

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
500 BUSINESS 23 W
PAYNESVILLE, MN 56362



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

2019

PERMIT #2
NON PROFIT ORG.
PAYNESVILLE, MN 56362



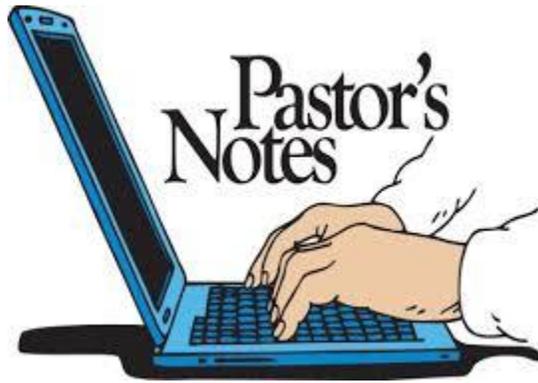
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PASTOR – BOB KANDELS
DIR. OF YOUTH MINISTRIES – KARI SCHAEFFER
EMAIL ADDRESS: graceumc@paynesvillegrace.org
WEBSITE: www.paynesvillegraceumc.org
PHONE: 320-243-3601



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

January 2	Gary & Linda Johnson, Amy Jo Winings, Gary Smith
January 3	Betty Freiling
January 4	Warren Theel
January 5	Steve McCloud, Patrick Utsch
January 7	Robert & Lena Block, Nicole Pelkey, Dave Holtz
January 12	Evelyn Moore
January 14	Tony & Deb Bengtson, Ann Peterson
January 15	Josh Baker
January 18	Roger Lang
January 20	Tyler Williams
January 21	Gene & Shelli Bast
January 24	Susan Arend, Elexa Frank
January 25	Debbie Schmidt
January 28	Steve Deadrick
January 30	Emma Braun
January 31	Diane Dittman



Greetings,

As we have landed in January, the first month of 2019, (by now, having the Christmas tree and most of the decorations taken down and packed away) we remember this past Christmas that started around Thanksgiving week and spiked the week of Christmas Day through New Year's Day. It is now a memory of another Christmas that has come full circle, and we have put it into our memory box of pictures.

In some ways, we can do the same thing to the birth of Christ. We get very excited with the lights and decorations, along with the manger scenes glowing in the darkness of night throughout the month of December. Yet, once we find ourselves in the middle of January, the greatness of His birth is all but a memory. Don't get me wrong, we all do believe in this birth, yet we struggle throughout the year (except for Easter Sunday) because we think it is simply too good to be true. Look at the time of Jesus' birth; the most powerful leader of Jesus' region had no desire to see the God Child's birth as something that could be embraced. Remember months following His birth, the wise and wealthy leaders from the east had been following a bright star hoping they would find the meaning of life at the completeness of their journey. They checked in with the regional ruler King Herod. King Herod then realized that even wise and wealthy rulers from the east were willing to travel a great distance in hopes of finding this God Child. Herod, along with most in Jerusalem, became fearful of this birth. *"For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;" (Matthew 2:2-3).* This is an unfortunate reality we battle throughout life at times, depending on the day and season we find ourselves in.

As we land into January, we, too, can be just like most of Jerusalem, which, within only a few months following the God Child's birth, chose to fear this good news rather than to embrace this birth as the key to our need for transformation and new life. My challenge to you and me—let's not find ourselves living like the normal faith or religion of our day. Let's embrace this birth as God's gift of grace and eternal life for us, both now and in our lives to come. Let's embrace this birth as our need for complete forgiveness for what we had done in the past, present, and in the future. Let's embrace this birth as a fulfillment to our need and desire for meaning and a purpose to life. Let's not be like most of Jerusalem and King Herod. Instead let's be like three wise and wealthy men from the far-eastern regions of the known world, willing to travel such great distance in hopes they could find the God Child.

