

# Grace Notes

January 2019  
"Come Home to Grace"

## Pursue a Higher Calling in 2019

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds . . ."  
-Hebrews 10:24a

As we enter 2019 there will be many of us who make resolutions such as to get in better shape, lose 20, no let's make that a more realistic 10 pounds, be more kind, be a bit more frugal with finances, a little more generous with the church, etc. Many of those resolutions won't make it to February. Maybe what we need to do is *not* to make a resolution. Maybe what we need to do is pursue a higher calling.

Everyone has at least one Christian calling in life. Yes, we know that obviously God calls ministers and missionaries. God also calls a LOT of other people: bankers and brokers, bee-keepers and baby-sitters, carpenters and custodians, caregivers and cooks, cashiers and coaches, doctors and data analysts, economists and electricians, farmers and financiers, firefighters and florists, homemakers and home inspectors, judges and jack hammer operators, lawyers and lecturers, medics and mechanics, musicians and merchants, manufacturers and marketers, newspaper carriers and nurses, obstetricians and occupational therapists, organists and oceanographers, pavers and painters, plumbers and piano-tuners, police and politicians, quilters and quality controllers, real estate agents and retired people, ship captains and soldiers, surgeons and sales agents, seismologists and safety inspectors, teachers and tile-setters, truckers and trainers, van drivers and veterinarians, well-drillers and waiters, wardens and wealth managers. All sorts of people God calls to use their faith in a work setting to change the world. It would be a very sad and faith-diminished world indeed if the only ones God called to Christian action were clergy!

Ever hear of Branch Rickey? He was quite ordinary, but became quite extraordinary because he put his faith in action in his workplace. This story comes directly from:

*The Most Wonderful Time of the Year: A Countdown to Christmas* (2016) by Ace Collins, page 191:

*As a teen, Rickey felt he was called to be a baseball player, but his parents and church did not agree. They felt God could only use the young man as a preacher. After much prayer Rickey tried his hand at professional baseball. When he failed, people in his family and church said, "I told you so." Yet he refused to give up on his calling. After gaining a law degree, Rickey worked his way into baseball management but for thirty years found little success. Finally, well into his fifties, he shaped the 1930s St. Louis Cardinals into a winner. Suddenly recognized as a genius and considered one of the most powerful figures in sports, he took over as general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers. In 1946, in the face of public wrath, he called upon his Christian faith to right a wrong. When Rickey integrated baseball, he helped kick-start the civil rights movement. Soon thereafter he used his growing wealth to become one of the first investors in Guideposts Magazine. A few years later he helped found the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Thus, in a very secular position, he was able to boldly live out his calling through both words and actions and change both life and faith for millions.*

Friends, God has a calling for your life, wherever you are, whatever you are doing. As we begin a New Year consider again what God might be calling you to do. Maybe you are in the right place now, you just need to realize your calling and then act upon it. You might need to make a small or large change in your life to get into a position to fulfill what you sense to be your calling. Could God be calling us to do something higher, something greater, something better in 2019? Just start where you are. God will lead.

-Pastor Rob

### Thank You!

We had a very good attendance for Christmas Eve with 134 with many regulars and visitors! Thank you for coming. We hope it was very meaningful and that you make Grace Church a regular part of your future Christmas Eve plans. I'm sure somewhere in God's presence, Rev. Joseph Mohr (lyrics) and Franz Gruber (musical score) are smiling. It was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Silent Night, sung for the first time on that very night long ago. You all made it special by being there!

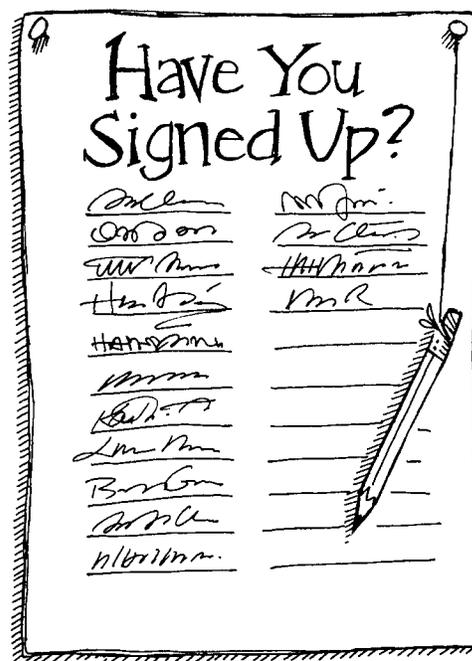


Bell Choir begins again this coming Tuesday January 8 6:30 p.m. and every Tuesday thereafter.

This is a good time to join if you are thinking about it!

Give it a try!!

