

The MESSENGER

September 2021

Christ Church Quaker Farms



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GRACE IS GREATER IS THE MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Is Grace greater than adultery?
Is Grace greater than estrangement?
Is Grace greater than our fears?
Is Grace greater than failure?
Is Grace greater than weakness?

Of course it is. Grace is of God and God is greater than all adversity. But that is a message we need to hear straight from the lips of God during such adversity.

By intentionally discovering God's word, we begin to see more and more applications to our life and those of others.

This is what our Small Groups studies will be based upon in September. Our Small Groups will meet for 5 weeks, reading the book and discussing the videos "Grace is Greater" by Kyle Idelman.

"One author writes" in Grace is Greater bestselling author and pastor Kyle Idelman leads us past our hang ups toward an understanding of grace, which is bigger than any mistakes, our failures, our desire for revenge, and seemingly impossible situations.

Through powerful stories of grace experience, this study will help you truly grasp God's grace...even if Christians around you have failed to live it.

See the Registration Cards for small group dates, times, etc. Come let God shower you with His grace and healing.

The MESSENGER

September 2021

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

 HOMECOMING 
Sunday, September 19

Please join us to TAILGATE as we Kickoff a new Sunday School Year. Exciting things are happening at CCQF! We are looking forward to worshipping together as a family, and having our children enjoy our wonderful Sunday School program with their friends as they continue on their spiritual journeys.

Following the 10 am service we will Tailgate outside enjoying fellowship, wings, chili, grinders, hot dogs and hamburgers, and desserts.

We will be hosting a Corn Hole Tournament. Corn Hole is a “tossing game” that is easy to master. So rest up your arm and find a tossing partner. Trophies will be awarded in the kids and adult categories.

There will be an Activity Table set up with crafts, bubbles, coloring, and assorted activities.

We are in need of additional Corn Hole boards. Please contact Dave Stepeck or Kathie Osborn for additional information or if you would like to help.

You don't need to sign up or bring anything other than your enthusiasm for coming together to worship and Kickoff a new season! (And a lawn chair if you have one).

In case of rain the festivities will continue indoors.

We are looking forward to reconnecting with our family, and welcoming new members!!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Starting on September 19th at 10:00 we will be welcoming our children back to Sunday School.

Children grades Preschool – 5th grade **will begin church with their parents in church.** Jackie McDonnell will guide the children into their classroom during the hymn of praise following the collect.

Middle schoolers will meet at 10:00 in the parish hall with Molly Turchuk.

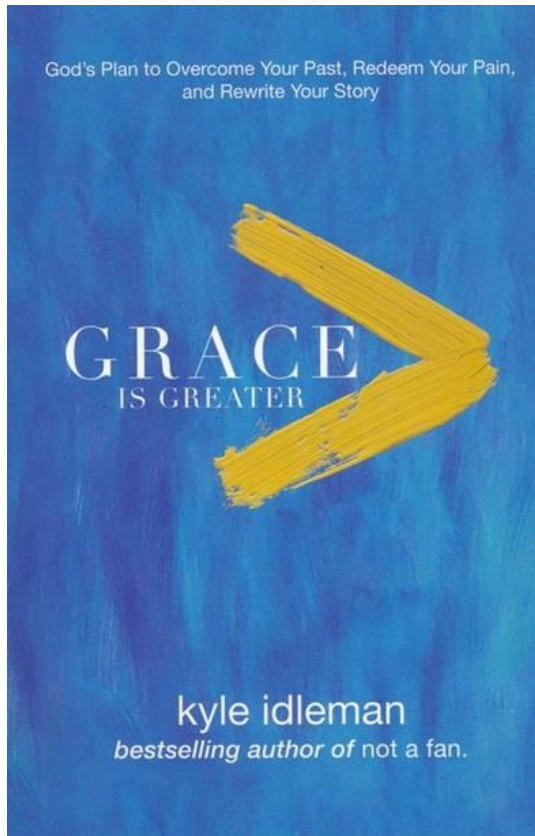
High school students will meet with Don Peck in the youth room.

We will all meet back in the church sanctuary just prior to communion.

The MESSENGER

September 2021

NEW SERMON SERIES begins in
SEPTEMBER by Fr. John



Accompanying our Fall 2021 Small Group program will be a sermon series on "Grace is greater than Guilt...greater than weakness...greater than your Wounds...and greater than your Brokenness."

Although I personally will only rarely preach someone else's sermons, which I acknowledge at the time, this series is so brilliant that I want to share it with our whole congregation. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Sundays, 8 & 10 am

Sept. 26 GRACE IS GREATER THAN
YOUR GUIL

Oct. 10 GRACE IS GREATER THAN
YOUR WEAKNESS

Oct. 17 GRACE IS GREATER THAN
YOUR WOUNDS

Oct. 24 GRACE IS GREATER THAN
YOUR BROKENNESS

The MESSENGER

September 2021

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Calling all high schoolers (and their parents) interested in Youth Confirmation

Classes!!! Classes will begin in October. Confirmation is where a teen or adult makes a mature affirmation before a bishop by affirming faith in Jesus Christ through the confirmation liturgy. In this service, the young person accepts responsibility for the vows made by his/her parents at his/her baptism.



