



The Grace Connection

A REGISTERED PUBLICATION OF
SICORNY, GA, CI
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



He  Is
Risen!



Come and hear the Word of God as it is brought to you each Wednesday from a mountain-top experience during the season of Lent. A supper will take place at 6:00 P.M. and the worship service will begin at 7:00 P.M., here at Second Grace UMC, 18700 Joy Road, Detroit, MI 48228, 313-838-6475.

Mt. Sinai—Exodus 24:9-18, Feb. 20

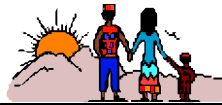
Mt. Mariah—II Chronicles 3:1-2 and 6:18-21, Feb. 27

Mt. Horeb—I Kings 19:8-18, March 6

Meeting God on the Mountain

So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

Genesis 22:14



Temptation on the Mountain—Matthew 4:8-11, March 13

Mt. Hermon—Matthew 17:1-8, March 20

Maundy Thursday Service—March 28

Good Friday Service, March 29, 6:00 P.M., Resurrection UMC, 8150 Schaefer Hwy, Detroit, 313-582-7011, Rev. Henry D. Williams, Pastor

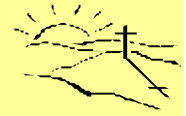
Easter Cantata, Sunday, March 24, 11:00 A.M. at Second Grace UMC.

Toni Grimmett,
Worship Chairperson

In the Light of God's Grace...

"Ministry For All..."

By Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.



Ministry is the means by which the Church carries out its calling to make disciples of all nations.

At Second Grace United Methodist Church, we are shaping ministry for all people. We want to be faithful to Christ our Lord, who calls out in Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" [NRSV]. This call of our Lord means

that Jesus invites all people who carry burdens of various sorts to come and to experience healing, wholeness and redemption. The invitation is for all. No matter how terrible your life may be, no matter how far away you are from God; Jesus wants you to come. Come and bring with you all the burdens, all the worries, all the loneliness, and all the problems that hold you down. Come unto Jesus and bring your troubles!

The world around us seeks what Jesus offers. People want to be free from burdensome existence. They want their weariness to cease. They want to rest from labor. Since true freedom, true confidence and true rest are available only at the feet of Jesus, we must make way for every person who might come!

As Christ's ambassadors, we will invite and welcome the weary and

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Editors Note: *In the Light of God's Grace* articles — Opportunities are available for individuals (children, youth, adults) to submit stories of faith, Christian growth, or life-changing events. Articles are chosen at random and should be between 100 and 200 words. You can submit articles to Barbara Wilson, Toni Grimmett, Eric Collins, Ruth Featherstone, or Audrey Mangum.

Ministry For All (Continued from page 1)

those who are heavy laden. In so doing, our ministry is both an expression of the will of God and a means by which all people have access to the source of life. Our worship services; our five choirs; Sunday School classes; prayer meetings; Bible Study Classes; youth, women, men, and young adult activities; nursery; senior citizen programs; Headstart program; and community-based economic development organization are expressions of God's will on one hand, and means of access to the source of life on the other hand.

Our goal is Ministry for all that come, including those we recruit. To achieve that goal, we are making ministry accessible to all persons. User-friendly ministry is our goal. The people who come need to find rest at the Savior's feet.

They do not need any additional hurdles, stumbling blocks or obstacles.

Beginning Sunday, March 3, 2002, we will provide interpretation for the deaf twice a month during the 11 A.M. Worship Service. This will give access to many persons who have longed for an opportunity to experience worship in full, but have been denied that opportunity. We will work to expand this ministry to every worship service in the future. We invite the deaf and the hard of hearing and their families to come, feast, and find rest, here at the Savior's feet.

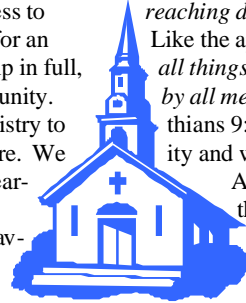
In March, we will also inaugurate Junior Church for children ages 5 through 12 years. Children who presently stay in an adult-oriented

service will now have an opportunity to experience worship in a context designed for them to understand better and find their own rest here at the Savior's feet.

