

Grace Notes

August 2023

Phone - 814-723-9440 GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FAX - 814-723-6137
501 Pennsylvania Avenue East Warren, PA 16365
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Visit Our Facebook Group - www.facebook.com/groups/embracegrace

To know Christ and to make Him known!

Senior Pastor: *Rev. William Beatty*
Director of
 Congregational Care: *Cindy Price*
Choir Director: *Floyd Moore*
Organist/Accompanist: *Debbie Airgood*
Office Administrator: *Meghan Brooker*
Office Manager: *Mary Quiggle-Pickering*
Director of Children &
 Family Ministries: *Amanda Slattery*
Director of Youth &
 Family Ministries: *Nicki Egger*

Our Core Values

Extravagant Generosity

We give joyfully of our time, talent, and treasure.

Authentic Engagement

We want to shine the light of God's love in our whole community.

Transformational Discipleship

We seek God's will and God's way for our lives.

Extraordinary Grace

We are all sinners seeking God's grace together.

Word-Centered Mission

We believe the Word of God provides the foundation for all that we do.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

II Corinthians 9:8



August Meetings

August 1 - 6:00 p - SPRC
August 10 - 7:00 p - Outreach
August 15 - 5:30 p - Education



This month's Communion offering will benefit **The Sharing Place**. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution.

From the Pastor

No Longer My Own

250 years ago, John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement that has become our denomination, held covenant services, calling people to fully and truly commit their lives to God. Out of those services came a prayer that we call “Wesley’s Covenant Prayer” (clever title, I know). The prayer is a commitment to be Holy Spirit led and Holy Spirit used, to be fully committed to God and God’s will.

Here’s the text of the prayer that has come to us today, as we prayed it on New Year’s Day this very year in worship:

*I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.*

Could this continue to be a prayer for us today? Not just an “at the beginning of the year commitment” but all day every day? Are we committed to being used by God? I know that’s not a comfortable thought – “being used” – but are we so open to the movement and power of God in the Holy Spirit that we’re willing to simply be instruments in God’s hands?

In Ephesians 5, Paul writes this:

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...

Be filled with the Spirit. Do we believe that today? Are we “making the most of every opportunity”? Are we willing to be fully God’s – put to doing or suffering, employed by God or laid aside, full or empty, having all things or nothing?

As I pray this prayer, I am ever reminded of what I hold back from God, what lines in the sand I draw and say, “I’ll go this far God, but no farther...” Then God calls me to go farther...deeper... past my insecurities and prejudices and unwillingness. And I pray again, “I am no longer my own, but thine...”

And we, as the church, need to always be God’s and God’s alone...

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Bill

Look Both Ways

Part 1 Look Back



I heard someone on the radio the other day give this advice: “Don’t let your past affect your future”.

That really made me think.

There are some instances where that makes sense, but I want to know what the Bible says about our past and our future.

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Psalms 103:2 Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

I’ve been blessed and I enjoy looking back to see what God has done in my life. I am eternally thankful for Godly parents and family and friends that have greatly influenced my life and helped form who I am today. Thinking along the idea of reviewing my history, of course I immediately remembered a good song about going through life and how our past affects our future. It was written by Andre Crouch in 1971, and you may remember singing it.

Through It All

I’ve had many tears and sorrows, I’ve had questions for tomorrow,
There’ve been times I didn’t know right from wrong;
But in every situation God gave blessed consolation
That my trials come to only make me strong.

Chorus:

Through it all, Through it all,
I’ve learned to trust in Jesus, I’ve learned to trust in God;
Through it all, Through it all, I’ve learned to depend upon His Word.

I’ve been to lots of places And I’ve seen a lot of faces.
There’ve been times I felt so all alone,
But in my lonely hours, Yes, those precious lonely hours
Jesus let me know that I was His own.

(Chorus)

I thank God for the mountains, and I thank Him for the valleys,
I thank Him for the storms He brought me through,
For if I’d never had a problem I wouldn’t know that He could solve them,
I’d never know what faith in God could do.

(Chorus)

Count your blessings this month, and know that God has brought you through your life and will keep you in His care daily.

