

Grace Notes

June 2023

Phone - 814-723-9440 GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FAX - 814-723-6137
501 Pennsylvania Avenue East Warren, PA 16365
Email - office2@graceumcwarren.com Visit Our Website - www.graceumcwarrenpa.com
Visit Our Facebook Group - www.facebook.com/groups/embracegrace

To know Christ and to make Him known!

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

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



June Meetings

June 13 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
June 20 - 6:00 p - Childcare



This month's Communion offering will benefit **Warren County Campground Ministry**. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution.

From the Pastor

For All the Saints

In 2014 Pope John Paul the Second was canonized a saint. In 2016, Mother Teresa was also canonized a saint. Of course, in the ensuing years there has been some controversy over the Catholic Church's decisions to name these two saints (we live in the instant information age, so if someone wants to know this, or any, pope's failings – or *perceived* failings – well, it's just a few clicks away...). But those are two faithful followers of Jesus, different traditions and different theologies, but faithful followers none the less. And I got to witness their lives of faith *before* they were canonized (made into a saint). And I am aware that All Saints' Sunday is months away!

Here's the thing: the Bible says we are all saints (and we all have failings, so...).

For example, when the Apostle Paul wrote his first letter to the church at Corinth, he greeted them like this:

*To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

(1 Corinthians 1:2-3)

In fact, the New Testament has uses the word saints 67 times, almost always referring to living Christ followers. Like us.

Every Christian is a saint. We don't always act like one, think like one, even feel like one. Nevertheless, we are living saints, called and set apart by God.

So... what?

Well, even though there are days we don't feel very saintly, even though there are times we fail, we are the living witness of Christ in this world. We are, as the Apostle Paul writes later in 1 Corinthians, the body of Christ (chapter 12). What that means is that it is up to us to live out this faith in ways that leave a cross-shaped mark on the world. After all, isn't that what saints do?

It's summer, so we'll be going on vacation, we'll be enjoying the weather, the longer days, the sunshine (did you imagine it would EVER be sunny?). It also means we'll probably encounter lots of people. Some of those people will be rude, some will be foul, some will not look like us, or act like us or think like us. What do saints do?

Well... we try to live our faith. I know it's hard sometimes. Years ago, when Elie was not even two years old, my whole extended family (at least a dozen people) vacationed together in Florida for ten days (there's a recipe for success if I've ever heard one ☺). Lori, our girls and I, and my mom went to Disney one day – the Magic Kingdom – the “happiest place on earth”... where we encountered line-cutters, belligerent people, self-involved people, angry people. And more than once....that was us (well, except for the line-cutting...). Every one of the five of us had at least one meltdown that day. You kind of expect it from an 18-month-old – or a three-year-old. But I remember that I was downright rude to one of the employees...who responded with a smile, with helpful information, and actually brought me down off the ledge...

Now, I know it's the “cast member's” *job* to do that (in fact, they can be fired for *not* being friendly), but it

occurs to me that if someone can do that for a paycheck, well, I should be able to live out of the abundant grace and mercy and love that God has poured into me through Jesus Christ and respond to people from that place. From grace.

'Cause, you know, I'm a saint.

And so are you.

Living out our salvation with fear and trembling...

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

An Instrument of Praise

We recently received an anonymous donation of a new top-of-the-line Kawai keyboard that we now use in the choir loft. It has the requisite 88 weighted keys and has speakers for stand-alone music but also connects directly into our sound system. Although I like acoustic pianos very much, I like the Kawai because it's very well made and it can transpose (change the pitch) so that it can be adjusted to accommodate different singer's and instrumentalist's comfortable ranges.



That keyboard is an instrument of praise and worship. Each one of us are also an instrument of praise and worship. We have been intricately built and designed to praise our Savior. Of course we can praise our Lord musically, but also with every breath of our being. No matter what you do, no matter where you are, you were built to praise the Lord.

Check these out:

Psalm 34:1 I will extoll the Lord at all times, His praise will always be on my lips.

Psalm 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Almost *all* of the 150 Psalms! (King David's greatest hits!)

I Chronicles 16:25 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise. (Read the whole chapter.)

Hebrews 13:15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that confess His name. (Read this chapter, too.)