We will continue to find new ways of reaching different people effectively.

Like the apostle Paul, we must "become all things to all people, that (we) might by all means save some" [1 Corinthians 9:22b]. This is our responsibility and we are fulfilling it!

As the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit enables our ministries, may God's people continue to find healing and rest here at the Savior's feet. Amen!



Children and Youth Ministries: The Charge and the Challenge

by Carolyn A. Jones

I have been teaching in the public school system for more than twenty years. As any parent knows, dealing with children in any capacity on a full-time basis can be as frustrating as it is rewarding. Many times in my career, I have stepped back and thought, "There has to be a better way to earn a living!" And each time I said that to myself or anyone else, the Lord sent a former student to see me and to remind me of His charge for my life. Consequently, when I was asked to take the position as Director of Children and Youth Ministries, I turned it over to Him for several months. His answer was that I should take up the challenge of shaping the two-fold blessing at Second Grace.

The first blessing is that there are large numbers of young people from infants to eighteen years who are in attendance on any given Sunday. This has been a long time coming. There was a period in our 'not to distant past' in which the number of senior members far outdistanced the number of young couples with school aged children and infants. Thankfully, all of that has changed.

The second blessing is that there are a number of caring, nurturing members who are concerned for the spiritual well-being of these young people. They have

been actively working to strengthen existing programs, and to create new ones that will meet that need. My charge and my challenge is to assist them in getting these young people and their parents more actively involved in new and existing programs. The common goal is to nurture the spiritual growth of our future congregation.

I met with several of the coordinators on Saturday, January 13, 2002 to discuss where we are and where we are going. I left that meeting excited about our recent accomplishments and the plans we have for the near future.

Thanks to the efforts of Sandra Traylor, Carter Grimmitt, Patricia Barthwell and several other members, the nursery opened in October 2001. Each Sunday, it is staffed by at least two adult volunteers, who are available to care for children between the ages of six months and four years. Parents are invited to bring their children as early as fifteen minutes before the start of either worship service.

There are cribs and rocking chairs for relaxing, and toys, books and videos for entertainment. Books



and videos were chosen for their spiritual learning value. The staff tidies and sanitizes the rooms at the end of each session to ensure a healthy environment for all the children. We even provide soft slippers so that street shoes do not have to be worn on the carpet. We invite all parents with young children to take advantage of the facility for your child's comfort and so that you may continue to have the best worship experience.

All children have a moment of their own during both morning worship services. Mrs.



Cheryl Wellman

oversees Children's Sermons. She has a staff of volunteers who are responsible for bringing the sermon lesson alive for the children. Those of us over the age of twelve enjoy those moments as much as the children. We can all relate to those simple points about forgiveness, obedience, love, sharing and caring. If you would like to share some words of wisdom and scripture with these little ones, please contact Mrs. Wellman. Volunteering your time once a month, or once a quarter will really help keep this program alive and relevant.

Remembering Children's Sermons

by Barbara Sledge

Children were asked what Children's Sermon they remembered most. Here are their responses.

"You can find your own 'special places' to pray."

Nadia Weeks, Age 9

"If you continue to lie, when you get older, you will feel bad about the 'blanket of lies' you told when you were younger."