If you happen to read this early in August, remember we’re all invited to sing with the Community Worship Service Choir on August 6, with many members of our community churches joining us at the

Struthers Library Theatre. We'll practice on Wednesday, August 2 at 7p.m.

Our inspirational and fun Wednesday night choir practices will resume on the first Wednesday in September, the 6th. Sunday morning choir practice in July and August will continue from 10:30 to 11, between the second and third services. You are always welcome to sing with your Grace choir.

Floyd Moore
Choir Director
amfm123@verizon.net

TO GIVE AND STILL RECEIVE

*"... remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'."
Acts 20:35*

Grace United Methodist is a very giving church: both corporately and individually. This is done by the way of OUTREACH to our community, NURTURE of our congregation and TEACHING through Sunday School, Preschool, Bible Study and the Sunday message. All facets of these ministries are supported by YOU! You all give of your talent, financial support and the willingness to serve.



As Jesus said, by helping others we are blessed. That make us feel good and useful. That being said, we should also allow ourselves to be ministered to. Americans are known to be fiercely independent; sometimes to our detriment. Asking for assistance is not a sign of weakness! Rather, it shows that you value and trust another person. How wonderful is that!!

So, when else can you expect to be the recipient of grace? How about when you take the time to sit quietly, away from distractions, and prepare for the presence of the Holy Spirit to surround you? Jesus promised that *"... I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever --- the Spirit of truth (the Holy Spirit). The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."* John 14:16-17

Prepare to willingly GIVE and graciously RECEIVE.

Yours in the Spirit,
Cindy Price

Summer is quickly flying by, and the new school year will be starting before we know it! Just when we thought things were back to "normal", the daycare was forced to close unexpectedly. Consequently, many of our students who signed up for this fall may not be able to attend Grace Promise Preschool. We don't know the numbers yet, but we pray families are able to find ways to transport the kids from their new daycare facilities.



We also ask that you pray for a solution to the daycare crisis. Care with Grace Daycare has been a much needed outreach to our community where families are struggling to find affordable care for their children. This past week I stopped by the church to work in the preschool room and ended up in tears as I was struck by the silence and lack of activity within our Grace Church walls. I understand there may be some that prefer

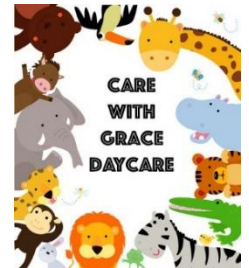
quiet over the sound of children stomping, playing, laughing & crying, or others who are concerned about wear and tear on the building, but our mission as a church is to be in ministry to the people around us. PLEASE be in prayer for the future of our children's ministries!

If you know of anyone that has not enrolled their child in a preschool for the fall, registration forms can be picked up in the church office. You can also find us on Facebook or send us an email- preschool@atlanticbbn.net

Have a great August!

Trish Gentilman
Director/Co-Teacher

It is with deep regret that we announce that the Care with Grace Daycare has closed its doors due to sudden and unforeseen circumstances. Care with Grace grew out of the Grace Afterschool Program and had been ministering to children and families since the 1990s. We are sincerely grateful for the hard work of the staff, the leadership of the directors, and the connections made with so many families in our community over the years. Please pray for the staff members who are seeking new jobs, but also who are going to miss working with these little ones, as well as for the families as they find themselves in a sudden time of transition. Please also pray for the Child Care Board members who had to make this difficult decision. Grace Church thanks all of those who have been a part of Care with Grace and for all who have supported the daycare over the years.



During Worship

9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)

11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)

August 6 – Anna Peterson

August 13 – Melissa Zaffino

August 20 – Anna Peterson

August 27 – Melissa Zaffino



Welcome new members:

Rebecca Miller, Virgil Gillotti,

Debbie Airgood, Richard Bence,

Dorothy Bence, Gary Kell, & Lyn Kell



Kitchen Memorial

For: Shirley Pearson

By: Harold & Janis Wall,
Audrey Cable

General Memorial

For: Shirley Pearson

By: Bill Bunce



The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **EVERYTHING** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!