In Christ Service,
Pastor Bob Kandels



JANUARY SERMONS

Sunday, January 6th
Epiphany Sunday
Text: Revelations 2:2-5
Title: What's Next for Grace Church

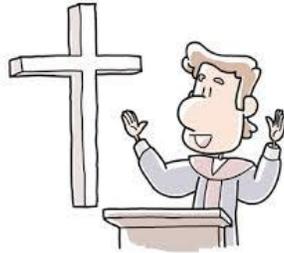
So, we have voted as a Church and organization to go ahead with the Healthy Church Initiative known as H.C.I. This Sunday, at both worship services, we will hear from our own assigned coach, Bill Lewis, and we will get a road map on how we will begin this process. We will also hear the background of experience and coaching Bill brings with him, and will be challenged with how important growth is for us all, as we are invited to the altar and sacrament of Holy Communion.

Sunday, January 13th
The 1st Sunday after Epiphany
Text: Luke 16:19-31
Title: Is Hell & Heaven Real?

This Sunday, we will begin a new sermon series, looking, at first, at what heaven and hell look like and what that might mean for us. Then, as we continue through the sermon series, we will look at the return of Christ our Lord, as King of both heaven and earth. We will look at the different biblical scholar views of how Christ will return, and how the world as we know it may come to an end. The first Sunday will focus on the question, "Is there heaven and hell, and if so, what does that mean to me?"

Sunday, January 20th
The 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Text: Luke 21:7-17
Title: Ways to Move Forward

As we understand, no matter what the plain truth is, and always will be, we live on a living planet, and like all plants, this planet will come to an end and die someday. However, if we choose to believe in the saving grace of our God and in the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ the risen Son of God, we will *not* die, we will live. That is the good news, yet it cannot stop our planet from coming to an end. How do we live in that context daily as those who believe? This is what we will look at today.



Sunday, January 27th
The 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Text: Luke 14:25-33
Title: 2019 Operating Budget

This Sunday, at both Worship services, we will introduce the 2019 Operating Budget for Grace Church. We will look at reasons to celebrate, and challenges we will have to rise to in the coming year for important ministry. Terry Thomsen, our Finance Team Chair, will help present this budget, and we will be able to give information and transparency to new needs in the coming year for important ministry and growth.

UNIDOS EN CRISTO (UEC) GATHERING

Those who are a part of the U.E.C. Ministry will gather Thursday, January 17th, at 6:00 PM, at the home of Ramona Frank. All are welcome who may have an interest in attending a U.E.C. weekend this coming year.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA MISSION TRIP



Please keep our Florida Mission Team members in your prayers. They will be leaving on January 28th and returning on February 4th. Team members are Art Rittenhouse, Bonnie Schwartz, Bruce & Diane Fuchs, Byron & Deanna Fuchs, Julie Schultz, Stan & Marsha Herzberg, Roxann Bergstrom, and Pastor Bob.

Without fail

"I was once young and now I am old, but not once have I been witness to God's failure to supply my need when first I had given for the furtherance of his work. He has never failed in his promise, so I cannot fail in my service to him." —William Carey

THANK YOU

THANK YOU to all our friends at Grace Church for the visits, food, cards, calls, and flowers. They were all greatly appreciated after my knee surgery.
- Faye Paster

A HUGE THANK YOU to Vicky Frank for all her time, effort and donations for our youth ornament/craft night. We couldn't put this on without you and we appreciate all you do!

A HUGE THANK YOU to Kari Schaefer for directing and organizing the Children's Christmas program, and to Ann Peterson for her work with the preschoolers for the program! A LOT of work goes into a production like this, and we sincerely appreciate all that you do!

THANK YOU to those who brought in Poinsettias for the altar in honor or in memory of a loved one! They add so much to the Christmas decorating.

THANK YOU to all those that lit the Advent Wreath candles at the Sunday services, and to all those that participated in the Advent and Christmas services!

THANK YOU! I could not have put on the Children's Christmas Program without the help of others, and I'm so grateful for all the help! Thank you to Jim & Betty Freilinger, Bruce & Diane Fuchs & Kelly Kandels for helping to create the set, to Betty Freilinger, Diane Fuchs & Kelly Kandels for helping to pick out the costumes and spending many, many hours sewing them to make them look amazing, to David Herzberg for helping with the sound, Jeanne Virant for helping to play the piano, to Vicky Frank, Brad & Kristen Mehlhop, Kelly Kandels, Jim & Betty Freilinger & Brittany Frank for helping during the program to get kids in the right spot, to the parents for getting the kids here for practices and lastly to the kids. You guys did so well! You blew me out of the water with this program. Thank you for your willingness to trust me. Thank you for going on this journey with me. You are all amazing! Kari Schaefer



THANK YOU to all of you who supported the Craft & Bake Sale on Sunday, December 16th. With your help we raised over \$1,100. All of these funds will help those going on the Alaskan Mission Trip in July 2019.



