

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: *Tyler Dymond*
Director of Youth &
Family Ministries: *Nicki Egger*

March

2022

*"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



March Meetings

March 1 - 6:00 p - *SPRC*
March 1 - 6:00 p - *Nurture*
March 8 - 6:00 p - *Property Trustees*
March 15 - 6:00 p - *Finance*
March 15 - 6:00 p - *Preschool*
March 22 - 6:00 p - *Church Council*



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

From the Pastor

Spring... Finally?

Well, officially spring rolls on the 20th of March. I'm not even going to try to predict what the weather will be like as I type this more than a month before 😊

But this is the season – as it begins to really blossom here in Northwestern Pennsylvania – brings new life, new color, new warmth, replacing the dark, drab, cold of winter. Since it's a cycle we see every year, it's easy to take it for granted.

1816 was known as The Year Without a Summer because (scientists and historians believe) a massive volcanic eruption in Indonesia disrupted the weather all around the world. In the United States, there was frost in May and June in some of the higher elevations and even snow in early June. There was a persistent fog in places around the eastern US that wind and rain would not disperse. The entire world was affected in some way.

So, imagine spring never comes. Or, rather, winter just seems to dwindle down to... less winter. It's dark, drab and cold all the time. In some ways, it can feel like that in our faith journey – that it's the same, kind of predictable, drab... never anything new.

But that's not God's intention for our seasons – spring follows winter, summer follows spring. There are lots of years where there are anomalous moments but the pattern holds. And so, too, in our faith. A new day is coming. Not the same as yesterday, not drab and dull and cold. A new day. New life. New color.

Psalms 118:24 says,

“This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.”

Each day is a gift from God – each moment – each breath. God promises us that if we are in Christ (that is, if we wholly devote ourselves to Christ), we are made new (2 Corinthians 5:17). God is far less interested in what I used to be, and much more interested in what I could be. Made new.

That's a powerful statement for me. I am not who I used to be, I am a new creation in Christ. I am forgiven, so I will forgive, I am blessed so I will bless, I am loved so I will love, (as one worship song says) “I am who You say I am.”

For Grace Church, this is the (brand new) day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. Again and again we see in Scripture God's command to love our neighbors – to love our enemies – to love one another. Time and time in Scripture we hear God say that living out a life of faith that builds others up instead of tearing them down honors God (caring for the fatherless and widows in Isaiah, Micah 6:8, John 13:34-35, 1 Corinthians 8:1; 14:12).

“Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers all wrongs.” (Proverbs 10:12)

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8)

Someone asked me, “When are you going to stop talking about love your neighbor?” I answered, “When we all start doing it.” Including myself.

Love really is the answer. True, godly, God focused love.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

“The times, they are a’ changin’.” (A few timely notes.)



In February the Choir and Madrigals decided to change our rehearsal times to coincide with the C.R.E.W. meetings on Wednesday evenings. The Choir now rehearses from 6:30 to 8 p.m., with the Madrigals prior, starting at 6. Now all the parents and friends of our youth group may sing while the youth group meets upstairs. (A convenient coincidence?)

Another change in February was our church masking policy. Effective February 18, 2022, the church face mask policy was updated to be "face masks are still recommended for those who are not vaccinated. Face masks are optional for those who are fully vaccinated." Prepare for a time when the pandemic is completely gone and we can celebrate and worship fully again.

The first Sunday in March follows Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Lenten season, in preparation for our Easter Celebration on April 17.

As we worship in March, remember to turn ALL of your clocks AHEAD at 2a.m. on Sunday, March 20th. That way you'll be tired, but on time for your chosen worship service!

Please continue to pray for your choir. There is no one in your choir that doesn't need your prayers! We'll all be glad when all of our members are healthy and well enough to sing God's praises with us.

Celebrate with us each Sunday morning at 8:30, 9:30, or 11:00 either comfortably in person or online anytime. Look for a blessing. Look for peace.

Floyd Moore
amfm123@verizon.net

GROWING IN MATURITY

Adapted from: The Power of Being Thankful Devotional by Joyce Meyer November 15, 2021

Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth [in all things, speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly]. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). Ephesians 4:15 (AMPC)



God does not expect us to be perfect. In fact, it is precisely because we never could be perfect that He sent Jesus to save us and the Holy Spirit to help us in our daily lives. If we could do it by ourselves, we would not need help. Thankfully, Jesus came to forgive our imperfections and to wipe them away in God's sight. We actually are perfect through Jesus, but we can never be perfect in our own performance.

Jesus did say, "Be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48 NLT), but study of the original language reveals that He meant that we should grow in complete maturity of godliness in mind and character. God is not disappointed that we have not arrived at manifesting perfect behavior, but He does delight in finding us growing into maturity.