I Peter 4:11 ...that in all things God may be praised. (OK, read the whole book!)

You're welcome to examine the new keyboard in the choir loft at any time - especially Wednesday evenings or Sunday morning around 10:30. (You know...)

You're welcome to praise our Lord with us each Sunday at 8:30, 9:30, and/or 11:00am.

See you in church!

Choir Notes

Our Grace Church has been blessed with a great choir for a long time. Strangely enough, they're fun, and strange, and very dedicated to ministering to Grace Church. You are always welcome to join us, so I want to make sure you know our schedule changes for June, July, and August. We will still meet each summer Sunday morning at 10:30, and lead worship almost every week. We will not, however, regularly meet to rehearse on Wednesdays from June 14 to September 6.

Another event that you're welcome to take part in is a choral celebration of Beverly Petersen at Olmsted Manor in Ludlow. We have been invited to sing and remember Bev on Monday June 26 with a choral

reading session at 9:30 to 11:00am, then following lunch, join in a meeting of all participants in honoring our choir director for over 30 years, Beverly Petersen. She has many fond memories of meeting there in past sessions and has the stories to prove it! Bev is not expected to be in attendance, but plans are underway to record the celebration and share it with her soon after the event.

Keep on singing!

Floyd Moore
Choir Director

LOVING OBEDIENCE

Hmmm Interesting is the word LOVING being used as a verb or an adjective?

I know this is a bit of a stretch for those English majors among us, but bear with me. I am trying to make a point!



Thinking of it as a verb how many of us LOVE being obedient? That would mean looking forward to and intending to submit to another's authority. And that would include listening for the Word of the Lord and acting upon it.

As an adjective, we see the heart of the issue obeying due to the love we have for whomever is asking something of us. A.W. Tozer opines, "Obedience is both the evidence and the definition of our love for Christ ..".

And this is love; that we walk in obedience to His commands. 2 John:6 (NIV)

If we combine these two thoughts, then I will say that we have a "Verjective"! Loving, in this case, will effectively be both a verb and an adjective!

As I think about the times when I have been aware of the Lord's presence, I had no doubt about who was with me or who had spoken to me. And, I would like to think that some of the decisions that I *thought* I had made on my own were actually done with God's guidance; even though I was unaware of His influence at the time. Perhaps it was at those latter times that my heart was not open and ready to acknowledge His presence.

So, while I linger in bed and stretch each morning, I need to relax into God's presence. To give up that resistant part of myself and be aware that He is before, beside and behind me. I need to use the verb part of the "verjective" to prepare for the adjective part.

With you on our journey,
Cindy Price



During Worship
9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)
June 4 – Melissa Zaffino
June 11 – Anna Peterson
June 18 – Melissa Zaffino
June 25 – Anna Peterson

Our school year ended with a fun pizza party for both classes, and a celebration for our afternoon class heading to kindergarten. We had a great group of parents, grandparents and friends that came to support us on our last day.

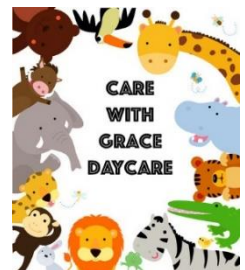


We look forward to seeing our morning children again next year and still have a couple openings for some more friends in both class. Please continue to let others know that registration forms can be picked up in the church office all summer long. We would like to thank our Grace Church family for its continued support. Because of your generosity, our outreach to children & families in the community will continue, and we are so very grateful!

Have a wonderful & safe summer!

Trish Gentilman & Jen Lynds
preschool@atlanticbbn.net

It's time to enjoy the summer! Care with Grace will be getting ready shortly for our summer plans to begin. We also have some exciting trips planned over the next few months to the planetarium, a tour of Struthers Library Theatre, and a train ride in Titusville. The preschoolers will also be going on weekly trips to the library to participate in storytime there.



Cindy Kalkbrenner
Director



Kitchen Memorial
For: Martha Anderson
By: Mark & Laurie Rudd



The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **cereal, jelly, canned fruit, jell-o, and pudding** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!



Items for the July 2023 Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office mary@graceumcwarren.com by Friday, June 16.
Thank you.