It's that time of year! If you would like to be a Liturgist, (or would like to be removed from the list), please let Marcy know. I'll be sending out the 2019 list soon. Thank you!!!



Get ready for snow! Come to Youth Club and get your supply kit to dress a snowman. Watch the movie Frosty the Snowman and then go on a scavenger hunt to find the items to fill your bag to dress your snowman when it snows. Take a picture of your dressed snowman to bring to the next youth club!

Get ready for a fun game and songs. The menu will be snowmen pizzas, snowmen noses (carrots) with snow dip, snow covered strawberries, snowmen cookies and melted snow (milk) to drink!

Bring a friend, and we'll see you on Tuesday, January 8 from 4:30—6:00 p.m.

Youth Club is Snow Much Fun!!

Youth Club  
is  
Snow Much Fun!  
January 8  
4:30—6:00 p.m.



## Those Ministering This Month:

### Greeters:

- 1/6: Joyce & Dick McKee  
1/13:  
1/20: Ruth & Joe Zarnosky  
1/27: Becky Stearns

### Liturgists:

- 1/6: Debbie Rohm  
1/13: Brenda Hanna  
1/20: Diane Barnes  
1/27: Cindy Perorazio

### Nursery:

- 1/6: Cathy Hoover  
1/13: Colleen Eisenbraun  
1/20: Alison Hoskinson  
1/27: Jenny Barnett

**Usher:** Cindy Perorazio

**Elevator Attendant:** Logan Cope

**Candles:** Brenda Hanna



Happy Anniversary to:  
Steve & Lois Jones  
January 13, 1985



## Consistory Meeting of December 2018

Members Present:, Matt Bell, Logan Cope, Chris Eisenbraun, Mark Frost, Bill Greenawalt, Alex Heintzelman, Patty Lanterman, Cindy Perorazio, Jack Sitler

I. Devotions – Logan Cope Next Month: TBD.

II. Duty Roster: December: Elevator – Steve; Usher – Logan; Communion – Matt, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
January: Elevator – Usher – Communion – Logan, January 6, 2019

III. Informal Discussion/Goal Setting: Motion for congregational meeting on December 30<sup>th</sup> to vote on consistory member seat for 3 year term. 1<sup>st</sup>: Matt, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris, motion carries. Installation on January 6<sup>th</sup> of new consistory members.

IV. Communications: None.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from November reviewed. Motion to accept minutes 1<sup>st</sup>: Logan 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jack, motion carries.

VI. Financial Secretary Report (M. Bell):

Financial report from November 2018 – Current Fund Revenue: \$10,172. Received 78% of budgeted (\$12,987). Current Fund Expense: \$11,726. Spent 90% of budgeted (\$12,962). At 89% expense and 83% revenue of annual budget through the first 11 months. 1<sup>st</sup>: Jack, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Patty, motion carries.

VII. Financial Committee Report (Jack Sitler):

No Report. Discussion of end-of-year gifts for church employees

Motion to recognize Janice Heintzelman's service as church treasurer (retiring) on January 6<sup>th</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>: Mark, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris, motion carries.

VIII. Pastors Report (R. Joy):

3 Services in November. 9 visitation ministry visits. Average attendance down 8 congregants in November compared to last year. Planning for sabbatical next year (2019). Reviewed upcoming traditional Christmas activities.

IX. Unfinished Business:

None.

X. New Business:

Alex asked to review how street fair profits have been dispersed historically. General consensus was that profits have been, and should continue to be, dispersed to support a blend of both Grace Church and community activities. No action taken.

XI. Committee Reports:

-Youth Committee – Christmas Pageant is December 16th. Alison Hoskinson is leading with support.

-Worship Design – No Report.

-Music – No Report.

-GRO – Donations to Heifer project.

-Pastoral Relations – No Report.

-Endowment – Met on October 21<sup>st</sup>, Researching possibility of moving a small portion of funds to an investment from a CD. Original bylaws for Endowment require funds to be within investments backed by the full faith of the US govt. Available interest of endowment: \$48,961.02, available interest of Memorial: \$48,388.29; \$50 to bell choir, \$11,358.57 in Mundy Fund, \$23,526 ogle fund, Youth fund \$665. \$12788.72 unspecified. Endowment Principal \$538,178.13 as of Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.

-Property – Airway to Sanctuary was blocked by some insulation resulting in the cold Sunday service in late November. Problem resolved. Bathroom floor replacement to be installed in January.

-Elders – No Report.

