

CONNECT CARD



_____ Service time attended
 _____ I have a prayer request (please list on back)
 _____ I am a first time visitor
 _____ I would like to be contacted by a pastor
 _____ I would like to join the church
 _____ Sign me up for weekly email updates
 _____ Sign me up for this small group/class:

(Please list)

Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

Please complete, tear off, and place in the offering plate

Sermon: Finding Hope in Christmas Sermon Text: John 1:19-28

- I. **Wishful Thinking: Messiah? Elijah? or Prophet?**
 Hebrews 3:6 But Christ, as the Son, is in charge of God's entire house. And we are God's house, if we keep our courage and remain confident in our hope in Christ. NLT
- II. **Wasteful Tinkering: Blind, Busy or Doubtful.**
 1 Timothy 1:4 Don't let them waste their time in endless discussion of myths and spiritual pedigrees. These things only lead to meaningless speculations, which don't help people live a life of faith in God. NLT
 1. **Prepare the way.** John 1:15 John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.'" NLT
 2. **Trust the Child in the Manger.** Psalm 33:20 We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. NLT
 3. **Be mistaken for Jesus.** Matthew 16:14 "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." NLT

Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon: Thursday, December 14 at noon in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a wrapped gift \$5 or under to swap. We will have some fun exchanging the gifts and doing a Mexico Mission project! Sign up in the Welcome Center.

Everyone is invited to a "Carols and Cookies" evening sponsored by Women's Evening Fellowship on Tuesday, **December 12** at 7:00 pm in the parlors. No RSVP is necessary – the more, the merrier! Please plan to join us for this fun event as we sing our favorite carols and enjoy some holiday refreshments.

Volunteers are needed to help with Family Promise. Grace Church will be hosting homeless families in the program from **December 17 through December 31**. Sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Center. There will also be sign-up sheets on Saturday evenings. Individuals can sign up to sleep over and/or contribute a snack item or meal.

Do you, or someone you know, need a ride to church on Sundays? Are you willing to offer a ride to church on Sundays? **The Evangelism team is starting a transportation ministry!** We would like to match those needing a ride to church, with those willing to provide a ride! Simply **fill out the communicator card attached to the bulletin** and return it in the offering plate or to the church office.

Grace U M Church is hosting the two day **Art of Marriage event** on Friday, February 09 and Saturday February 10. This video event equips married couples with a passion for building Godly marriages. Cost is \$40 per couple and includes your books and also Friday night dinner will be provided for participating couples and for kids in childcare. **Childcare is provided for Friday only. There is no childcare for the Saturday session.** More details are available in the Welcome Center. Please sign up in the Welcome Center or by calling Grace Church at 724-463-8535. Upon registering, further details will be available. **Sign up by January 21, 2018.** You can always go to <http://familylife.com/theartofmarriage/vidoe-event> to learn more!

Media Ministry Help Needed: No experience is necessary to help with the soundboard and running the slides! Please call the church office to help!

Thank you to the Dan & Donna Overdorff, Dan & Beth Fabin, and Andy & Kara Krauss families for participating in the Advent reading and lighting of the candles this weekend.

Grace United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 6
 Indiana, PA 15701

indianagrace.org
 724-463-8535



December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

Our Pastors
Rev. Bill Blair - Senior Pastor

Pastor Kathy Mihoerck - Congregational Care & Senior Adult Ministries

Pastor Dennis Marshall - Visitation

<p><i>We gather in grace</i></p> <p>The coffee is ready! Please enjoy a time of fellowship in our Welcome Center between worship services. Meet and greet your friends and make new ones.</p> <p>Check your bulletin today for information on special events, including <i>The Longest Night</i> service and our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. Get connected with a Grace Group and Sunday School! There is something for everyone!</p> <p>More information is available in the Welcome Center. Check our website for other opportunities to Gather in Grace!</p>	<p><i>Child care</i></p> <p>Child care for children up to age 4 is available in the nursery Sundays during worship services.</p> <p>Children K-5 can attend Kid's Church: "The Train Station" - an exciting worship experience - at 11:00 am (please sign your child in downstairs before the worship service begins).</p> <p>Children ages 3-5 can attend Kid's Church: "The Caboose" during the 11:00 worship service (located down the main hallway past the Welcome Center).</p>
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**Order of Worship - 9:00 am
Traditional Worship - Music Sunday**

Gathering Music

Announcements

Prelude

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Don Robertson, Trumpet

*Opening Hymn of Praise - No. 245
The First Noel (vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5)

Christmas Inspiration

Lighting the Advent Candle

Christ Be Our Light (words on screen for congregation)

Go Tell It!

