

GRACE NOTES - July 2021

PANAMA UMC

Rev. Steven M. Taylor,
Lead Pastor



From Pastor Steve's Desk...

Annotation of a Creed *The Incarnation of Jesus Christ*

(This is part of a continuing series about the truth claims of the Apostles' Creed [ACJ])

Last month, we looked at our understanding of Jesus the Son of God. This month, we look at the third statement in the Apostles' Creed: *[Jesus] who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary...*

The ultimate divine interaction of God with humans came in the form of the Son, Jesus Christ. This was accomplished through the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit, who so filled a human female, that she became pregnant with the intercourse of a man. This truth claim affirms that Jesus was born as an infant to a human mother named Mary, who was preparing to marry a man named Joseph. Mary and Joseph had not yet consummated their marriage, and so she was a virgin. The fact that she was a virgin is important to Christian theology because without it, Jesus' divine nature may be questioned.

John 1:14 says; *"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."*

God's plan was for Jesus to come to earth, to live among us, to show us his nature and examples, to teach and guide, to reveal God's final plan of salvation, to inform us of the Holy Spirit, and to die on the cross to redeem all God's children's sin. The incarnation of Jesus is about God showing undying love for us by sending a Savior as a liaison between us and God through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

In response to God's love and desire to be in relationship with us, God sent Jesus Christ into the world as an infant, putting a plan into motion. God took on human nature, becoming fully human, yet staying fully God. Jesus Christ was both divine and human, existing with us, as one of us. As a human, Jesus would have all the frailties and temptations as we do, but because he was divine and followed perfectly the will of God the Father, he was without sin.

Jesus Christ became one of us. He did not become *like* a human for our sake, he *became* human for our sake. At the same time, he remained fully divine. This mystery may be one of the hardest things for us to understand, but think of a campfire. Each piece of fire is still fire anywhere in the campfire. A piece may be separated from the campfire, but it is still fire, yet with a different nature than the campfire. Jesus willingly broke away from the campfire to become human, retaining the qualities of the campfire (God) at the same time.

Don't forget to be in awe of the fact that Jesus Christ would humble himself for YOU(!) - for your sin, for God's glory, and for the love that we share as a church, a family, and a community. In addition, God's act of grace through Jesus Christ calls you to respond. The church can pray for you, serve you, and uplift you, but your response to the incarnation of Jesus Christ must be more than taking from the church - it must be **action**. Serve in a ministry this year - it's the path to glorifying God for Jesus Christ.

PUMC Mission Statement

We seek to love the Lord God by introducing people to His Son, Jesus Christ,
and helping this relationship grow.

You did it!
Congratulations

SPECIAL GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021!

Caleb Anderson - from PCS (689 Panama-Bear Lake Rd., Panama)

Joshua Anderson - from JCC; Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology
(689 Panama-Bear Lake Rd., Panama)

Josh Cable - from Homeschool (6816 Eggleston Hill Rd., Sherman)

Corinne Edwards - from Daemen College; next year to work with the Buffalo Bills as a
Sports Therapist Intern (3606 Nutt Rd., Jamestown)

Hialeah Johnson - from PCS (40 North St., Panama)

Cole Munson - from Brockport College; now in graduate school (chiropractor)
(41 Stevenson St., Seneca Falls, NY 13148)

Jackson Pearson - from PCS (21 Wesleyan St., Panama)

Mitchell Einink - from Pharmacy School (50 South St., Panama)

Erin Manning - from PCS (2064 Gesaman Rd., Ashville)

A look into July.....

July 4 - Communion; 10:15am

July 10 - Men's Breakfast; 8-9:30am

July 18-22 - Vacation Bible School (VBS); 6-8pm

July 21 - LUNCH BUNCH; 11:45am

**Please check the JULY calendar at the end of this newsletter
to find regular monthly meeting reminders and
additional "happenings" at PUMC.**



We are so excited to be supporting over 20 children as they go to summer camp this summer. Summer camp truly can be a life changing, spirit filled, best week of the entire summer. You never know who you might meet at summer camp that will change your life forever. (For example...Stacy and Steve met each other and felt called to ministry at Summer camp!)

