



## *The Messenger*

Grace United Methodist Church  
16 Hillcrest Drive  
Ravena, NY 12143  
(518) 756-6688

Email: [graceumcravena@statetel.com](mailto:graceumcravena@statetel.com)  
Website: [www.gumcravena.com](http://www.gumcravena.com)

*Rev. Kim Krause, Pastor*

***Working together to put our faith and love into practice.***

**Services are held at 9:30am - Parking Lot Grace FM-89.7,  
Temporary Sanctuary & Facebook**

***OCTOBER 2024***

### ***FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR***

Dear Family and Friends of Grace UMC,

We are officially in the fall season. Days are warm, but not too warm, and nights are cool. School and sports are in full swing. The leaves are beginning to change color, and we are reminded once again, that there is great beauty in this season. But we also know that this year, this season can be difficult. There is a lot of angst in our society, and we often forget who we are and whose we are when feelings are high and strong. We forget the words of Jesus, to do unto others as you would have them do unto you, and act and react in ways that betray who we really are – created in God’s image and beloved.

Adam Hamilton and the Church of the Resurrection has put together a campaign called *Do Unto Others* ([Kindness - Resurrection Church](#)), which also has a worship series of the same name, created by Worship Design Studio. As we remind ourselves about the Golden Rule, we will spend time relearning how the simple ideas of kindness, respect, love, humility and compassion, create real

change in our lives and in our world. Worship Design Studio introduces this series as follows:

*Just as water reflects the face, so one human heart reflects another. – Proverbs 27:19*

*Our world seems to be consumed with division—often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the "other side" politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. The "purple space" is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.*

I hope that we can find ways to continue to be people of grace as we walk together through this time. For those that like to write their reflections in a space or spend time reflecting on the theme for the week, WSD has created a journal which we will make available. Anyone interested in meeting as a small group to discuss questions or anything that comes up as we go through *Do Unto Others*, please let me know or just go ahead and find a group with whom you'd like to share.

In addition to our series, we still have work to do as we move forward with clearing out items from our church, utilizing the land behind the parsonage, and ideas for how to reach out to the community. Your input, ideas, and assistance in these areas are greatly appreciated and desired. You, the congregation, are Grace UMC! What you want it to be and what it will become is in your hands. Consider giving of yourself for the future of your church, Grace UMC, through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Let us continue to work together, to put our faith and love into action and practice!

Peace for the Journey  
Pastor Kim

**Charge Conference:** our annual meeting where new leadership and pastor's compensation are voted on, reports are accepted, will be held on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 9am, at North Chatham UMC. This is Columbus Day weekend as well as being on a Saturday during our Book Nook and Bargain Shed time. If you are able to attend, or if you are able to cover the Book Nook or Bargain Shed, please email us at [graceumcravea@statetel.com](mailto:graceumcravea@statetel.com).

**Sunday morning worship:** We will be taking a break from our Hymns to Begin Worship during October to reconsider its purpose, to determine if that purpose has been fulfilled and to determine if there might be a different way to use that time of music. Please feel free to send your thoughts to the office.



5 Blake & Christine Frazee  
9 Julianna Banahan  
9 Ken (Jake) Bliss  
12 Donna Newton

12 Rick & Kate Robertson  
18 Carissa Van Alstyne  
29 Sam Robertson

### ***Special Days in October***

World Communion Sunday — October 6, 2024  
Charge Conference - Oct.12-9am-North Chatham UMC  
Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday — October 13, 2024  
Columbus Day observed — October 14, 2024  
Indigenous Peoples Day — October 14, 2024  
Stories & Songs-October 26 – 1-2:30 pm  
Reformation Sunday — October 27, 2024  
Reformation Day — October 31, 2024

## **CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

As our congregation looks ahead with mixed feelings about the future of Grace UMC, there is one thing we are sure of...the power of prayer!

That's why we're asking our congregation, and the friends of Grace UMC, to set aside an hour or so to pray. We understand that it can be difficult to find a day and time that works for everyone so please give us a couple of options.

Please let Pastor Kim or myself know your options. With everyone's input, we'll do our best to schedule a day and time that works for most. Please know that we will also be offering a Zoom option for those who would like to participate from home.