Items for the September 2023
Newsletter need to be delivered to
Mary in the office
mary@graceumcwarren.com by
Tuesday, August 15.



Flock Talk

“Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.”

Psalm 96:12

Make every day count! Now is the time to soothe our souls with nature in all its glory. This time of year brings an abundance of opportunities to embrace God's gift of creation. It is apparent in the beauty and the sounds and the emotions that we feel that He wanted us to enjoy His splendor. Breathe it in!

Some of us spend time on our decks, some of us play in the great outdoors and some of us see an inviting trail and we can't resist it. I feel drawn to the deepest, darkest, most thrilling parts of the forest. There's healing in those trees. There's peace that permeates the heart with the songs of birds. The forest offers renewal and an energy unlike any other.

This is one of the reasons I started a hiking club and a walking club at Grace. For those who walk alone, it's good to sometimes have camaraderie. For those who usually don't venture far, it's good to have traveling companions that encourage. The conversations are genuine. The care and concern for one another are lifted up to a place of healing and reassurance.

The disciples walked and walked for miles. Paul was a marathon walker. Jesus walked alongside those He was teaching. There's something about the changing scenery and the fresh air that causes us to think more kindly, more gently. The forest becomes a place to think great thoughts. There will always be new challenges ahead of us. Let's walk it out together.

Here for you,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

Big THANK YOU to the 24 plus volunteers who helped with another successful Hot Dog Giveaway!

Thank You This year we handed out 720 hot dogs & buns in hot dog carriers & provided Heinz ketchup, relish & French's Mustard & napkins. That number is up from last years 672 and we will probably need to cook more next year!



It was a beautiful day for the 75th year of the parade.

Everyone who helped had a great time of fellowship with the other volunteers & the community. Many hands made light work!

Our “customers” were happy as well!!!

Dave & I are very thankful to be able to work with such a great, great group of people. The volunteers & donations are truly gifts from God!

Till the next “hot dog roundup” ...

Jan & Dave Moore

ACTIVITY BAGS ARE HERE! If you have a youngster with you during the 9:30 or 11:00 services, we have something for them! These bags have coloring pages, pencils, markers or crayons, books and a few other small games. They are located on a new rack in front of the Audio/Visual console. Please return them after the service; but the budding artist may take home their colored pages! Thanks to Jan and Kurt Lyle for spearheading this project!

Grace Church Finance Report

Summer is upon us – school is out, vacations have started, and there is a lot going on in the life of Grace Church. Please see the June financials below.



2023 Monthly and YTD Financials

	June '23	YTD
Total Income	\$28,157.36	\$164,394.85
Office Expense	\$598.68	\$4,147.96
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$7,952.70	\$42,907.38
Ministry Personnel	\$23,072.34	\$135,239.40
Church Council	\$0.00	\$317.79
Education Ministry	\$891.00	\$1,682.94
Nurture Ministry	\$246.11	\$776.93
Worship Ministry	\$209.28	\$1,520.52
Outreach Ministry	\$0.00	\$401.96
Connectional Apportionment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Ministry & Expense	\$23,970.11	\$186,994.88
Net Income	(\$4,812.75)	(\$22,600.03)

Borrowed Funds

Account Balance 6/30/2023	(\$117,059.05)
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee



SAVE THE DATE! The Outreach committee will be conducting their annual Rummage Sale **Saturday, September 16**. Childrens clothes will be accepted, but please no adult clothing. Drop-off will be on Friday, September 15. This has been a great fundraiser in the past! More information will be coming later along with the charity we will be donating the proceeds to. Start collecting your donations now!

Attention women!

*Are you looking to strengthen your relationship with Christ?

*Are you looking to bond with other women?

*Are you looking for an evening of sharing and caring with one another?

Grace church is offering a new women's ministry! "Full of Grace" will meet the Fourth Monday of each month in the Eaton Parlor from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We will start with an intro, video lesson, devotional and pray time. No need to sign-up, just show-up!

Hope to see you there! Questions, please contact Karen Conarro at: fullofgraceumcwarren@gmail.com



Grace Hiking and Walking Clubs

We are making plans for more time on the trails this month and will post the dates in the bulletin as the schedule unfolds. There will be several hikes that will present nice challenges, most likely the second and third weeks of July. There are plans in the making for walks and will be determined by popular demand!