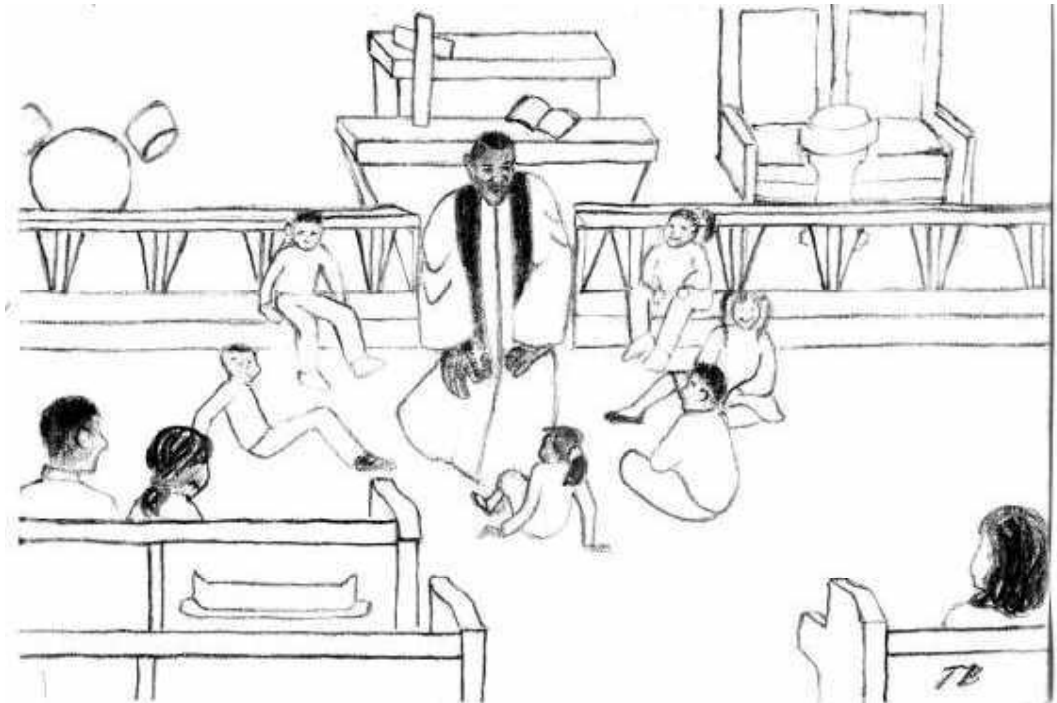
Jimmy Wyatt, Age 10

"You shouldn't prejudge people by the way they look, or by their handicap."

Jackie White, Age 12

"Your sanctuary...where you can talk to God any place."

Monique Campbell, Age 11



"Miracles are what God wants to happen for somebody. Magic is what somebody wants to do for fun."

Justin White, Age 9

Tiffany M. Byrd is a student at Henry Ford Community College and a member of Second Grace. She's 26 years old, and drawing is one of her hobbies.

"Find a quiet place at home to pray to God."

Samantha Kobbah, Age 9

"Lying—If you keep lying, it will prevent you from telling the truth forever."

Marie Wyatt, Age 12

"You should respect one another, and they should respect you back."

Benetta Thomas, Age 11

"...At Christmastime...when Jesus was born."

Nyoweh Holman, Age 10

The scene is of Rev. Boayue getting down on one knee during a Children's Sermon. Usually, 20-30 children participate every Sunday morning (8 A.M. & 11 A.M. Services.)

"When you make promises and don't do what you are supposed to do...I feel like I hurt God and the person that I promised."

Jane Morton, Age 12

The Value of Sunday School By Jacquelyn White & Justin White

Jacquelyn White, Age 12

The value of Sunday School to me is learning about our Lord and Savior. We hear new things every Sunday. One of my favorite Sunday School stories is about Jesus' first miracle.

There was a party going on and Jesus was there. The wine ran out at the party when they needed it the most. That was no problem, Jesus said, "Go bring me two jugs of water." They did so. After the servants brought the jugs, he gave thanks to God, and when the people tasted it, there was wine.

There are a lot of Sunday School lessons I can tell you about, but if you want to find out FOR YOURSELF, COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL.



Justin White, Age 9

The value of Sunday School is we learn about God's Word. We can help God's world. We praise God and help His world. When people sin, they disobey God. Some people sin a lot, but some don't sin at all. How many times do you think you've sinned?

Let me tell you a story about a bad person. His name was Satan. Satan was a bad angel, so they kicked him out. God is stopping Satan, but he keeps running away. How do you think God can stop Satan?

**Sunday School is held every Sunday morning at 10:00 A.M.
Superintendent—Mrs. Viola Barton**

Every Sunday, we have Sunday School at 10:00 A.M. In Sunday School, we learn different ideas every Sunday. If you like God, you should come to Sunday School. Sometimes, we have fun. We may even have parties down there. So come down to the basement and learn about God.