Bringing our hopes and fears to the God, let us pray together. The Lord is eager to guide, comfort and support us. He simply asks that give voice to all the hopes and fears we hold in our hearts.

He listens.

He cares.

And He loves when His people pray.

"Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

Yours in Christ, Phyllis Shook



## World Communion Sunday



October 6, 2024 -World Communion Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration emphasizing the value of education and training. A day to celebrate the Christian practice of breaking bread together, and to recognize the Lord's Supper is celebrated in many different ways around the world.

A time to remember the unity in Christ, and to learn about different Christian traditions. Offerings are given to support scholarships and leadership development for students pursuing advanced degrees.

### [Help Us Move Forward](#)

 <p>GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RAVENA</p>	<p><b>RCS Community Needs Survey</b></p> <p>Tell us your needs. We want to help you.</p> <p>Return to Grace UMC/Book Nook/ Bargain Shed 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ravenna</p>
 <p>Take the survey online</p>	<p>Or pick up a copy at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grace UMC/Book Nook/Bargain Shed</li><li>• Check Back for More Locations</li></ul> 

### **RCS Community Needs Assessment**

As Grace UMC looks to the future, we'd like your help. The Leadership Council has developed a Community Needs Assessment survey for area residents. The assessment will be used to assist the church in better meeting local needs. Please take a minute to fill one out.

You can complete it online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C2YR338> or pick up a paper copy at our 9:30 Sunday service or the Book Nook/Bargain Shed when they're open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9 to Noon.

## GOFUNDME CAMPAIGN

 <p>GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RAVENA</p>	<p>\$52,000</p>  <p><b>Our Goal To Pay Off Roof Loan and Moving Expenses</b></p>
 <p><b>gofundme CHARITY</b></p> <p><u>Donate Online,</u> at the Book Nook/Bargain Shed, or by mail 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ravena 12143</p>	<p><b>No Donation is Too Small</b></p> <p><i>Thank you</i> </p> <p><b>And Bless You</b></p>

You all have some connection to or interest in Grace UMC, or you wouldn't be receiving this newsletter. We'd love you to remember that connection and fond memories and see if you have it in your heart to contribute to the church's GoFundMe campaign to pay off our old loan for defective roof repairs and moving expenses. We won't have discretionary power to use the proceeds from selling the church

building. (The Methodist Conference will).

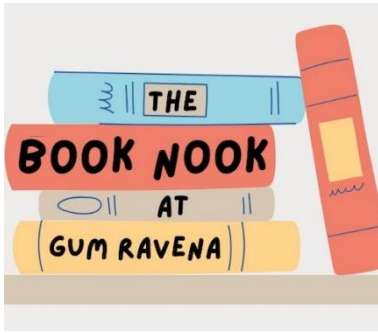
So, we're asking you to help us raise these funds so that we can move forward offering services and programs needed in our community while we share Jesus's word and love.

You can donate online at: <https://gofund.me/1b303812>, mail donations to the church, or drop them off at our 9:30 Sunday Service or at the Book Nook/Bargain Shed. Be sure to indicate that are for the GoFundMe Campaign.



### **BARGAIN SHED**

The Bargain Shed is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00am-Noon. Bargains Galore!!! The Bag Sale is still on! \$5.00/bag.



The Book Nook is open Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:00 am – Noon. Thanks to everyone who help us further our education mission.

Open 9 to Noon Tuesdays and Saturdays. Be sure to stop in and shop our deep discount room, where you can buy up to eight books for \$1--hard cover and paperback, novels

and nonfiction.

Along with our regular Friends Around the Table (Tuesdays 9 to Noon) and book hours Tuesdays and Saturdays 9 to Noon, there'll be ghostly happenings at the Book Nook this month for kids ages 1 to 8 (or so).

Bring your little ones for stories, musical activities, a craft, and snack. And tell your friends and neighbors.



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**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK**

If you are on Facebook, please join the Church page by liking us at Grace United Methodist Church, Ravena, NY. Find out what's happening each week, including meetings and special events. Or visit us on the web at: [www.gumcravena.com](http://www.gumcravena.com)