

**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
CONGREGATIONAL SELF- STUDY  
SUMMER, 2010**

**>>>DRAFT<<<**

**I HISTORY & DESCRIPTION**

- A. Brief History - Judi
- B. Staff Positions-
- C. People who oversee areas of service- Theresa
- D. Building and Grounds etc – Judi & Jim Ash
- E. Congregational Structure - Judi
- F. Connections to other organizations and associations - Judi

**II DEMOGRAPHY**

- A. Charts and Graphs of the past 20 years – Jim Ash
- B. Ages of participants – Jack Oakes
- \*\*C. Worshippers who participate in other activities – Chris Hosterman
- D. When current participants members got involved - Judi
- \*\*E. Receipts and Expenditures – Bill??
- \*\*F. Contributors of Record ( 3 sections ) - Bill

**COMMUNITY STUDY**

- A. Overview of the Area – Judi
- B. The Square Mile around Grace United Methodist Church - Judi

**BELIEFS & PRACTICES**

- A. Core values and basic beliefs
- B. Commitments and practices

**DOCUMENTS**

- A. Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws - ???
- B. Last 2 annual reports ( Charge Conference Booklets)
- C. Last 2 annual budgets and financial statements
- D. Sample bulletins and newsletters
- E. Visioning Document ( 2008 )

**SELF-STUDY QUESTIONS**

***( we will do at August Leadership Team Meeting )***

- A. Three greatest strengths, in priority order
- B. Three most significant weaknesses, in priority order
- C. Three needed changes, in priority order
- D. Do Leaders want significant growth?
- E. Are Leaders willing to make decisions required for change & growth ?
- F, Congregational conditions exercise

## I A -- HISTORY OF GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*(Note – some of this information is excerpted from Three Congregations, One Faith: The History of Grace United Methodist Church, written by Rev. Dan J. Smith, 2005)*

September 19, 1965 – Grace Methodist Church was formed. Its charter members were formerly members of Centre Hall Presbyterian, St. John's Evangelical United Brethren and Centre Hall Methodist Episcopal congregations.

The earliest recorded formation of any of these churches was the Presbyterian in 1841. The buildings of the congregations that joined to form Grace were built as follows-

- 1875 – Centre Hall Methodist Episcopal Church built (Church Street)
- 1888 – Centre Hall Presbyterian Church built ( 127 South Pennsylvania Avenue)
- 1907 – St. John's Evangelical United Evangelical Church built.( 202 North Pennsylvania Avenue)

The Methodist roots of the congregations include being part of several different circuits/ clusters

From 1855- 1873 it was part of the Boalsburg Circuit. In 1873 it became part of the Centre Hall Circuit which included Centre Hall, Lemont, Linden Hall, Egg Hill, Tusseyville, ( Zion Hill) and Egg Hill.

By 1928 there were 9 stations: Centre Hall, Lemont, Linden Hall, Egg Hill, Tusseyville, Green Grove, Locust Grove, Bethesda and Spring Mills. Within a year, Green Grove, Locust Grove and Egg Hill were discontinued. Lemont Church detached in 1957. In 1962 – Locust Grove, Bethesda and Spring Mills united to form Faith Church in Spring Mills.

Currently Grace United Methodist Church is part of the Penns Valley Cluster. It includes all the UM churches within the Penns Valley School District. These are:

- Madisonburg Charge (Madisonburg & Rebersburg Churches) – served by Julia Piper, who graduated from seminary this spring.
- Millheim Charge ( St. Luke's in Millheim, St. James in Coburn, and Trinity in Woodward) served by Pastor Cass Harbach, a local pastor
- Penns Valley Charge ( Faith in Spring Mills, Sprucetown, and Tusseyville) served part-time by Rev. Jeff Mugridge, an elder.
- Grace United Methodist Church in Centre Hall, served by Rev. Judi Hulslander, an elder, who is also cluster leader

*>>>>I need info here about “events which contributed to periods of growth or decline in the number of people participating.”*

*Any wording anyone would like to add would be welcomed! - Pastor Judi*

**I B STAFF POSITIONS –  
PAST 20 YEARS!!**

**Pastors serving Grace United Methodist Church**

1965 - 1967 – Rev. Robert Gehlbach

1967 - 1975 – Rev. Wayne Hogue

1975 - 1986 – Rev. Doyle Klinger

1986 - 1989 – Rev. John Kurtz

1989 - 1995 – Rev. Dennis R. Keller

A.B. Lebanon Valley College 1979, M. Div. United Theological Seminary 1982,  
D. Min Lancaster Seminary 1991.

Left when appointed to Hanover First UMC.

1995 - 2002 – Rev. John Betlyon

A. B. Bucknell 1971, STM Harvard 1973, PhD 1978.

Left when appointed to Hummelstown Trinity in 2003.