Jackie & Justin with mom & dad, Harold & Debra White

Children and Youth Ministries: The Charge and the Challenge (Continued from page 2)

In the near future, the Children's Sermon will be followed by Junior Church, a worship experience designed specifically for them. Please contact me if you would like to be part of this activity.

Rashidah Weeks has the responsibility of overseeing activities for the children between the ages of five and eleven. She has included children from the surrounding neighborhood in the children's Halloween and Christmas parties given in the Fellowship Hall. Her task is large because, to date, she has no committee. She has depended on the help of several volunteers. She is currently looking for people who will contribute time, energy and ideas towards helping her build a strong children's program.



Rosettus and Rashida Weeks & Family

Corey and Marci Oliver are the Coordinators of Youth Ministries. This dynamic husband and wife team, with no children

of their own, have committed themselves to working with our youth between the ages of twelve and eighteen.

They design their meetings and activities to address the spiritual as well as the social needs of their group. Meetings include Bible-based activities that related directly to the experiences of teens. Sadly, participation has faltered in recent months. Despite this fact, they continue



Corey & Marci Oliver

to reach out and to seek new ways to connect with the youth. They have planned a spaghetti dinner for teens and their parents on Friday, February 8, 2002 at 7:00 P.M. They want parents to join in partnership with them to encourage committed participation by our youth.

Any parent can attest to the difficulty of raising children, particularly in today's fast-paced, entertainment-driven society. But they can also attest to the joy of seeing a child mature into a responsible, committed, and faithful adult. The burden is made so much lighter when member of the



"village" share those nurturing tasks. Second Grace is indeed blessed with the opportunity to shape its future congregation in a loving and nurturing atmosphere. With talent and commitment, the leaders of Children and Youth Ministries have accepted the charge and the challenge to connect our young people to God from the cradle to the altar.



The Joy Singers, Second Grace UMC

A REGULAR PUBLICATION OF
SECOND GRACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Curtis Roberson, B.S., Minister of Music
Candace Kent, Director, Wesleyan Choir / Grace Chorale
James Miller, Percussionist
Rev. Arvin Burton, Minister of Lamentation
Charles Lewis, B.S., Chairman, Adult and
St. Terence Fike, M.D., Lay Leader
Ruth Leathers, M.A., Church Secretary

Worship: 8 and 11 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:30-10 A.M.

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Diabetes Screening at Second Grace (continued)

With early diagnosis, proper treatment and good control, the complications of diabetes can often be delayed or prevented.

Diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death by disease in the United States, contributing to the deaths of more than 193,000 Americans each year. Find out if you are at risk or have diabetes NOW.

Meal for the Homeless: 2002

Willia Miller, Chair, Missional Outreach Committee thanks all for the excellent support and participation for the MEAL FOR THE HOMELESS event. A sumptuous meal was prepared for 52 guests, who were also given a package of toiletries provided by the Missional Outreach Committee.

Virtually every work area in ministry at Second Grace was represented

Grace Chorale Serves Tea for Robes

Thank You

The Grace Chorale thanks all who helped to make the "Stay at Home Tea" a success.

Willia Miller, President

Our Church Family: Carolyn Jones

Second Grace became my church home when my family moved into the Joseph Tireman Community in 1959. Because my parents were raised Methodist, and the big gray stone church was within walking distance, it became the natural place for me to go on Sunday morning. I received my secular education from Detroit Public Schools, and my spiritual nurturing at the church on the corner of Tireman and Begole.

My formal education took me to Wayne State University, where I earned both a Bachelor and Masters degree. Education was natural career choice for me since I

love learning and helping others to learn. I taught Spanish and French to middle and high school students in Detroit for eighteen years. I am currently teaching at Levey Middle School in Southfield.

Blessings abound in my life through God's grace. I count among them my children, Karen, Kathryn and Jonathan; and my grandchildren, Andrea and Alexander. I share the gift of my voice with the Grace Cho-

rale. I employ my talent for nurturing children through my work as coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries for Second Grace. At Levy, I am also the sponsor of the Beta Club, a National Junior Honor Society, and co-sponsor of the Yearbook Committee. He has also allowed me to capture His wonders on film by granting me talent as a photographer, a gift I plan to use as my second career.



Mrs. Carolyn Jones