Pastor Steve, Stacy and Jessica Nelson will be helping at Royal Family Kids Camp in August. This is a very special camp which our church supports prayerfully and financially. We are excited to be helping again this year. Please continue to pray for all Christian Camps and their staff this summer, as they adjust to new regulations, invite children into their space and share Jesus with their campers.

Thank you to those in Camping Ministry!

MISSIONS TEAM CHICKEN BBQ FUNDRAISERTOTAL success.....

Thanks to YOU and to the community at large, dinners sold out in no time.

We were very sorry to have had to turn people away. The end result? A total of \$2500 was raised for MISSIONS!

There has already been chatter about doing another BBQ. Watch for upcoming details!

NURSERY SCHEDULE JULY 2021

July 4 - Lilly Odell; Stacy Taylor

July 11 - Summer Wolcott; Larissa Enlow

July 18 - Brenda Ireland; Megan Reynolds

July 25 - Lilly Odell; Betsy Eggleston

VBS...COMING SOON.....

Rocky Railway:
Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!
will be held at Panama UMC on July 18 - 22 from 6pm to 8pm. We are excited to be hosting VBS at church again this year. It will be a fun time filled with Bible stories, games, snacks, crafts, imagination and music!! Children ages pre-K through 6th grade are welcome and older kids are encouraged to volunteer.

Donations are always welcome to help defray our costs.

We look forward to welcoming our community to our Panama Church.

CONNECTIONS

We had a great year at Connections - and are looking forward to a little break for summer vacation. Starting in the Fall, the cost per child is increasing to \$8.00 per child per day. If you know of any Kindergarten through sixth grade student(s) who need after school care, please send them to our website, panamaumc.org for the registration form or call the church office.

Thank you to everyone who provided snacks (and we'll be thankful for more in September!). Thank you to our Connections team for great work this year and especially to our facilitators Sandy Crossley, Joan Monroy and Tara Hosier for adapting, leading and providing a wonderful ministry for our community children.

JUST ONE 4 OTHERS

We are continuing with this ministry for 2021. Each month we are encouraging you to purchase "ONE" of the items listed above. These will be offered to our Food Pantry, PCS, Love INC, and Jamestown Missions.

Questions? See Jody, our Parish Nurse.

**The JULY item of the month is
Hand Soap**

**Come and check out the
LUNCH BUNCH
Wednesday, July 21st
11:45am**

**Blood pressures and sugars will be offered
the 1st Sunday of every month
in the Parish Nurse's office.
Use the double doors near the coat room
and go down the hall past the elevator.**

CONNECTIONS

**We have wrapped up yet another
fabulous year at Connections!
Thank you to our terrific staff which
includes Sandy Crossley,
Joan Monroy and Tara Hosier.
Thank you, as well,
to the leadership of the
Connections Support Team.**

See you in the Fall!



Growing people in Christ.

STRONGER.....TOGETHER.....IN PRAYER!

SUMMER WORSHIP and COFFEE IN THE CAFÉ

As a child, I think we probably all folded our
hands, fingers entwined "inside out"
and recited the following:

Here is the church,

Here is the steeple,

Open the doors,

And see all the people!

ENTER 2021...

We have a (new) church building...
We have a steeple (well, ok...it's a bell tower)
We have opened the doors
(COVID restrictions have been lifted)
And we can see the happy, unmasked
Smiling faces of all the people!

**HOPE TO CONTINUE SEEING those
happy faces all summer! !**

**COFFEE time will continue throughout the
summer with some potential "tweaking"
of the time. For now, coffee will be ready and
available starting between 8:30 and 8:45
and continuing until 10:15.**

**Prayer time will be in the
Conference Room beginning at 8:45am.**

CLOTHING SHED

We ask that you spread the word **about**
the St. Pauly's Clothing Collection Shed
found in the corner of the East Main
Street parking lot.

Proceeds from the clothing shed assist
the Missions Team in their many pro-
jects, locally and around the world.

Thank you for your support,
and please feel free to
reach out to us at any time.