FARE FOR ALL
Food that makes cents

Fare For All is an organization which offers fresh fruits, produce and frozen meat in bulk packages with up to 40% savings. Pre-orders are being accepted at CentraCare Health – Paynesville Clinic and The ROSE Center. Fare For All is not income based, and is available to everyone with local distribution once a month. For more information on food selections and pricing visit www.fareforall.org or check out the bulletin board in the narthex at Grace Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS NEEDED

Since our K-2nd grade is so HUGE, I'm looking for someone to help with this class. There is NO prep work needed on your part, just come and hang out with the kids. **You can sign up for as little as 1 week or several weeks throughout the year.** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you're willing to help. Please consider this important ministry! Thank you!

VOLLEYBALL

Grace Church Volleyball is every Sunday night at 5:30 pm in the Paynesville Elementary Gym. Always looking for more players! You do not need to be a member of Grace Church to play! Invite your friends!



HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be served at the 8:30 and 10:30 am services on January 6th. Gluten-free hosts will be available.

“A New Year’s resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.” –Unknown

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2019 can be picked up in the main narthex, if you have not already done so. If you haven't been using offering envelopes, we encourage you to do so; it makes counting each Sunday so much quicker, and you are assured of getting credit for your donation.



Electronic giving is also available to those of you who would like to sign up for it. Fill out a form and your donations come out of your checking automatically. It saves you from writing checks or remembering to bring your envelope. Your donation will be credited to your account the same as using offering envelopes.

If we have forgotten anyone that wanted envelopes, or you haven't used envelopes before and want to start, please call the church office and let us know.

Please have all contributions for 2018 in to the church by December 31 in order to be recorded for the 2018 calendar tax year. Thank you!

OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER



Monthly amount needed: \$23,263
 Amount received in November : \$17,276
 Harvest Offering: \$15,250
 November Missions: Community Service Center \$345
 plus one full grocery cart of food donations

“Learn to light a candle in the darkest moments of someone's life. Be the light that helps others see.”
 –Roy T. Bennett



ASSIGNMENTS FOR JANUARY

READERS:

JAN. 6 Pete Fisk
JAN. 13 Deanna Fuchs
JAN. 20 Deb Thomsen
JAN. 27 Terry Thomsen

8:30 AM

10:30 AM

Patty Herzberg
 Helen Olsen
 Bill Hoeft
 Kelly Kandels

ACOLYTES:

JAN. 6 Raycer Frank
JAN. 13 Lilly Smith
JAN. 20 Abigail Lingl
JAN. 27 Drew Brink

Alexis Stafford
 Emma Braun
 Elizabeth Stafford
 Adisen McCann

GREETERS:

JAN. 6 Brad & Paula Lingl Gene Schultz, Les Snyder
JAN. 13 Debbie Schmidt, Ramona Frank Larry & Denise Rien
JAN. 20 Gary & Evie Smith Carol Wegner, Beth Moerke
JAN. 27 Terry & Deb Thomsen Roxann Bergstrom, Jeanette Bast

USHERS:

Bruce & Diane Fuchs
 Jim Schultz, George Stevens

HEAD USHER: Bill Hoeft 320-249-6581

Leta Stafford
 Deb Bengtson

COUNTERS:

JAN. 6 Mike Nehring, Les Snyder
JAN. 13 Bill Hoeft, Carolyn Swyter
JAN. 20 Mary Beek, Jim Butkofski
JAN. 27 Gary Smith, Betty Freilinger

FLOWER COMMITTEE: Sue Drager

BANNER COMMITTEE: Sue Arend

COMMUNION SERVERS, Jan. 6: Mary Beek, Ramona Frank

Website

VIDEO OF WEEKLY MESSAGE (SERMON)

If you happen to miss attending a service, a *YouTube* video of the message from the previous week's church service is available on our website by Tuesday noon each week. Just go to the church website, www.paynesvillegraceumc.org, click on the side link "Video of Message," then click on the link for the correct week.

HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY

On Sunday, Jan. 20th, we will celebrate Human Relations Day in the United Methodist Church. It's our day to empower those living on the margins of society. It's our day to invest in at-risk youth. It's our day to make a difference together. Please use the special envelope that will be included with the bulletin, or write a check with "Human Relations Sunday" on the memo line. Together, we can make a difference.

2019 CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The new 2019 Church Directory will be available for pickup in the main Narthex sometime in early January. If you notice any errors or changes that need to be made, let the office know right away so that corrections can be made. Thank you.

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 8th, at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. Mary Beek will have devotions, and Helen Olsen will be hostess. As always, there will be no meeting if school is canceled or 2 hours late. We will also have Bingo at the Koronis Manor on Thursdays at 2:00 PM through all of January (Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31).



THANK YOU FROM THE CHRISTMAS SHARING SHOPPE



(The HUGE Donation Box that was in the Narthex through November)

Counting is done. Are you ready for these numbers from 2018 God's Christmas Sharing Shoppe?:

- God gave us 10 drop off sites in central MN to collect thousands of items in November.
- 9 trucks, trailers, and vans (5 of those were gifted to us to use) were unloaded and set up at the Armory (2 were supplies, tables and displays.)
- We had 10 hours to set up for 10 hours of Shoppe hours.
- 998 gift bags given out in Kids Shoppe to bless many families (many on Saturday had more than one gift inside.)
- 448 people walked through the front doors of the Armory to shop for free and be blessed with so much.
- 72 people took home a tree, **some the very first one ever!**
- God moved 136 volunteers to show up to make this event a success.
- And there were at least 24 other people behind the scenes who gave of their time to support and work on things to make this year so successful.

After it was over, we packed up 8 trees (started with 80) and only 20 totes and boxes from the Christmas Sharing Shoppe and the Kids Shoppe (we started with about 250.) We were, packed, loaded and home about 2 hours after closing time. **SUCCESS!**

THANK YOUR FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND FOR THE USE OF YOUR CHURCH AS ONE OF OUR DROP-OFF SITES!

**Merry Christmas!
Debbie Zehrer**

2019 MISSION GIVING PLAN

January	Koronis Ministries
February	Uzone
March	Paynesville Community Center
April	Uzone
May	Love Offering
June	Uzone
July	To be determined
August	Uzone
September	Kissey Eye Clinic
October	Uzone
November	Paynesville Community Service Center
December	Uzone

Easter 2019 – Grace Church General Operating Budget

Harvest Offering 2019 – Grace Church General Operating Budget

Christmas 2019 – Paynesville Emergency Financial Assistance Program

RECOVERY MINISTRY!

Grace Church hosts a time of recovery support each week on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:15 PM. Any looking for recovery support are encouraged to join us. Materials will be provided.

Seeking the best

I believe that appreciation is a holy thing – that when we look for what’s best in a person we happen to be with at the moment, we’re doing what God does all the time. So, in loving and appreciating our neighbor, we’re participating in something sacred.

–Fred Rogers

SYMPATHY

Grace Church extends our deepest sympathy to the families of:

-Gladys “Elaine” Erickson who passed away on November 29. Her funeral was held in Clear Lake on December 4th. Elaine is the mother of Mary Nehring.

-Richard Bergstrom who passed away on December 1st. His funeral was held on Friday, December 7, at Grace United Methodist Church with Pastor Bob Kandels officiating. Richard is the husband of Roxann Bergstrom, father of Greta Bergstrom, and grandfather of Hayley & Ruby Kluver.

-Joanne Baggenstoss, who passed away on Sunday, Dec. 16th. Her funeral has not been set at this time; it will be held sometime in January. Please watch future bulletin for the exact date and time.

NURSING HOME SERVICES

Memorial Services will be held on Tuesday, January 22, at 2:15 pm at Washburne Court, and 3:00 pm at Koronis Manor.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Is there anyone who would like to deliver the bulletins to the residents in Koronis Manor each week on Fridays? If this is something you would like to do, please contact Nancy in the office. Thank you!

Give your all

There are plenty to follow our Lord halfway, but not the other half. They will give up possessions, friends and honors, but it touches them too closely to disown themselves. ... Commit your lives in unreserved obedience to [God]. –Meister Eckhart



MISSIONS FOR JANUARY

Missions for the month of January will be going to Koronis Ministries, otherwise known as Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds. This United Methodist ministry on the shores of Lake Koronis has served members of our

congregation for as long as it has been in existence—over 80 years. Many have been campers there as children and youth, as well as adults. Members of our congregation have also used the facilities for weddings, open gym nights, volleyball, and other events. In order for Koronis Ministries to continue to move forward into the future, they need our help. Please give generously to this mission.

Special dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1*
- Epiphany, *January 6*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 13*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 21*



JANUARY MEETINGS

January 2	6:30 PM	Confirmation Parent mtg.
January 9	7:45 PM	Alaska Mission Trip mtg.
January 14	4:00 PM	Outreach/Missions Team mtg.
January 15	6:00 PM	Worship Team mtg.
January 17	2:15 PM 6:00 PM	Staff mtg. UEC Gathering @ Ramona Frank's
January 21	6:00 PM	Leadership/HCI Team Combined Meeting with HCI Coach
January 28	5:45 PM	Uzone Staff mtg. @ Uzone

JANUARY GROUPS

Ruth Circle Bingo @ Manor	2:00 PM	Every Thursday in Jan.
Recovery Ministry	7:00 PM	Every Tuesday
Volleyball	5:30 PM	Every Sunday
Small Group Bible Study	10:00 AM	Jan. 8 & 22
Men's Breakfast @ Hilltop	6:30 AM	Jan. 9 & 23
Grace Men's Group @ Hilltop	7:00 AM	Jan. 3 & 17

JANUARY

Grace Youth News

Happy New Year! I can't believe I'm writing '2019.' The days and months continue to fly by, and we're all trying to soak up all of what God has given us. I'm so excited to see what God has in store for the upcoming year, but I want to reflect on December before I get to that part.

We spent most of December preparing for our Christmas Program. I always get nervous before the kids perform, and they always come through and blow me out of the water! I honestly can't thank them enough for trusting me to pick out a program and assign their parts. They did such an amazing job, and I couldn't be prouder of them! We had 30 kids perform "The Not So Silent Night," and that isn't including the preschoolers. We'll start practicing again in the spring to perform another drama on Palm Sunday.

Also, the Wednesday before Christmas we celebrated an amazing year with pizza, cupcakes, some games, contests and a Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt. It was such a fun time to laugh and relax before we had some time off to celebrate Christmas. Thank you to all my adult volunteers who helped drive that night.

Now on to January. I keep thinking that there is no way this year can be as good as the one we just finished, and then I remember that it can be, and I'm confident it will. We're letting God be our driver, and I'm sure he'll take us to places we've never dreamed of. We're so excited to continue our monthly service projects, to start our youth prayer partners, continue our weekly meetings, GUMppets, and our fun events along the way, too!

Happy 2019!
Kari



JANUARY YOUTH EVENTS:

January 2nd: Rejection

Parent Confirmation Meeting @ 6:30 pm

January 9th: Grudges

Alaska Mission Trip Meeting @ 7:45pm in the Youth Room

January 16th: Winter Banquet

*Our youth will each be inviting someone special to a meal and a special evening here at the church. This is a night for the youth to say thank you to those who support us and to also let us get to know each other better. We are looking forward to this great event!

*K-4 will still be meeting but will eat supper and have their lesson in their room.

January 21st: Snow Tubing at Powder Ridge

(sign up by 1.13.19) MUST have a consent form filled out before you'll be able to participate. **Cost \$20**

Bus leaves the church at 9:15 am & returns at approx. 12:45 pm

This is open to all youth grades 5-12.