Prayer Starter:

Father, I am so thankful that You help me grow in spiritual completeness and maturity. I am not perfect, but because of Your work, I thank you that I am okay and I am on my way! **Amen**

Cindy Price

Thank you to all who came to our valentines party! It was a huge success! Pictures will be posted on our bulletin board soon! Please keep you eye open on our calendar for upcoming events! In March we will be having a child and me cooking event, more info will be announced soon! We are always looking for volunteers in various positions, wether it's helping run the event, run a station, set up, tear down, or prep materials! If you're interested in helping please email me at tyler@graceumcwarren.com!



Youth: Thank you to all who supported CREW's trip to SPARK! They had a wonderful time and learned a lot! This month (March) we will be having a 30 hour Famine in conjunction with a lock-in!

Tyler Dymond

The month of February is behind us, and we hope Phil's prediction is WRONG! We are ready for spring! We enjoyed our class party and exchanged Valentine's and treats with our friends. We have three more months of school before summer break and pray we can all stay healthy and finish out the year without any more COVID-19 related issues.



Our current afternoon class will soon register for Kindergarten and are excited about working on all those skills they will need as they begin public school in the fall. The 3-year-old class is completing their color books and we will be celebrating "rainbow day" with songs, treats and games.

Will March come in like a lion or a lamb? Will the leprechaun visit our classroom and leave us some gold? As we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, keep our eyes open for "visitors" and keep track of the weather, we look forward to our crocuses coming up to tell us that SPRING is officially here!

Our Sarris Candies Fundraiser is going very well! Thank you to all that have ordered so far. Easter is coming soon, so it's also a great resource for all those Easter treats!

We still have a few openings for the 2022-2023 schoolyear so if you know of anyone looking for preschool for their child, registration forms are available in the church office or by calling 723-8011. We feel fortunate every day to experience the joys of working with these children!

Check out our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GracePromisePreschool

Trish Gentilman & Jen Lynds

March is upon us! That means it will start to get warmer, the sun will be out longer, and everything is going green! While Care with Grace has nothing notable going on in the month of March, we are looking forward to the daylight savings time change and the warmer weather. The kids love going for walks, and we can't wait to get back outside with them. Our classrooms will also be having St Patrick's parties where everyone will be encouraged to wear green and we may just have some green snacks for them as well.



Marc Merchant
Director



During Worship
9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)
March 6 –Becky Fuller
March 13 – Anna Peterson
March 20 – Becky Fuller
March 27 – Anna Peterson



The Grace Church Food Pantry does not need anything at this time. Thank you to all who contribute.



Items for the April Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office mary@graceumcwarren.com by Tuesday, March 15.
Thank you.



Flock Talk

*"And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good."
2nd Thessalonians 3:13*

This is a heartfelt thank you to our volunteers at Grace Church. As we settle into the present year with new faces on committees and calendars filling up quickly, we look around and see something beautiful unfolding. We see the earnest generosity of people from all walks of life pulling together to keep Grace Church afloat.

Whether you are a first time volunteer or a seasoned member who has years of service, you're very appreciated, highly valued and greatly needed. Thank you for teaching both young and old. Thank you for standing at the door and welcoming people. Thank you for everything you do behind the scenes that wonderfully appears Sunday mornings. Thank you for attending meeting after meeting and carrying armloads of minutes and agendas. Thank you for never tiring of serving in the kitchen.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. To mention every gratitude for each volunteer would take many, many tender words. Most of all, thank YOU for believing in the church and being a representative of Christ's love. Our volunteers go into the community and display an efficiency of the Lord's house in a way that we could never do without being a family.

We may not have everything figured out and we may need to backtrack and re-think our next moves. But we do it all with kindness toward one another and a spirit of hospitality. When you see a volunteer, let them know you care. Let them know that the hours they spend are worth every minute when it comes to sharing the love of Jesus!

With abundant gratitude,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

Fitness Ministry New Schedule Beginning March 7th

We have come out of the gate strong! Both new and familiar faces are coming through the door and enjoying Christian fellowship while they pursue better health. This is a glorious community outreach!

I am attempting to accommodate schedules better with an expanded schedule. If you are a member, please note the slight change in days and times. These times are for the Christian yoga classes. A strength training class will begin in April on Friday mornings.

Monday 5:15 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday 12:15 - 1:30 pm
Wednesday 5:15 - 6:30 pm
Friday 12:15-1:30 pm

All are welcome! You can simply show up or contact me if you wish.
Sue Toombs 814-730-9996 fourwindsranch@verizon.net

Momentum

**We live in a small town... we attend a small town church...
How do we use our momentum to make a big difference?**



This week I was searching for inspiration for the Grace Newsletter, so I took to Google, and keeping with the "momentum" theme, I started my search. Some days it's amazing what you can find on the internet. I stumbled upon some examples of momentum in faith and I found a perfect analogy for Grace Church. Without the passion of Grace Church members, our velocity, these ministries may die on the vine and we will lose our momentum as a church. On the other hand, without the funding for these ministries, our mass, we will not be able to sustain our ministries.