JULY Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3 Richard Edwards, Marilyn Storms
- 4 Jamie Ireland
- 7 Jody Marsh, Dick Nagel, Wyatt Braun
Jamie/Katie Ireland
- 10 Zadok Hughesman
- 11 **Steve/Jamie Halpainy**
- 13 Jackson Scolton
- 14 **Ed/Barb Trisket, Ray/Cindy Cartwright,**
Joe/Kelly Osborne
- 15 Rachel Anderson, Carrie Edwards,
Kayo Auge
- 16 Cameryn Eggleston, Bob Johnson,
Bill/Heather Schneider
- 17 Tory Irgang, **Daniel/Anna Cartwright**
- 18 Connie Middleton, Dan Landin,
Dan McGaffick
- 19 Shawn Schnars
- 20 McKenna Kolstee
- 23 Jen Feliciano
- 24 Graham Miller
- 28 **Richard/Joyce Edwards**
- 30 **Andrew/Wende Lescynski**, Lisa Miles,
Ashley Dempsey
- 31 Julie Nagel, **Jonathan/Jennifer Anderson**

A Look into August.....

- 1 **Dan/Stephanie Landin**
- 2 Jenna Rappold, Bryce Hinsdale,
Earl/Kathy Foulk
- 4 Ray Cartwright, Harrison Osborne
- 6 **Rex/Jody Marsh**
- 7 Tabettha Butler

WHITE GIFT FUND

Are you aware of a community need?
We have a White Gift Fund with avail-
able ministry dollars. If you know of
anyone with a need,
please talk to Pastor Steve

The Meal Preparation Committee

The Meal Preparation Committee is a service of the Food Security Team. Charged with providing meals to those recovering from a serious illness, surgery, injury or any need where a meal will help in the time of stress and medical decisions.

Anyone who knows of a family who will benefit from the receipt of a meal will refer the family to Pastor Steve or Jody Marsh, the Parish Nurse. When the Pastor or Parish Nurse is made aware of needs, they will refer the family to the Meal Preparation Committee. The Pastor and Nurse will confirm with the family that a meal will be accepted and will include any information regarding the number of people in the family and any food sensitivities. The referral will then be forwarded to the Meal Preparation Committee chairman.

The Meal Preparation Committee will:

1. Solicit and maintain a list of people who are will to prepare and deliver meals.
2. Accept referrals from the Pastor or Church Nurse.
3. Determine who will contact individuals to prepare/deliver the meal when needed,
4. Provide the person delivering the meal with contact information so they can arrange a convenient delivery time.
5. Promote ministry through Grace Notes and the church bulletin.

If you are willing to prepare a meal for a family, please contact Kathy Foulk at 716-499-6437 or via email at cleaning.granny@gmail.com.

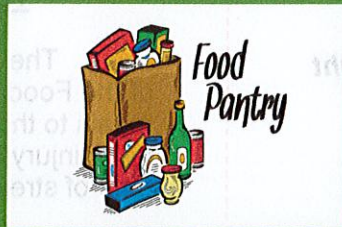
You will be blessed!

Welcome to the PUMC Family...



Congratulations and best wishes to Devin and Lisa Ireland on the birth of their second daughter, Raegan Jade, on June 17, 2021. Raegan weighed 9lbs, 9 oz and was 21 inches long. Lyla Jean is already the best big sister!! Grandparents are Jeff and Brenda Ireland and Tim and Mary Matteson. Great grandparents are Jean Edwards, Carol Wayne and Boyd and Mary Lou Matteson.

We congratulate you on the birth of this precious little one as she grows in the love of Christ.



**Monday Morning: 9-10am
Monday Evening: 6-7pm
Thursday Evening: 5-7pm**

Questions? See Tina Swineford

My Longhouse

Submitted by Carol Hay

Over the years, I've had classes where we studied how the brain works, I've listened to lectures at Chautauqua Institution and podcasts from NPR and I've read articles about the brain.

At one point, I was interested in a concept called compartmentalization. The theory was you can put separate problems or experiences into compartments in your brain so you deal with one thing at a time while other issues reside in their own compartments waiting for their time to be considered. I even remember someone commenting to me that I must be able to compartmentalize well as I dealt with work issues while family members were involved in a natural disaster.

