

Grace Notes

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

To know Christ and to make Him known!

Senior Pastor: *Rev. William Beatty*
Director of
Congregational Care: *Cindy Price*
Choir Director: *Floyd Moore*
Office Administrator: *Meghan Brooker*
Office Manager: *Mary Quiggle-Pickering*
Director of
Children's Ministries: *Libby Yaegle*
Director of Youth &
Family Ministries: *Nicki Egger*

June 2021

*"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 2 - 6:00 p - SPRC

June 8 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees

June 14 - 7:00 p - Worship



This month's Communion offering will benefit **Warren County Campground Ministry**. This outreach ministry provides a Chaplain for summer visitors at

Buckaloons Campground and Chapman Dam State Park. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution.

Ushers & Greeters



June Greeters

Coming soon.

June Ushers

Coming soon.

From the Pastor

Preach, Pray, or Die at a Moment's Notice

I was at a district meeting yesterday where we met with a pastor and had a conversation about ministry. It was a perfectly ordinary meeting, really – the pastor was engaging and excited about the ministry opportunity (thank God!). One of the things we do at these meetings is ask someone to “pray the candidate in” and “pray the candidate out.” That is, open and close our meeting with the individual with prayer.

At the meeting yesterday, a retired pastor was asked to “pray the candidate in” but she must have heard something like “pray for the candidate.”

Immediately, she bowed her head and began to pray, “Lord, we thank you...” It was... uncomfortable asking someone to *stop* praying...

She laughed and said something about mishearing the request. I appreciated how ready she was, with no warning or preparation, to begin to pray.

John Wesley is often credited (even by a United Methodist Bishop and one of my Seminary Professors) as telling ministers:

“You must be ready to preach, pray, or die at a moment's notice.”

(Wesley probably never said these words... but he embodied them)

It's good, solid, Jesus-like advice. And it's not just for the preachers or the professionals, I believe this is true for all of us.

Preach, pray, or die. That's kind of the calling of all Christ followers, right? At a moment's notice? I have a terrible habit of saying, “Just a minute.” or “I'll get to it later.” Sigh...

We preach with our lives. Another saying that gets attributed to someone who probably never said it (this time, Saint Francis of Assisi) is: “Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.”

Again, good, solid, Jesus-like advice, right? The

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) is chock-full of this kind of “live what you believe” stuff. Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you, hating someone is very much like murdering them (so don't do it!), take care of your own sinfulness before you attack someone else's, that whole “wide and narrow gates” analogy and the house built on sand or rock – it's about our living witness, right? “You are the salt of the earth.” and, “You are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5:13,14)

While I'm in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus addresses prayer and dying, too, right? “Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?” (Matthew 6:27) The passage about serving two masters is about where we put our eternal trust (Matthew 6:19-24).

And prayer. Jesus gives us a model of prayer (the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13) and surrounds it with some simple but profound teaching about the importance and nature of prayer: it's a conversation with God, it's not about the number of words (or even the *right* words), it's about the rightness of our hearts. Paul says, “pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Are we ready to “preach, pray, or die at a moment's notice”? Are we living our faith, sharing our faith, boldly (yet humbly) going before the throne of God, rejoicing always, praying continually, giving thanks in all circumstances (1 Thess 1:16-18)? If God called you home right now, are you ready?

I can't guarantee much in life (death and taxes, right? and change...), but I can say with some certainty that today and tomorrow and next week and next year opportunities will arise for you to “preach or pray” with no notice – that every interaction with every person every day is a testimony of our life of faith – it's preaching (and when necessary, using words!) and people and events that come to our attention always need prayer – pray without ceasing!

So, are you ready to preach, pray, or die?

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

Choir Notes

FINALLY! (And now it's summer!) Our church and our choir have weathered the pandemic storm for more than a year, with all kinds of adaptive worship. Now we finally have the opportunity to meet as a complete choir in the choir loft and the choir room! And... it's summer.



The choir will start our summer schedule on June 6th, the first Sunday in June. We'll meet in the choir room (ask a friend to help locate it – it's been a while!) at **10:30** in preparation for the 11 o'clock worship service. No robe required! Everyone is welcome!