Prayer of Invocation

Angels from the Realms of Glory
Christmas Choir & Narration

Come, Messiah, Come
Christmas Choir & Narration

How Great Our Joy!
Christmas Choir & Narration

Still, Still, Still
Solo, Christmas Choir & Narration

Mary, Did You Know?
Christmas Choir & Narration

Silent Night
Christmas Choir & Congregational Singing

Christmas Medley
Christmas Choir & Congregational Singing

Go Tell It!
Narration & Christmas Choir

Receiving of our Tithes and Offerings
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Don Robertson, Trumpet

*Doxology - No. 95
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn (words on screen)
God Rest You Merry Christian Friends (vs. 1, 3 & 5)

*Benediction & Postlude

*Indicates the congregation standing as able



If you are joining us for the first time today, we extend to you a very special greeting! We have a gift for you in our Welcome Center. Additionally, please take a moment and complete a connect card and drop it in the offering plate or return it to the Welcome Center host. Thank you for joining us!



The Altar Flowers are given by Dennis & Sandra Foster in honor of their Granddaughter Amelia's 12th birthday.

Grace Church Special Christmas Services
in the Grace Church Sanctuary

Thursday, December 21 - 7:00 pm
"Longest Night" Worship Service

No worship service on Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24
9:00 am - Regular Traditional Worship
11:00 am - Regular Contemporary Worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:00 pm - Family-Oriented Worship
Charlie Brown Christmas Play

7:00 pm - Traditional Worship

9:00 pm - Contemporary Worship

***Wednesday Dinner**

Serving 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall
Adults: \$5 Kids 4-12: \$2.50
Under 4: Free

THIS WEEK'S MENU
Free Dinner (no take-outs)
Ham, Mashed Sweet Potatoes,
Vegetable, Roll & Dessert

To properly plan,
reservations are required.
Sign up in the Welcome Center, or call the church office by 4:00 pm on Tuesday.

***This is the last dinner for the year 2017.
Dinners will resume on January 10, 2018.
Have a Blessed, Merry CHRISTmas and
a Happy New Year!**

THIS WEEK AT GRACE



Monday, December 11

Women's Prayer Group - Room 205
Trustees - Room 208
SPRC - Room 205

Tuesday, December 12

Carols & Cookies - Room 101 & 102

Wednesday, December 13

Men's Bible Study - Room 102
The Seekers Women's Group - 173 Valley Rd., Indiana
Women's Grace Group - Room 201
Wednesday Dinner - Fellowship Hall
Case for Christ Study - Room 208
Men's Grace Group - Room 201
Marrieds with Young Kids - Room 207
Co-Ed Lifers Grace Group - Room 101 & 102
Agape Bells - Room 105

Thursday, December 14

Puppet Ministry Meeting - Room 208
After School Comes Grace Program
Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
Worship Team Practice - Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 16

Prayer Fellowship - G.I.M. (1st Floor)
Saturday Night Worship - Fellowship Hall

Please join us immediately after the 9:00 Music Sunday service **today** for a **Continental Breakfast in Fellowship Hall.**

Hey Youth! Join us for our **Christmas party this evening** from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the youth room for an evening of food, games and lots of fun!! Please bring a \$10 non-gender specific wrapped gift for our white elephant gift exchange. Please contact Doug or Becky McAnulty with any questions.

Parents of Youth small group will meet from 6:30 - 8:00 pm this evening in Room 207.

Love Basket Distribution 2017: Mark your calendars now to help! Many of us feel it is one of the highlights of the Christmas season! Love Baskets contain all the fixings for a Christmas dinner and much more. If you have any questions, call Ed Scott at 724-388-3291 or Lynn Scott at 724-388-8584.
December 19, 8:30 am—Organizing of non-perishable food, December 20, 6:30 - 8 pm— Packing of Love Baskets at Church, December 21, 1:00 pm—Unloading of Turkeys/chickens; etc. , December 21, 2 - 5:30 pm— Distribution of Love Baskets from Church.

On **December 24** the **Children's Bells will be performing** at the 9:00 and 11:00 am worship services. There will be **no Kid's Church that morning.** Kids will worship with their families.

Children's Ministry Mission for December: The children are making decorations for Indian Haven nursing home residents. We pray they bring God's love to them this Christmas season.

The **"Longest Night" Worship Service** will be on Thursday, December 21 at 7:00 pm. This is a service of prayer, scripture, and music that acknowledges that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.

Remember in prayer....

North Korea
Heidi Allison
Joan Shirley
Janet Luther
Micah Taylor
Terry St. Clair
Betty Scarpino
Chris Lybarger
Andrew Manzek
Debbie Douglass
Hurricane Victims
Dale Cunningham
Rosemary McDowell
All First Responders

Deployed Military Personnel



NEW TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY!

If you would like to help provide rides, or need a ride to church, please fill out the other side of this form and the information below.

Special accommodations: _____
Yes, I need a ride to Church! I usually attend: _____ Saturday 7:00 pm Sunday: _____ 9:00 am _____ 11:00 am _____ I'm Flexible

Yes, I can provide rides to Church! I usually attend: _____ Saturday 7:00 pm Sunday: _____ 9:00 am _____ 11:00 am _____ I'm Flexible
I'm Flexible I can help: _____ regularly _____ occasionally

PRAYER REQUEST:
