

Grace United Church of Christ
4120 South Webster Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46807

To All Members of Grace Church:

The Search Committee has been looking diligently at resumes, interviewing and observing potential ministers for the position of Pastor of Grace Church. Taking into consideration the present membership and their needs, and our current financial situation, we have selected the Rev. Wayne Brass as a candidate for your consideration. We believe he is a dedicated, personable young man with a sincere interest in the local congregation. His chief desire is to serve God as a pastor, leading the congregation in worship and in service, encouraging them to become actively involved. (See accompanying enclosure from Rev. Donald Buckthal, Conference Minister, for more information.)

The Rev. Brass will deliver a trial sermon on Sunday, July 8, 1979 during our regular 10:10 a.m. Worship Service. Immediately following the service a Congregational meeting will be held and a vote taken to determine if our members wish to accept him for their pastor. A 75% affirmative vote is necessary to secure a candidate for position of minister for Grace Church. (The candidate's percentage preference may be higher.)

A fellowship hour will be held that morning prior to the Worship Service beginning at 9:00 a.m., to give everyone an opportunity to meet Rev. Brass and his family. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. There will be no Church School classes that morning. The Youth will provide sitter service for infants and pre-schoolers in the Nursery Room #101.

The members of the Search Committee invite your questions concerning the Rev. Brass during the next few weeks. All questions will be answered to the best of our ability.

Your Search Committee,

Douglas McConnell, Chairman
Gene Mann
Robert Cooper
Larry Holderbaum
Tom Talbert
David Trout
Dennis Malott (inactive)

Pharol Pringle
Isabelle Masel
Dorothy Borne
Sandra Striker
Martha Lawson
Gloria Hebermehl



Wayne Brass is serving his third year as Associate Minister for Christian Education at the First Baptist Church-United Church of Christ (a congregation of the American Baptist Convention and the United Church of Christ), Bloomington, Indiana. He is a graduate of United Theological Seminary, New Brighton, Minnesota and Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Wayne and his wife, the former Renee' Martyn, are both native Midwesterners--he from a dairy farm in southeastern Wisconsin and she from Minneapolis, Minnesota. They are the parents of three children: Erika (9), Celeste (6) and Benjamin (2).

A product of the Evangelical and Reformed tradition, Wayne was ordained in the United Church of Christ, June 1976 in his home church, St. John's United Church of Christ, Elkhart, Wisconsin. His current ministerial standing is with the Southeastern Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference, United Church of Christ. He is 32 years of age.

While at First Baptist Church-United Church of Christ his responsibilities have included: directing of all educational type programming including administration, staffing, training, curriculum selection, resource gathering and teaching; development of fellowship groups; organization of retreats and camps; instigation of long range planning; he is involved as liturgist in weekly worship, plans alternative worship experiences, presents children's sermons, preaches, performs baptisms, weddings and funerals; he has weekly hospital and home visitation, supervises youth activities and plans for university student activities; activities beyond the local church includes serving as member of the Monroe County United Ministries Board of Directors and as convenor of the Personnel Committee of that board; Director of Indiana-Kentucky Conference "Canoe Camp"; member Indiana-Kentucky JED Shared Approaches Curriculum Team; 7th District Coordinator-Bread for the World; and member Indiana Baptist Convention Division of Christian Education.

Wayne believes "Grace United Church of Christ has a number of very obvious strengths, but also faces a future that will require a congregation and a pastor alert and responsive to the direction of the Spirit in seeking opportunities for ministry with new and old members."