



The Messenger

Newsletter of University Place Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Champaign, Illinois 61820-4503

August 2019

Volume 91 No. 7

Sympathy and Prayers

Our love and prayers go out to Grace Samford's family and Charles Casad's family.

Grace passed away at Willowbrook Memory Care Center on July 14. She was 96 years old. Grace loved her UniPlace friends, especially those from the Chime Choir. Grace was an honorary elder of the church, too.

Charles Casad passed away on July 17, 2019 at Champaign Urbana Nursing and Rehab Center. He was 92 years old. Charles was a deacon and an avid citizen-historian. He was active in the church since he was a very small child.

Both Grace and Charles continued driving themselves to church every Sunday well into their nineties. They will both be missed



Oh, and there was a butter chalice!

General Assembly 2019!

This was my first ever General Assembly and it was a transformative moment for me. I was able to meet with many young adults in our denomination learning what they love about going to church, the things they wish were more often incorporated during worship, and their hope for more leadership opportunities being available to them. I was able to hear them lament about the need for mentorship alongside their need for freedom within young adult ministry. I was able to hear them discuss how wonderful growing up as a Disciple has been for them plus how proud they are of our denomination.

I was also able to help at the Eureka College booth, where I met youth in the church who are thinking of applying to college in coming years. We discussed my experiences at Eureka as a student, my own faith journey, and what each student visited us was looking for when they attend college. I was also able to hear about all the amazing things that Eureka graduates, and almost graduates, are accomplishing within the denomination. They are working with the National Benevolent Association (NBA), Reach Beyond Mission, and the Peace Fellowship program. It's amazing to see!

I also attended worship, visited seminary booths, and learned about many other ministries in the church. Mostly, it became clear that although we are a small church family, we do such amazing works in the name of Disciples. Our ministry work is intergenerational, we are willing to take risks in ministry work and we find ways to lift each other up during all the moments of our lives. That is so special and I am thankful for it!
Jessi Delost

Join The Green Chalice Team!

Ask Pastor Kris for more information about working with others to make healthier decisions.

Musically Speaking

A truly beautiful myth is the story of Orpheus.

While various versions could stray from a classical understanding, in mainstream renditions (such as Vergil's), Orpheus could move, touch, unhardened man, beast and, we are told, stones, with the consoling delicacy of his musical gift alone.

We will schedule in service Christoph W. Gluck's *Dance of the Blessed Spirits*, inspired by Orpheus's quest to mollify the masters of the underworld into returning his beloved Eurydice. A haunting melody. Due to Orpheus's moment of weakness, Eurydice was lost, but the story - the quintessential melody - shall live forever.

Often in modern times - the blessings of which one enjoys, yet with limits one is not always aware of - one gets confused by incessant noises which pass for music. Unstructured, chaotic, aggressive jamming. Personal attention becomes a commodity rather than a communality. Various sources of spiritual disruption bring out not the meaningful rainbow of genuine diversity but a glorified lowest denominator.

We might think that music is merely a matter of entertainment. There is nothing wrong with being entertained, though in the words of Confucius (551-479 B. C.), "If one should desire to know whether a kingdom is well governed, if its morals are good or bad, the quality of its music will furnish the answer."

Musicians are so far from perfect (we know...). At best they can hope to convey ineffable sound colors that attempt to transcend the imperfections of the vessel.

"And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him." (2 Kings 3:15)

Samir

Disciple Women

In August, we will meet for lunch then begin our study in September. On Monday, Aug. 12, meet together for lunch at Original House of Pancake @ 11:00 am. All are invited to join us but let Elizabeth know if you can join us so we have plenty of room.

OPEN DOOR

FOOD PANTRY

Please bring packets of **snack crackers of peanut butter or cheese to be given out in lunches and bags of food.**

Do you Shop?

Help us by shopping at smile.Amazon (instead of the regular Amazon site), choose UniPlace as organization to donate to and .05% of your total purchases will be donated to UniPlace. How much easier can giving be? You may have to search for University Place Christian Church.

University Place Christian Church

403 S. Wright Street

Champaign, IL 61820-4503

Office Hours M-Th 9-3, F 9-11

217 352-5118

www.uniplace.org

First Sunday Lunch

Aug 4 We will be heading to Billy Barooz where Elizabeth says they have great salmon. Take Windsor Road to Staley and turn south. Then turn right at Village Office Place and drive until you see it on the right side. You can park in back. Join us for lunch and enjoyable conversation.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)

Upcoming Events in our Campus and Community Ministry!

The university semester starts in August, which means our campus and community work is going to pick up. Here are a few dates for the calendar and watch for sign-up sheets so you can help!

Aug. 25 Quad Day

Aug. 26 First day of classes at U. of I.

Sept. 11 First Community Dinner and Welcome Back Celebration

Sept. 28 CU Pride Day/Parade

August Worship Highlights

4 "Gleaming Idols" Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

11 "The City of God" Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

18 "Good Judgment" Luke 12:49-56

25 "It's the Right Time" Luke 13:10-17
(Back to School Celebration)



SERVING SCHEDULE



Aug 4

Liturgist-Kevin

Elders-Kevin, Renee

Hospital Calls-Jane

Flower Delivery-John H

Communion prep-Ed

Sound system- Jeremy

Aug 11

Liturgist-Marla

Elders-Eric, Jane

Hospital Calls-Ed

Flower Delivery- Cara

Communion prep-Fred F

Sound system-Fred C

Aug 18

Liturgist-Jim T.

Elders-Ed, Nancy

Hospital Calls-Elizabeth

Flower Delivery-Melony

Communion prep-Jessi

Sound system-Dorie

Aug 25 Family Sunday

Liturgist-Deb

Elders-Jeff, Dorie

Hospital Calls-Kay

Flower Delivery-Luz

Comm prep-Jennifer J

Sound system-Jeremy

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Reflections of Light

"You are so gifted!" How many times have we heard such an exclamation and then noticed the recipient of the compliment beaming? Whether adult or child, it is an uplifting thought to recognize that we have gifts that others notice and appreciate. Parents brag to one another about their "gifted" children. Students in special classes puff up a little bit to have been singled out for their areas of strength. Dancers and singers shine in the floodlights of a stage, painters and sculptors display the results of their visions wrought on canvas or in clay. These are not the only gifts, of course.

Every child of God is gifted. Even in ancient times, the Apostle Paul recognized that the world is slow to acknowledge the varieties of giftedness, focusing on a few strength areas while ignoring the many silent contributions to our shared life, each requiring their own abilities and knowledge. Too often we try to rank gifts in importance. Cultural biases can make us feel like our own gifts are less honored, less valuable than those of the CEO or a singer. Paul reminds us that our precious eyeballs are of little use in trying to do what a thumb does, elbows are not replaceable with ears, or vice versa. The Body of Christ needs a great diversity of gifts, each being used as it was created to be used, in order for the mission of Christ's reign on earth to succeed. **What are your gifts? Are they out of the box -- being used to God's glory?**

This fall at UniPlace we will be exploring the ways we can each contribute from our areas of strength in sharing the good news of the Gospel in our community. Join us in worship as we thank God for the abundance of gifts!