I am always amazed at the talent and dedication of our pianist, Kris Magnuson, and our organist, Carmen Pearce. They both add so much to our ability to worship here at Grace. Please thank them for me!

Looking ahead, we are also developing some "new normal" music ministries. Stay tuned! See you at church!

Floyd Moore

From the Director of Congregational Care

ANGELS AMONG US

In May, when Charles Maynard spoke at the 9:30 and 11:00 services, Pastor Bill gave the 8:30 group the chance to "Ask the Pastor Anything". Once question was, "What good have you seen come out of the pandemic?" I feel that this is something we all need to ponder.

I believe that people helping people is probably one of the best things that has happened. Our Re-Covered by Grace mask ministry supplied over 1,500 masks to the community. The Grace Food Pantry and HOPES Fund were both vital to many. And, now another outreach is happening ... Yarn Angels are gathering again.

I looked into reviving this after a friend, Chris, asked me if we had a Shawl Ministry at our church. Thinking she just wanted a group to knit with, I

was able to get everyone together again. But, then I found out what her motivation really was!

Chris has a dear friend, Minde, with brain cancer. She was diagnosed 10 years ago and is enduring her last chance treatment ... radiation daily for 3 weeks. This young woman's prognosis is not good. Chris wanted to knit her a shawl ... but not just any shawl. She wanted this one to be crafted by a group of "Angels" who would pray as they each knitted their own rows on to this gift of love. Minde would then be "covered by prayer"! Isn't that beautiful?

LORD, bless *all* that we do, so that you will be glorified.

Cindy Price

Hello Grace Church!
June... really? Can it really be June already? I find myself saying this more and more lately. I get caught up in the weekly routines of work and home life and before I know it the week is gone. What did I accomplish and even more frightening, what didn't I accomplish? We all have such fantastic intentions don't we?



In your mind you were going to call your mother, water the flowers (or plant them in my case), declutter the garage, replace the spent lightbulb. All the while your own lightbulb is spent! CAN I GET AN AMEN! An article in the Christian Post from June 2011 is as relevant now as it was ten years ago. Christian Post contributor, Mari-Anna Stålnacke said, "We yearn to know God more deeply, but our lifestyle choices often make it next to impossible. Then we wonder why we feel spiritually empty, dried up, even sick."

Spiritual health means that we are alive and vibrant in Christ. For that, we need some disciplines to help us stay on the right track, focused on God and not on our own problems or distractions. Ms. Stålnacke suggests the following:

- † Prayer, silence and solitude: Spending time in God's presence, with or without words, empowers us. It is a privilege and a gift to be able to commune with God through prayer.

- † Listening to God; spiritual journaling: Listening-paying attention-to God’s whispers in our hearts reminds us that God is active in our lives. Writing down prayers, thoughts, questions, longings and hopes proves meaningful to many people of faith.
- † Bible-reading and study: Meditating on God’s Word keeps us focused on God, rather than on our problems and wants. Through the Bible God speaks to us and guides us personally.
- † Obeying God’s commands: Putting our faith into practice increases our joy. This is one of the paradoxes of faith: when we submit ourselves to God, we find ourselves-and in an odd way, we are freed.
- † Loving God and our neighbors: Surrendering to God leads us to a life of love. God is love, and when we live and serve in Christ, we experience love ourselves.
- † Fellowship with other believers: Building and being part of a Christian community equips us for sharing and caring, within and beyond that community. The values of God’s kingdom are different than those of the world, so we need the support and encouragement of other believers in order to truly live as Christians in our daily lives.

Take time to connect with God and feel His energy revive your spirit. God Bless!

Nicki Egger

It feels like someone turned a switch and we went from mild spring weather to hot and muggy summer weather, which my kids are very pleased about since it means we get to play with the water toys in the yard. With regards to weather, I would ask that you all start praying now for good weather for Vacation Bible School this summer. This year’s VBS will be in-person and completely outside, rain or shine, however it may be



a little more enjoyable if we’re experiencing the shine rather than the rain. VBS will be at First Lutheran Church from Sunday, July 18 to Wednesday, July 21 from 6:00-8:15 each evening. The theme this year is “Rocky Railway, Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through.” All children from age five years old through those entering sixth grade are welcome to attend, no church membership is necessary. You can find the registration form online on Grace Church’s website, the Embrace Grace Facebook page, and also on the Community VBS Facebook Page.

