

# Grace Notes

Grace United Methodist Church Sullivan, Missouri

August 2008

## Steve's Scribbles

Many of our apportionments, most specifically those for *Africa University* and *World Service*, are monies that reach beyond the boundaries of the Missouri Annual Conference, and are a part of sharing God's love in many places around the globe.

However, there are some apportioned funds that stay right here in Missouri. One of those is the **Mission, Service & Justice Ministries Fund**. This fund supports a number of Conference Teams that help us as a conference to be the church in the world. It supports the *Global Connections Team*, which offers opportunities to support missions and missionaries. It also helps to fund the *Office of Creative Ministries* that does so many great things in response to natural disasters, as well as offering Volunteers In Mission Trips, and sponsoring the yearly Festival of Sharing. The *Mozambique Initiative* is also supported by this fund, as well as the *Social Justice Team*, which holds up before the conference issues of justice in which the church is involved, and the *Values Team*, which monitors Conference activities to make sure that we are holding fast to the values by which we have covenanted to be in ministry together.

Grace UMC's portion of the Service & Justice Ministries Fund is \$764.00. The Men's Sunday School class takes an offering each week, which they have designated for this Apportionment. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for their faithfulness, and for the difference that their offerings make.

And while we're at it, I'd like to thank you, too, for your faithful giving - not just to the apportionments, but to all the facets of the ministries of Grace. Our monthly mission focus always has great participation, and your funding and support of the SHARE ministry (**Sharing Hope And Resources Effectively**) has been overwhelming. One of the things that the Scriptures tell us is where and on what we spend our resources reveals those places where our hearts are connecting with the heart of God. Thank you so much for the steps you are taking toward a deeper, richer practice of stewardship that helps to serve a world in need!

Shalom,  
Pastor Steve

## Worship In August

Whew! Will we ever get a break in the weather? Well, probably not if it's August in Missouri! But worship in August at Grace is cool (in all the sense of that word!), and God's word is refreshing, especially as it comes to us through Paul's Letter to the Romans! If you are one of those who like to read ahead, here is a list of the Scripture passages that will shape our worship in August!

August 3 - Holy Communion  
Sunday  
Romans 5:1-8

August 10  
Romans 6:1-11

August 17  
Romans 6:12-13

August 24  
Romans 7:15-25

August 31 8:1-11

## Go Green to Save Some Greet!

Grace is going green and we need your help! The newly formed Green Team is researching ways to help conserve energy and become better stewards of our Earth. We are looking at projects big and small that we can put into action ASAP. Wouldn't it be wonderful for the church to spend less money on utility bills and have more to spend on the mission work that we, as a church, feel is vital to our discipleship? Help us to start now by doing simple things like making sure the lights get turned out when you leave a classroom; turning the thermostats up a few degrees instead of down (this is a church, not a meat locker, folks!); and how about making sure that the newsletter you are now reading gets put into the paper recycling bin on the parking lot of the church? Remember, Grace gets money for each ton of paper collected! Won't you help us out? GO GREEN!

Becky Woodcock

## Book Fair

It's coming! The Book Fair will be held Thursday, August 7 from 3pm to 8pm, and Friday and Saturday, August 8 and 9 from 9am to 2pm.

As usual, we have an amazing variety of books. Thank you for your contributions. This year we have received more music and movies than in past years. If you are not a reader, you may find a CD or VCR that you would enjoy.

Although the price of everything is increasing, our prices are the same. There is some variation depending on age, size and condition, but most hardback books are \$1.00 and paperbacks \$.50. You can find some real bargains.

Thank you for your contributions. You may bring items until August 6. Please call if you need pickup.

Alice Morris

## Are You Ready for a Moving Experience?

A *real* moving experience? The Center for Independent Living, with which Grace sometimes partners, has asked for some assistance in helping a woman who lives in St. Clair move to Union, where she will be better able to care for herself. She lives in a small apartment, and is almost blind, so she is really in need of some assistance! Those who can help are asked to meet at the church on Monday, August 25, at 8:30 AM. Bring any boxes you can spare, and come prepared to pack! Depending on the amount of help we have, we should be able to get the place packed in a day! Thanks for your support of this unique way of reaching out to share God's love!

## Military Prayer Requests

Doug Archambo, Texas  
Nathan Shelton, North Carolina  
Sean Stumpe, North Carolina  
Jake Rice, Afghanistan  
Michael Richards, Iraq  
William Burkhardt, Iraq