2003 - 2007 – Rev. Dan J. Smith

A.S. Indiana University 1990, B.S. 1991, M Div. Methodist Theological  
Seminary 1995.

Left the denomination. Became a UCC pastor.

2007 - -- Rev. Judith P. Hulslander

BS Mansfield University 1969, M Ed 1975, MDiv Colgate Rochester Divinity  
School 1997.

Plans to stay until retirement planned for 2013 or 2014.

**>>>>I have no record of the dates of tenure for anyone else except as listed.  
And why did they leave?? Who can help??<<< Anyone else we would call staff??**

***And, what do we do about the Playschool??***

**Secretaries ( paid )-**

Cherie Stitzer –

Janet Coleman –

Marcie Lynch – temporary in 2007

Tammie Shuey – since December 2007

**Custodians ( paid )**

Brad Gensimore since??

Before that??

**Musicians ( paid )**

Judy Gentzel ( pianist )

Aimee Hockenbury ( organist )

Previously – Julie Peterson

### **Musicians ( unpaid )**

Mark Kay Heiser – Grace Choir Director - since??

Theresa Heiser – Sunshine Choir Director – since??

Brian Judy – leader of Glorified (Praise Band ) since ??

### **I D – Building and Grounds**

1974 – addition built – which includes the current offices, library, 2 classrooms and restrooms.

1995 – addition built – two stories – lower floor includes kitchen, Ash Fellowship Hall, youth classroom, storage areas and restrooms. The upper floor includes six classrooms, restrooms. An elevator provides access to the lower floor.

***When did we buy the “parking lot” ?? Was that the Henry House?? And when demolished. Also, when was the current parsonage purchased??***

***How much acreage here, and at the parsonage?***

***How large is the building?***

***Square footage of the parsonage?***

***How many parking spaces in the lot next to the church?? The other one??***

### **II C Worshippers who participate in other activities**

Chris Hosterman has estimated during several worship services. The figure he comes up with is 50%.

**II E. Receipts and Expenditures –**

**II F Contributors of Record ( 3 sections ) - Bill**

II F

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
MATHEW 28 - FINANCIAL REPORT  
ANALYSIS OF THE \$165,570.72 CONTRIBUTORS' GIVING

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE TOP TEN CONTRIBUTORS OF RECORD IN THE LAST FISCAL YEAR (2009). THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL GIVING REPRESENTS IN RELATION TO TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS. ALSO, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CONTRIBUTIONS REPRESENT THE TOTAL GIVING - BOTH TO THE OPERATING BUDGET AND FOR DESIGNATED ITEMS.

CONTRIBUTIONS - YEAR

1	\$16,029.00
2	\$9,756.00
3	\$8,189.95
4	\$6,025.00
5	\$5,174.50
6	\$5,160.00
7	\$4,513.95
8	\$4,470.92
9	\$4,206.95
10	\$3,972.00

TOP TEN TOTAL	\$67,498.27	PERCENT OF TOTAL GIVING	40.77%
---------------	-------------	-------------------------	--------

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE SECOND TEN CONTRIBUTORS OF RECORD IN THE LAST YEAR (2009). THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL GIVING REPRESENTS IN RELATION TO TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS. ALSO, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CONTRIBUTIONS REPRESENT THE TOTAL GIVING - BOTH TO THE OPERATING BUDGET AND FOR DESIGNATED ITEMS.

CONTRIBUTIONS - YEAR

11	\$3,866.00
12	\$3,710.00
13	\$3,436.00
14	\$3,371.00
15	\$3,273.00
16	\$3,246.00
17	\$3,195.00
18	\$3,120.00
19	\$2,876.00
20	\$2,670.00

2ND TEN TOTAL	\$32,763.00	PERCENT OF TOTAL GIVING	19.79%
---------------	-------------	-------------------------	--------

GRAND TOTAL	\$100,261.27	PERCENT OF TOTAL GIVING	60.55%
-------------	--------------	-------------------------	--------

THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 95 CONTRIBUTORS DURING THE LAST FISCAL YEAR (2009).

THE AVERAGE AMOUNT PER CONTRIBUTOR DURING THE LAST FISCAL YEAR WAS \$1,742.85

## I E Congregational Structure

As United Methodists, we are connectional, part of the Penns Valley Cluster, State College District, Susquehanna Conference, Northeast Jurisdiction, and the general church. We operate within the parameters of the United Methodist Book of Discipline.

Two years ago we adopted a new administrative structure, consisting of a Leadership Team, Mission Teams, and the Committees required by the Book of Discipline.

The Leadership Team consists of its elected officers, Team Leaders, Representatives of Mission Teams