It has been wonderful to see community members come together to plan this event for the children in our town. If you would like to be involved or donate items, please contact me at Libby.Yaegle@gmail.com or call the church office.

Libby Yaegle



We are so thankful we made it through the school year without any significant shutdowns. The kids were such troopers and we are so proud of them for making the best of an unprecedented situation. Our prayers were answered and the weather was wonderful the last day so we could have our send off to kindergarten outside and didn’t have to worry about masks and distancing. We look forward to seeing our morning children again next year and still have openings for some more friends in the afternoon (4-year-old) 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!

Trish Gentilman- Director
preschool@atlanticbbn.net

Care with Grace is moving in a wonderful direction! We have had several new staff start their employment recently, myself included. I am so happy to be here! Our summer enrollment stands at 43 as of right now. For Fall we are slated to have 47 children enrolled. We have more new staff starting soon including someone for the position of Group Supervisor who will also be our new Hippo room lead teacher. It is my goal to increase enrollment even more in the coming months and be THE daycare in Warren. I am confident that with our current staff and support team we will reach our goals. We look forward to a wonderful, fun-filled summer as we teach the children based on our themes for this year. One of the themes I am looking forward to is our Olympic week. We will have many games to play and challenges for the kids to complete to earn their certificates of achievement. We will also be taking that week to explore the idea of different countries and cultures around the world.



Marc Merchant – Director



During Worship
9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
11:00 a.m. (0-5 yrs.)
June 13 –
June 20 –
June 27 –

June Worship Assistants



Advisors:
Linda Knapp 726-1199
Sheryl Richards 726-3876

Coming soon.

Flock Talk



“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”

Ephesians 4:2

Ah, the month of June! We continue our trek into summer and we do it with great inspiration. A safer horizon is beginning to come into focus. How grateful we are that God has protected us through this whirlwind time in our lives.

And, now! We have Father’s Day fast approaching. Fathers have that great reputation for “bestowing wisdom”. That’s a wee bit of pressure to all the dads who planned on having a free day at sea!

Some of the great advice my Dad passed down was given when he least expected it. It was through the way he always responded. I asked my Mom once what she thought was one of his best traits and she said, “He always put his pen down”. I knew exactly what that meant since my dad worked at home for so many years.

Whenever one of us walked into his office, just off the kitchen, he would stop everything he was doing to hear what we had to say. It was usually something insignificant, something that just crossed our mind. To him, it didn’t matter. What mattered is that someone he loved was sitting across from him at his desk and had been drawn to his company. He never multi-tasked us.

I never felt rushed, never felt insignificant, never felt like his work or the clock was more important than me. He didn’t teach me to be that way or quiz me on why I wasn’t. He gave me “his example of what patience looks like.” How it feels, how it leaves a lasting impression. He taught me to see the other person’s needs and to rest my overstuffed schedule for the sake of kindness.

The next time you have the opportunity to encourage or to simply listen, remember how vastly important the little things are, and “put the pen down”. God bless!

Gratefully,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

Children's Sunday School is starting again on June 13 and will continue through the summer. The last day of Summer Sunday School will be September 5. We are looking for volunteers to help teach the class with Grades 1-5 (the grade they just completed), no experience required, just a love of children and a desire to share the love of Jesus. Lessons are pre-printed for your convenience. If you are willing to take at least 1 Sunday, that would be very helpful! Please contact Melinda Johnson, 814-688-6702 or meljohnson117@gmail.com. Vicki Morrison is remaining with the pre-school and Kindergarten children for the summer.



The Outreach/ Witness Team is looking for volunteers for the Hot Dog Giveaway at the July 4th Parade (on Saturday, July 3rd), if we find someone to chair this event (Hint Hint!). Please contact Chuck Keeports @ 814-688-8534 if you have any questions or to volunteer.