Grace Promise Preschool Registration is now open! A completed registration form and **\$20 non-refundable registration fee** is required to hold a spot for your child for the 2023-2024 school year. Be sure to reserve a place for your child today! Additional forms can be picked up in the church office or by calling (814) 723-8011 during school hours.

Mrs. Gentilman & Mrs. Lynds preschool@atlanticbbn.net



Flock Talk

"I have no greater joy than to hear my children are walking in the truth."

3 John 1:4

June is the month to celebrate fathers! Is there a secret to being a good father? Yes, there is. It's about being emotionally available and meeting a child's needs. There is no recipe for how that looks and what kind of behavior is ideal. The model will be different in every home and in each unique relationship.

Our Father in heaven gave us a perfect example in His own relationship with Jesus. All we have to do is read John 17 to understand the depth of love and the eternal bond that overflows with pure joy. Jesus speaks of the glory shared between Him and the Father and of the love that unites you and I with them. These passages share such tenderness and reassurance of a father's love.

Are we humans capable of such love? Oh, yes! We take God at His word and we trust Him to blanket us with His protection and to fill our hearts with unconditional love. God has given us the perfect and most magnificent example of fatherhood. All we need to do is read the story of Christ to understand that a father's love has no bounds.

How do we celebrate these earthly fathers in a way that honors them and builds our relationships? We hold tight to their connection with us and we wrap our hearts around them. We forgive and we let go and we store memories deep in our hearts if they are gone and we are dearly missing them. Most importantly, we love the way we were taught by our gracious Father!

Very warmly,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

I have written 3 cards and cannot find the words to express how grateful we are to have come to Grace United Methodist. It fills my heart for the presence of God I feel. I rejoice in meeting whom I have.

Thank you from all of us.

Ashley (Spicer), Jeff, Noah, Zoey

Dear Grace Church-

Thank you so much for all your support and for standing with our family as we serve overseas (Thailand). We can't thank you enough for all your sacrificial prayers and giving. We pray God continues to grow and strengthen your church.

In Christ,
The Criders

GOT CARDS??? You all CERTAINLY did! I am overwhelmed with cards of all kinds. Over 2 rolls of stamps were also donated. I am in the process of sorting, organizing, and distributing them to various people. If you are in need of cards to use in your own "Greeting Ministry", please contact me (Cindy Price):

kcprice1@atlanticbb.net or call 814-723-3953

Grace Church Finance Report

It's so nice to see all of the new faces in church lately. Grace seems to be getting more lively each week. I'm happy to report the April finances below this month. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.



2023 Monthly and YTD Financials

| | April '23 | YTD |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| Total Income | \$31,934.22 | \$110,462.53 |
| | | |
| Office Expense | \$126.06 | \$3,310.80 |
| Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage) | \$5,145.82 | \$31,417.54 |
| Ministry Personnel | \$21,345.72 | \$90,947.49 |
| Church Council | \$317.79 | \$342.79 |
| Education Ministry | \$112.25 | \$391.33 |
| Nurture Ministry | \$297.39 | \$469.17 |
| Worship Ministry | \$189.47 | \$1,201.62 |
| Outreach Ministry | \$0.00 | \$401.96 |
| Connectional Apportionment | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Witness Ministry | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total Ministry & Expense | \$27,534.50 | \$128,482.70 |
| | | |
| Net Income | \$4,399.72 | (\$18,020.17) |

Borrowed Funds

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Account Balance 4/30/2023 | (\$112,479.19) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|

We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

It's the Women Care Center baby bottle fundraiser time! Change for Life!



The Women Care Center of Warren County have bottles available to fill from Mother's Day, May 14th until Father's Day, June 18th. We love coins, paper money, & checks made out to The Women's Care Center. No donation is too little or too great. Pick up a bottle today in Wesley Parlor. Thank you! Contact Judy Templeton with any questions 723-2618. Online giving is available through the Grace Church Website "give" link or on the VANCO FAITH app.

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



New! Grace Hiking Club

A new addition to the Fitness Ministry has already begun! A hiking club has newly formed and went on our first excursion on May 18th. A retired Conservation Officer guided us on a brisk five mile hike. This was a trial run to see how popular this offering would be and it was a great success!