I have no training in the science of the brain. I do have life experiences and recently decided compartmentalization doesn't happen, or maybe, shouldn't happen. People, events, words, actions - all come into our lives and blend together to make us who we are and determine our reaction in a given situation.

Remember studying native cultures and learning about longhouses - where families live in one big room? I'm thinking our brains are longhouses. We bring people and experiences into our longhouse and the mix is why we make the decisions we make, do the things we do, and believe the way we choose to believe. We don't make a decision in isolation, but we use what we've learned and experienced to inform our choices.

What we need to be careful of is who and what we allow into our "longhouse". Allowing toxic people in our lives may poison other relationships. Listening to music that degrades women allows those words into our longhouse. Watching inappropriate or violent videos puts those images into a longhouse without compartments. Negative influences can impact the people around us and the decisions we make in all areas of our lives.

Filling our longhouse with the teachings from the Bible, positive role models and music with messages of God's love can only help us make good decisions. As people and experiences accumulate in our longhouses, they mix together, giving us a blend that shapes our thoughts and directs our actions. We remember what we love, focus on the positive and move forward knowing that our longhouse holds valuable support for living a good life.

Compartments are great for sorting nuts, bolts, nails, washers, and for fabric storage. But I think our brains are longhouses with people, experiences and knowledge co-existing to provide the way to make good decisions while storing wonderful memories.

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION GRADUATES!</p> <p>8:15 AM Prayer Meeting (Conference Room) 9:00 AM Sunday School for Pre-K (age 4) - adults (Last Sunday School until Sept) 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! at PUMC and via Livestream and Facebook 11:30 AM Hugs SS Class Picnic at Anderson's (if raining, meet in Community Room)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM VBS Team Meeting (Community Room?) 7:00 PM Sunday School Meeting (Community Room)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group (Gallery) 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group via zoom</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:00 AM Sally Haag to be here to prepare Harmony lunch 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 PM CHAT Care Group Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Communion Sunday 8:15 AM Prayer Meeting (Conference Room) 8:45 AM - 10:00 AM Family Sunday School (Community Room) 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! at PUMC and via Livestream and Facebook 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Youth (Community Room)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM VBS Team Meeting (Community Room?) 7:00 PM Sunday School Meeting (Community Room)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group (Gallery) 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group via zoom</p>	<p>7</p> <p>TRUSTEES 1:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Trustee Team Meeting (Community Room)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>MISSIONS Stewardship 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM Missions Team Meeting (Community Room) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Stewardship Team Meeting via Microsoft Team online</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>MEN'S DAY 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Men's Breakfast 11:00 AM Kate Ewer Bridal Shower hosted by Nicole Ewer</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:15 AM Prayer Meeting (Conference Room) 9:00 AM Sunday School for Pre-K (age 4) - adults 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! at PUMC and via Livestream and Facebook</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group via zoom</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Winodausis - PCS Reunion for girls 50 and over (Ellen Coffaro) 1:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 AM - 4:00 PM Birthday Party (Alison Halpainy Grobe)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>VBS 2021! 8:15 AM Prayer Meeting (Conference Room) 9:00 AM Sunday School for Pre-K (age 4) - adults 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! at PUMC and via Livestream and Facebook 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Youth (Community Room)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>VBS 2021! 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>20</p> <p>VBS 2021! 7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group via zoom</p>	<p>21</p> <p>LUNCH BUNCH VBS 2021! 11:45 AM Lunch Bunch 1:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>VBS 2021! 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Kingdom Bound 2024 8:15 AM Prayer Meeting (Conference Room) 9:00 AM Sunday School for Pre-K (age 4) - adults 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! at PUMC and via Livestream and Facebook</p>	<p>26</p> <p>FEED THE HUNGRY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Kingdom Bound 2024 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM VBS Team Meeting (Community Room) 7:00 PM Sunday School Meeting (Community Room)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Kingdom Bound 2024 7:00 PM Worship Team Meeting (Community Room)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Kingdom Bound 2024 1:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Conference Room) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>