The Annual Shoe Drive for House of Hope is looking for gently worn shoes, boots, and sandals. The donation box is located in the hall just outside of Pastor Bill's office. Collecting will continue until June 30th.



The Women's Care Center of Warren County **Change For Life** baby bottle campaign is going on now. Bottles are available in Wesley Parlor. Please return bottles by Father's Day, Sunday, **June 20th**. Online giving is available on the church website or the GIVE+ app.



Our budget the month of April 2021:



Other income consists of funds from Sunday School, Room Rental, Bible Studies, Literature Tables, Fitness Ministry,

Easter, Christmas, and Misc. Income.

BUDGET	2021	2020
Other Income:	17.00	3,801.14
Offerings & Tithes	<u>29,247.14</u>	<u>24,442.97</u>
Total Income	29,264.14	28,244.11
Number of Sundays:	4	4
Borrowed	0	0
Expense:		
Staff Parish	21,593.06	21,476.31
Trustees	4,983.77	4,112.31
Ministry	<u>4,281.29</u>	<u>4,237.91</u>
Total Expense	30,858.12	29,826.53
Attendance*:	1,179	958

Connectional Apportionments

Obligation- 3,334.83
Paid to date 13,339.32
 Ahead (Behind) 0

Percent of year to date paid 33%

His income: Was \$1,020.03 higher in April 2021 compared to April 2020

Our expenses: Were \$1,031.59 higher in April 2021 compared to April 2020

We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings given.

*Attendance is approximated due to online worship services.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair



The Grace Church Food Pantry is well stocked on everything and does not need anything at this time. Thank you for your generosity!

Rock Railway VBS: Jesus' power pulls us through
 Join us to see what the power of Jesus can do! All children age 5 years through those entering 6th grade. First Lutheran Church (109 W 3rd Ave, Warren, PA 16365) All events will be held outside! Sunday, July 18, 2021 through Wednesday, July 21, 2021 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Parent information packet and registration can be found on the Grace Church website.



We are so thankful for the donations that are useful for those we serve. Now there's an online way for you to help! By visiting our Amazon wishlist, you can buy items that we need for the food pantry and Covered by Grace and have them delivered directly to the church. Visit our website www.graceumcwarrenpa.com and locate the Amazon wishlist buttons.



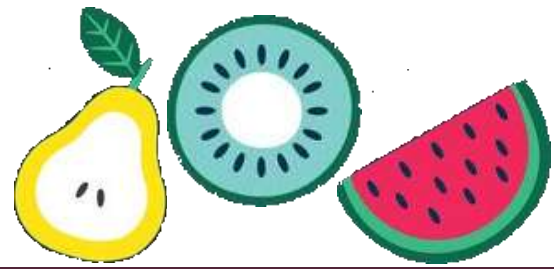
Items for the July Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the Church office (mary@graceumcwarren.com) by **Wednesday, June 16. Thank you.**



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



June



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p <i>SPRC</i> 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	3 6:00 p Praise Team	4 12:00 p Yarn Angels	5
6 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship	7	8 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i>	9 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	10 6:00 p Praise Team	11 12:00 p Yarn Angels	12
13 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School	14 7:00 p <i>Worship Committee</i>	15	16 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	17 6:00 p Praise Team	18 12:00 p Yarn Angels	19
20 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School	21 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group	22	23 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	24 6:00 p Praise Team	25 12:00 p Yarn Angels	26
27 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School	28	29	30 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	CARE WITH GRACE DAYCARE is open daily from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm located on the first floor (nursery) and the second floor.	PROMISE PRESCHOOL is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 – 11:30 am (3-year-olds) and 12:30 – 3:00 pm (4-year-olds) located on the ground floor.	

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- Grace Praise Team -

*Pastor Bill, Julie Danielson, Chuck Keeports, Walter Miller, Dave Moore,
Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Keith Price, Shirley Shafer, Liz Anderson, Mary Hellman,
Aaron Stearns, Chris Ei, John Lewis, Alice Pedersen, Cindy Dziendziel*

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!