her on the media team!

Jackson, age 8—He like playing sports, games and with his Legos. His family is 100% important to him. He is proud of pushing himself and his sister to be better people because they just keep improving. His mom and dad have always encouraged him to be better. He wants to get better at playing every sport he wants to play.

Lance, age 12—He enjoys playing video games. Family is important to him and he likes when they have "family" night. His goal for the year was to make better grades. He is proud of himself for doing well in school. The experience that has had the most impact on his life was changing schools when he was in elementary school.

Tia, age 11—She likes crafting with new art supplies, because it is relaxing to her especially when there is no music, it makes her feel good. Family is important to her because they are there every step of the way. She is proud that she has friends and family. Her goal is to get past the 6th grade so she can play track next year. What has had the most impact was when her grandfather got through his surgery; it was a success!

Kayla, age 14—She enjoys playing her bass guitar and reading comic books. Family is very important to her; she always puts them first. Her goal for the year was to get better grades and not procrastinate on homework—to get it done right away. She is most proud of passing all of her math tests. Transitioning from private school to a charter school has had the most impact on her life. It was challenging at first was she was able to adapt to the change.

Grace UMC Arlington seeks to bring people into a life changing relationship with Jesus Christ by making disciples through our words and actions in cooperation with God's Grace.

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Grace and Peace to you!

“And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.’”

Luke 14:23 (ESV)

Do you remember the first time you were invited, or went to a new church? Were you a little intimidated or apprehensive about the idea of walking through the doors of a new place, seeing new and unfamiliar faces and hearing new and strange voices? There are so many people who face the same intimidating feelings when you ask them to visit your church. Yes, Grace UMC Arlington is a loving and caring group of people, but let’s be honest...they don’t know you, me, our “style” or our “ways.”

As we prepare for “Friends and Family Day” on Sunday, May 27th I pray that we look not only to “invite”, but actually look to “bring” people who do not belong to another church or have not attended a church in a long time. We are called to “bring people” and therefore should look to go above and beyond the obligatory “nice” invitation and; ask someone to come with you, personally meet them in the parking lot, and even stay with them throughout the entire service. Notice the servant was told to “compel”

a Word from our Pastor



people to come. Let’s urge our friends and family to come, and then come again to, “Experience Grace.”

Thank you for your continued support in prayer, service, gifts, presence, and witness as Grace UMC Arlington continues to “bring people into a life changing relationship with Jesus Christ, by making disciples through our words and actions in cooperation with God’s grace.”

We continue to love you and pray for your growth in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
—Pastor Bates and Rona

Congratulations Grace Graduates 2018!

Finance Committee Stewardship Campaign

United Methodists support apportioned and designated funds through their connectional gifts. By combining our gifts into a larger amount, we can effect change across the world. Individual churches can minister to a small area; however, as a connectional church, we can do big

things, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

How does the church make this happen? The General Conference establishes budgets for the denomination’s general funds. These are divided among annual conferences, based on a specific formula. Each annual conference, using its own approved formula, divides these fund requests, along with conference administrative and benevolence fund requests, among local churches. In addition, individuals, local churches, districts and annual conferences may make monetary gifts to the designated funds, of which 100 percent goes directly to a specific project or ministry. Together, apportioned and designated funds represent our connectional giving.

Your donations will help us to pay off the balance of our connectional giving amount for 2018. If you need additional information, please see Juanita Rischer, Finance Chair.

Thank you!

#Experiencegrace



May

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	2 Worship meeting 6 pm Prayer 6:30 pm Bible Class 7 pm	3	4	5 Overture to Music 10:30 am
6 Information Meeting after church	7	8 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	9 Worship meeting 6 pm Bible Class	10	11	12 College Prep Inst. 8 am-10am Shekhina Ministry 10 am-12 pm
13 Mother's Day	14 Finance 6:15 pm Admin 7pm	15 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	16 Worship meeting 6 pm Prayer 6:30 pm Bible Class 7 pm	17	18	19 Prayer 9 am Overture to Music 10:30 am
20 Graduates and Robert C. Jones Scholarship	21	22 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	23 Worship meeting 6 pm Bible Class 7 pm	24	25	26 Prayer 9 am UMW 10 am Shekhina Ministry 10 am-12 pm
27 Friends and Family Day Picnic	28 Memorial Day	29 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	30 Worship meeting 6 pm Bible Class 7 pm	31		