-Women's Guild – Christmas Party on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

XII. Adjournment & The Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting January 7th, 2019 at 7PM.



1/1 Matt Jones  
 1/2 David McMaster  
 1/4 Janis Sutherin  
 Emma Gala  
 1/5 Don Reash  
 1/7 Geoff Barnes  
 Quentin Barnes  
 1/8 Bonnie Sears  
 Mike Perorazio  
 1/11 Beth Palette  
 1/12 Nicole McMaster  
 1/16 Gary Weber  
 1/17 Tim Reash  
 Michael McMaster  
 Seth Kollar  
 Alexis Smith  
 Alivia Bell  
 1/18 Geri Whitfield  
 1/20 Becky Stearns  
 1/23 Chelsea Kimble  
 Sam Flynn  
 Elizabeth Jackson  
 1/24 Alison Hoskinson  
 1/27 Katy Gala  
 1/31 Larry Snyder  
 Joyce McKee

★ Thank You! ★  
 ★ THANK YOU! ★

**Thank You!**

Dear Grace Church,

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift for the employees!  
 —Lauren McAndrew

Dear Grace Church,

I also thank you for the Christmas gift. Much appreciated!  
 —Marcy LaVogue

Dear Grace Church of Columbiana,

All of us at the Columbiana Area Meals on Wheels would like to extend our sincere thanks for your continued financial support to our program.

Thank you again for your generous donation of \$500 from the 2018 Street Fair.  
 —Colleen Welton, Program Director

Dear Grace Church of Columbiana,

On behalf of Salem Regional Medical Center's Foundation, please accept our sincere appreciation for your generous donation in support of the Oncology Program. Your check, in the amount of \$1,000, will help in needed programs and services.

—Sincerely, Amy Reed, Director of Development, SRMC

Dear Grace Church,

Thank you so much for choosing Making Kids Count to donate to! I can't even begin to describe what it means to have the support of my church family. With your donation, we'll be able to provide Columbiana County with 7,693 diapers!

Thanks again.  
 —Colleen Eisenbraun, Project MKC



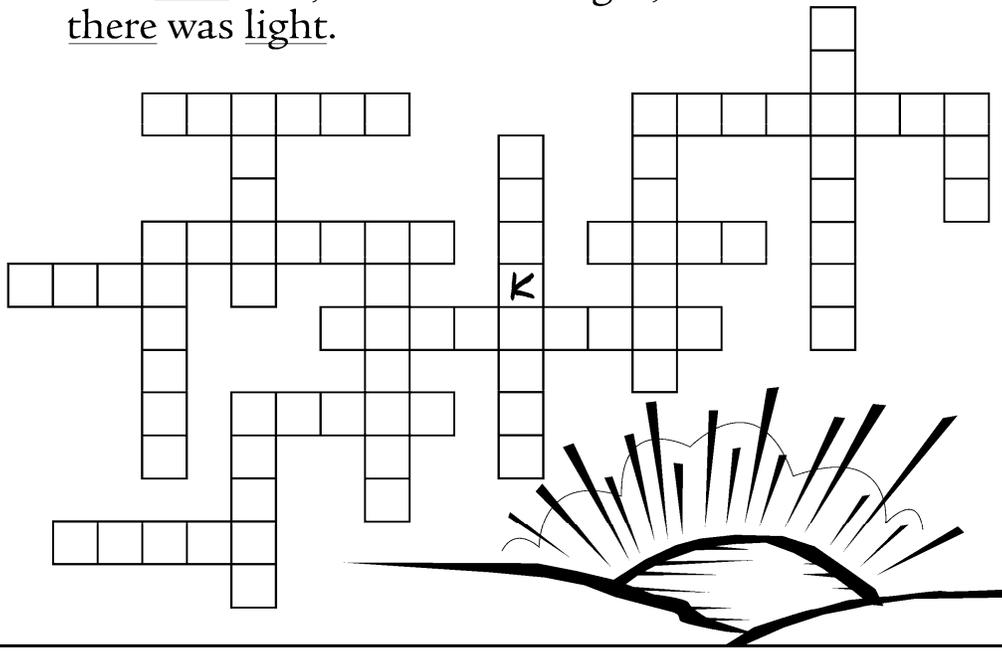


# The Beginning

The start of a new calendar year is a great time to praise God for his amazing creation.

Directions: Read Genesis 1:1-3 (NIV), below. Place the underlined words into the crossword. One letter has been provided to help you start.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.



Grace Notes

Grace Church of Columbiana  
140 S. Main Street  
Columbiana, OH 44408  
330-482-4532

---

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert Joy  
Secretary: Marcy LaVogue  
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday—Thursday  
E-mail: [gracechurchofcolumbiana@comcast.net](mailto:gracechurchofcolumbiana@comcast.net)  
Web: [www.gracechurchcolumbiana.com](http://www.gracechurchcolumbiana.com)

Office: 330-482-4532  
Pastor's Home Phone: 330-892-0512  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