Interested parents should meet on Sunday, Sept. 26, following the 10am service, so that we can receive your input as we make plans.

Fr. John is the teacher, accompanied by Jackie McDonnell and other resource people.

To indicate interest or to learn more, Email Fr. John at ccqf@att.net before Sept. 12, and at fjccqf@gmail.com beginning Sept. 13

ECW

All women in the parish are invited to join us at the next ECW meeting on Tuesday, September 21. We will meet in the office at 6:30. Light refreshments will be served. We will be discussing an outreach for a parish family, Mac and Cheese month, and setting a schedule for our Cookie Walk workshops.

We would love to have you attend the meeting. All women of the CCQF family are members. Hope to see you there!

A huge thank you to everyone who participated to provide another lovely meal for the residents at the Spooner House in Shelton. Special thanks to Laura Burr for delivering the meal.

The shelter is especially appreciative of our outreach, because many organizations are no longer providing meals on a monthly basis. We haven't missed a meal in over two years! We have a very giving family!!

The next dinner will be Monday, October 4. The signup sheet is to the right of the door in the Parish Hall. If your family or group is interested in hosting a meal, please let me know. You are met at the door to drop the food off. It is a lovely experience to deliver the meal.

Please keep the residents and the staff in your prayers. We look forward to the day we can welcome the residents to CCQF to share the meal, and enjoy the fellowship of serving together.

A WORD FROM THE SR. WARDEN--Jackie McDonnell

This month our vestry has been busy, gathering three separate times to address the current business of our church, praying about the future of our church, and getting to know one another through serving together.

The MESSENGER

September 2021

At our last meeting we voted in two more vestry members, Mike Evancho and Carl Delattre. Thank you for joining us. It has been my pleasure to work alongside each of you, and I look forward to continuing that work with you on the vestry.

Our vestry showed God's love in our community by making lunches and worshipping at the Chapel on the Green. Spending time with the members of the community in New Haven in this way always makes the day a little brighter. The joy God places in our hearts when taking care of His people is like no other.

We had our annual vestry retreat, hosted by Dave and Carrie Stepek (thank you for your wonderful hospitality). We reviewed our Core Values of CCQF which should always drive our vision of the church.

OUR CORE VALUES

1. Jesus is the head of the Christ Church Quaker Farms
2. We value Jesus's unconditional love for us and strive to love one another this way.
3. We are inspired by the word of God.
4. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit.
5. We value Spirit inspired worship
6. We are part of the one, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic church.

At the retreat we also spent time in prayer asking God for guidance so that our work on the church moves in a direction that will Glorify Him. We did this by spending time in silence and listening to His message by journaling or writing down the thoughts that God put in our minds and on our hearts. Some of these messages that we discussed were:

- Love your neighbors. ~ Support each other. ~ No room for biases or judgement in our church family.
- Be extremely present with all who enter our doors so that we will recognize needs.
- Trust in His timing.
- Use the wisdom found in the Bible to guide us. Use God's word to settle issues.
- We see growth.
- Plan opportunities for fellowship outside of Sunday mornings.
- Respect the decisions made by the vestry.
- Ensure we are always a loving community and offer a loving place to worship.
- The Holy Spirit IS active at CCQF.
- Jesus heals physical, emotional and spiritual wounds.

This vestry is so enthusiastic and we are excited for the work we can do for the church and for Him. I feel blessed to be working with such a committed group of leaders and I look forward to all the things we will be able to accomplish together.

There are many things happening behind the scenes in order for our church to have events such as the Fall Homecoming, Shelter dinners, Sunday School, Youth Group, funerals and repasses. I send my sincere thank you to all who help make things happen at our church as it allows us to love one another as Jesus commands us.

Standing on the promises,

Jackie McDonnell

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The MESSENGER

September 2021

YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP

On September 19th at the 10:00 service our Mission Trip advisors will present a slide show from the 2021 Mission Trip. Come and learn about this annual event as well as information for future trips. **If there is enough interest we will be hosting a trip for middle schoolers next year also.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 5: 9:00 am Prayer service.

September 6: Spooner House dinner

Please have food donations at church at 4:45.

September 7, 14, 21, 28: Youth Group

Meets every Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:15 pm.

All middle schoolers and High Schoolers and their friends are welcome for fun, games, fellowship and prayer.

September 9, 16, 23, 30: Choir Practice

Choir meets every Thursday night at 7:00 to practice at Laura Webb's house.

Please call or text 203-521-8600.

September 7 & 14: Work session 6:00-8:00

Join us to continue cleaning our church building to build a comfortable place to worship and for fellowship.

September 12: Church resumes to 8:00 and 10:00.

Prayer service led by Bob Knapp with a sermon by Jackie McDonnell.

September 15: 7:00 Vestry Meeting

September 19: 8:00 Holy Eucharist with Father John.

10:00 Holy Eucharist, first day of Sunday School, Additional music provided by Laura Webb and Keith Rowland.

Tailgate celebration in the parking lot with games and food following the church service.

September 21: 6:30_ECW meeting. All women of the church of invited. Great fellowship and planning for upcoming outreach and church events.

September 26: 8:00 Holy Eucharist

10:00 Holy Eucharist. Sunday School. Coffee hour following the service.

October 3: CCQF provides dinner for the residents of the Spooner House.