The adventures we have had so far are giving us even more enthusiasm to pursue this type of endeavor. Friendships are being deepened and new faces are becoming a regular occurrence. If you would like to lead a walk, please let me know. There are so many areas to explore and it will be fun to have new creativity! Also, it would be especially nice if we could orchestrate a walk for groups who would like a more suitable pace. Let me know! Sue Toombs at fourwindsranch.net or 814-730-9996.



Yarn Angels will meet on the **second** Friday of every month from 10:00-11:30am. Anyone interested in knitting is welcome to come.



August 1 – Julie Hitchcock

August 2 – Guy Baughman

August 5 – Brendan Garrett

August 6 – Marlene Avery, Matt Stapleford, Cadence McManigle, Nikolai Long

August 7 – Earl Duvall, Shirley Shafer, Mike Barr, Trevor Buchanan, Evie Alex

August 8 – Bev Himes, Tony Stellato, Tyler Retterer, Bailey Andersen, Payton Johnson

August 9 – Quay Strandburg, Bill Gentilman

August 10 – Judy Templeton, Jaxon Knapp, Caden Beers

August 11 – Craig Rodoski, Becky Ickert

August 12 – Roman Anzalone

August 13 – Patricia Dutchess

August 14 – Debra Foreman, Sarah Parmeter

August 15 – Gladys Jones, Sue Shall

August 16 – Karen Conrad, Andrew Sprentz, Gavin LaVan

August 17 – AJ Slattery

August 18 – Randy Grey, Kathy Neal

August 19 – Kris Magnuson, Maggie Birgel, Lynnanne Hammersley

August 20 – Mark Shene

August 21 – Randy Ickert, Caleb Gnage

August 23 – Chloe Watson

August 24 – Aaren Keller, Adelaide Keepports, Vaeda Long

August 25 – Derek Knapp, Parker Shene

August 26 – Joyce Font, Lisa Brown, Elin Smith, Donald Anderson, Eddie Anderson, Becca Anderson,
Charles Sienkiewicz

August 27 – Charissa Barkley-Frary, Sarah Peterson

August 28 – Cathy Irwin, Charlotte Keepports

August 29 – Dorothy Culbertson, Jordan Retterer, Ashley Barker

August 31 – Chris Zaffino, Sheldon McMeans





august



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>PROMISE PRESCHOOL is open Sept-May Mon, Wed, and Thurs from 9:00 – 11:30 am (3-year-olds) and 12:30 – 3:00 pm (4- year-olds) located on the ground floor.</p>		<p>1 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i> 6:00 p Pickleball</p>	<p>2 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 7:00 p Community Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group</p>	<p>4 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>5 9:00 a Praise Team</p>
<p>6 8:30 a Worship 10:30 a Community Worship Service 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing</p>	<p>7 5:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>8 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball</p>	<p>9 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W.</p>	<p>10 7:00 p <i>Outreach</i></p>	<p>11 10:00 a Yarn Angels 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>12 9:00 a Praise Team</p>
<p>13 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing</p>	<p>14 5:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>15 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p <i>Education</i> 6:00 p Pickleball</p>	<p>16 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W.</p>		<p>18 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>19 9:00 a Praise Team</p>
<p>20 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing</p>	<p>21 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>22 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball</p>	<p>23 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga</p>	<p>26 9:00 a Praise Team</p>
<p>27 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing</p>	<p>28 6:30 p Full of Grace Women's Ministry</p>	<p>29 6:00 p Pickleball</p>	<p>30 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.</p>	<p>31</p>		

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

501 Pennsylvania Ave. E.
Warren, PA 16365

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- Grace Praise Team -

*Pastor Bill, Lori Beatty, Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Keith Price, Tristan Johnson,
Shirley Shafer, Aaron Stearns, Chris Ei, John Lewis, Patrick Ward,
Alice Pedersen, Cindy Dziendziel, Walter Miller, Dave Moore*

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