There will be a new hike every month with our same guide who is well acquainted with the trails in our beautiful area. Everyone is welcome who feels they can adapt to an energetic hike with some terrain challenges. Each month, I will post an announcement in the bulletin to let you know the date, the destination and what to expect with levels of difficulty.

If anyone would like to volunteer to guide a hike, you are most welcome! The goal is to have a variety of hikes and dates that appeal to all levels. As the weather changes, we have already discussed having a Grace Snowshoe Club!

Please contact Sue Toombs for more information fourwindsranch@verizon.net or 814-730-9996.

Interested in a Walking Club?

Now is the time to take the first steps to start a walking club at Grace Church! The Fitness Ministry is taking the initiative to offer a "first walk" at Audubon on Friday, June 2nd. We will meet in the parking lot at 2:00 and plan on walking the trails for approximately one hour. Our speed will accommodate all levels since it is easy to navigate in small separate groups if we want to adjust to various fitness levels.

The goal with this group is to have someone at each walk volunteer for the next one. The "new" guide can pick their date and time and location. This will give us a creative approach to explore different places! Sue Toombs will lead the Audubon walk and is happy to answer any questions concerning what to expect.

Please see information above to contact.

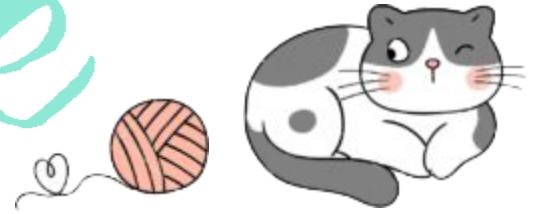


June 1 – Kevin Babcock
June 3 – Schuyler Campbell
June 5 – Todd Andersen, Doug Zaffino
June 6 – Katie Keeports, Carol Ostergard, Allison Sedon
June 7 – Sydney Brown, Stan Pearson
June 8 – Matthew Brooker, Jacob Carroll, Bill Thompson
June 9 – Skip Morrison
June 10 – Olivia Brocklehurst, Derek Hahn
June 11 – Katie Card, Diane Risher, Landon Shelby
June 12 – Daniel Jeffrey
June 13 – William McCollough
June 14 – Julie McManigle, Megan Moore
June 15 – Jackie Saber
June 16 – Hailey Peterson
June 17 – Scott Bonnell, Jamie Irwin, John Larson
June 18 – Laken Carroll, Koletin Zaffino
June 19 – Sandy Darr, Jeremy Steves
June 20 – Jamie Houghtalen, Tristan Shepherd, MaryLou Sleeman
June 21 – Chris Berdine, Lindsey Culbertson
June 22 – Justin Conarro, Summer Lucks, Peggy Willis, Michael Wilson, Henry Brown
June 23 – John Huber, Rachel Lynds
June 24 – Adele Armstrong, Mark Lynds, Preston McMeans, Skylar Zimmer
June 25 – Zakary Buerkle, Chad Burns, Madeline Ei, Hollie Johnson, Steven Knapp
June 26 – Jacob Fry, Jill McCollough
June 27 – Amy Black, Alex Danielson, Serena Haight
June 29 – Laura Phillips
June 30 – Leslie Stewart





june



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|
|  | CARE WITH GRACE DAYCARE is open Mon-Fri from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm located on the first floor (nursery) and the second floor.  | 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. |  | 1 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group  | 2 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga | 3 9:00 a Praise Team |
| 4 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing | 5 5:15 p Christian Yoga | 6 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball | 7 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W. | 8 | 9 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga | 10 9:00 a Praise Team |
| 11 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 2:00 p Higginbotham Hall Reserved 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing | 12 5:15 p Christian Yoga | 13 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i> 6:00 p Pickleball | 14 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W. | 15  | 16 | 17 9:00 a Praise Team 9:00 a Higginbotham Hall Reserved |
| 18 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 4:0 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing | 19 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga | 20 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Childcare</i> | 21 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W. | 22 | 23 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga | 24 9:00 a Praise Team |
| 25 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing | 26 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Full of Grace Women's Ministry | 27 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball | 28 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p C.R.E.W. | 29 | 30 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga |  |

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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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!