*Sign up sheet & consent forms (2) are on Kari's door. *

January 23rd: Worry

January 30th: Anger

GUMPPETS:

January 2nd: Practice

January 9th: Practice

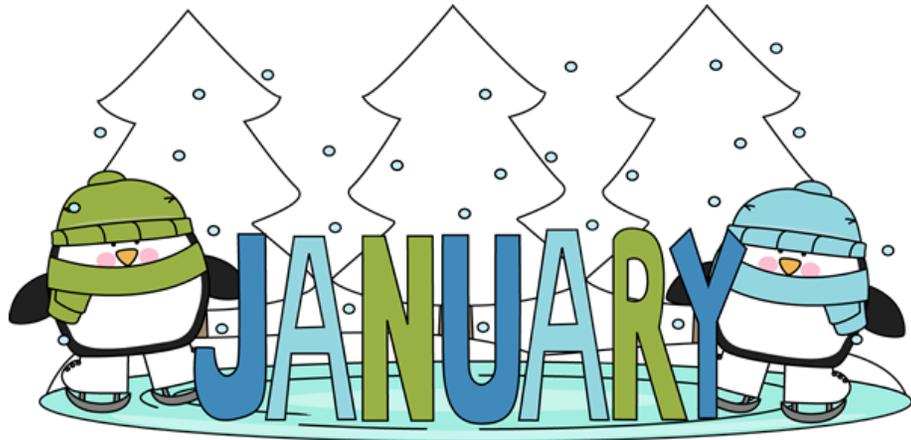
January 16th: No Practice

January 20th: Perform at both services

January 23rd: Practice

January 30th: Practice





Greetings from the Uzone

As we welcome in the new year with anticipation of good things to come, we are looking forward to January with fun things planned, along with getting back into the routine of studying.

December was filled with adventurous activity. The youth were able to create a cake in a mug, and enjoyed eating their own creations. The best part was frosting the cake or eating the cool whip on top of it. We created snowball ornaments and reindeer ornaments for the tree. As a great way to get ready for Christmas break, we celebrated Christmas with fun activities. A big thank you to Vicky Frank and Kari Schaefer for helping the students create and make ornaments for the tree. We also sent out Christmas cards to thank those who have donated to helping the Uzone become a place learning and fun.

*In January, we will begin the next half of the school year with *Uzone Family Feud*. We are having Heather Anderson come speak to the youth about Good Mental Health. We are looking forward to these activities and will keep everyone updated.*

If you are ever interested in volunteering one day, or just want to know what the Uzone is about, we invite you to come visit. In general, we are open when school is open from 3:15 to 5:30 pm during the school week.

*Blessings and Peace,
Kelly Kandels
Uzone Site Manager
Kelly.uzone@gmail.com
218-731-5881*



HEALTH TIP

Aging well tip: Learn to cope with change



As you age, there will be periods of both joy and stress. It's important to build your resilience and find healthy ways to cope with challenges. This ability will help you make the most of the good times and keep your perspective when times are tough.

Focus on the things you're grateful for. The longer you live, the more you lose. But as you lose people and things, life becomes even more precious. When you stop taking things for granted, you appreciate and enjoy what you have even more.

Acknowledge and express your feelings. You may have a hard time showing emotions, perhaps feeling that such a display is inappropriate and weak. But burying your feelings can lead to anger, resentment, and depression. Don't deny what you're going through. Find healthy ways to process your feelings, perhaps by talking with a close friend or writing in a journal.

Accept the things you can't change. Many things in life are beyond our control. Rather than stressing out over them, focus on the things you can control such as the way you choose to react to problems. Face your limitations with dignity and a healthy dose of humor.

Look for the silver lining. As the saying goes, "What doesn't kill us makes us stronger." When facing major challenges, try to look at them as opportunities for personal growth. If your own poor choices contributed to a stressful situation, reflect on them and learn from your mistakes.

Take daily action to deal with life's challenges. When a challenge seems too big to handle, sweeping it under the carpet often appears the easiest option. But ignoring the problem doesn't make it go away; it allows both the problem and your anxiety to build. Instead, take things one small step at a time. Even a small step can go a long way to boosting your confidence and reminding you that you are not powerless.

Staying healthy through humor, laughter, and play

Laughter is strong medicine for both the body and the mind. It helps you stay balanced, energetic, joyful, and healthy at any age. A sense of humor helps you get through tough times, look outside yourself, laugh at the absurdities of life, and transcend difficulties.

(This article was taken from www.helpguide.org – Aging Well)



January 6, 2019