1 Samuel 17: 48 - 49, the Bible reads: "That roused the Philistine, and he started toward David. David took off from the front line, running toward the Philistine. David reached into his pocket for a stone, slung it, and hit the Philistine hard in the forehead, embedding the stone deeply. The Philistine crashed, facedown in the dirt."

Sometimes we think, "What can I do ... What difference can I really make"? I'm sure that David had a great many doubts facing the mighty Philistine, Goliath, but with God by his side, he triumphed over the giant. We face many challenges today. Turn on the tv and there's no shortage of bad news - a pandemic that's almost two years old, countries on the verge of war, political unrest worldwide. These challenges seem like Goliath to us, a giant that seems impossible to beat. Take a closer look at our community - there are many people in need right here in Warren - neighbors and friends. Sometimes the need is easy to see and sometimes we need to look for it.

We may live in a small town and attend a small town church, but working together, we can make a big difference. We can be David. Our ministries are making an impact. As a church we are having success in addressing our deficit. If we continue to work toward good financial health for the church, it will make us stronger and give us the ability to continue to make a big impact. Let's continue to pray to have God by our side, so we can increase our momentum into 2022.

2022 Actual to Budget

	January '22 Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Income	\$34,553.68	\$34,553.68	\$35,491.66
Office Expense	\$371.25	\$371.25	\$650.01
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$7,926.66	\$7,926.66	\$8,354.19
Ministry Personnel	\$23,765.49	\$23,765.49	\$28,401.48
Church Council	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$83.34
Education Ministry	\$222.55	\$222.55	\$233.35
Nurture Ministry	\$451.30	\$451.30	\$345.83
Worship Ministry	\$82.78	\$82.78	\$291.67
Outreach Ministry	\$24.99	\$24.99	\$41.67
Connectional Apportionment	\$2,939.00	\$2,939.00	\$2,939.00
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$166.67
Total Ministry & Expense	\$35,809.02	\$35,809.02	\$41,507.21
Net Income	(\$1,255.34)	(\$1,255.34)	(\$6,015.55)

Borrowed Funds

Account Balance 1/31/21	(\$82,023.61)
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

Memorial

For: Nancy Carr

By: Ardelle Johnson, Stan & Shirley Pearson, Dale Allmendinger



Kitchen

For: Nancy Carr

By: Harold & Janis Wall

New Acolyte Class

The next session of acolyte training classes will begin on Tuesday, March 8, from approximately 3:45-5:00. We will begin with a snack and a short video, "Chuck Knows Church." The classes continue for at least 3 more Tuesdays, March 15th, 22nd, and 29th. Instruction will include learning about church symbols, the acolyte's code of conduct, church history, and about the sacraments of baptism and communion. We will practice lighting and extinguishing the altar candles, which are symbols of Christ's light. At the last meeting a pizza party will be enjoyed and all "veteran" acolytes will be invited to attend to get acquainted with the newest members.

If you are in grade 3 or above, and would like to become an acolyte, please register by calling the church office at 723-9440 or Linda Knapp at 726-1199.

This is an exciting opportunity to serve during our worship at Grace Church.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY RETURNS!!!!

Hurray! After two years without Women's Bible study at Grace U.M.C., classes will resume Tuesday evening, April 5th from 6:30 to 8:00p.m., and Wednesday morning, April 6th from 10:00 to 11:30a.m. There is a chance that we will offer a class online, but that is not definite yet. We will not continue with the study from March of 2020. Instead, we will be studying **The Names of God** by Melissa Spoelstra. Below is information you will need:

1. Women's Bible study is open to all women, whether they attend Grace UMC or not. If you've been a part of our studies before, think of someone new to invite this time. If you have never participated, please come. You will be warmly welcomed.
2. The study will last 8 weeks. The first week's session will be when most of you will receive your workbooks. Also, there will be a class introduction, explaining how you are to use your workbooks, and you will view a video. **It is important for you to attend that first session.** There are 5 homework lessons per week for 6 weeks for you to complete at home. You may do the 5 weekly lessons any 5 days of the week you choose, but please prayerfully consider whether you can devote the time necessary. The 8th week, we will gather for food and fellowship and discuss our closing thoughts about the study.
3. **Please sign up for the study by Tuesday, March 15th** so that books can be ordered to arrive in time for the first session. Liz Anderson and Renee Magnuson will co-lead this study. To sign up, call Renee Magnuson at 814-726-7890 between 9:00a.m. and 9:00p.m. (If you leave a message, speak slowly and distinctly, giving your name, best phone number, and which class you wish to attend), or email Renee at radmagnuson@gmail.com or Liz at moirazz@yahoo.com. Liz was able to download the participant's workbook, The Names of God by Melissa Spoelstra. If you are able to do that, great, but we still need your name, phone number and class you will be attending.
4. We will meet in Eaton Parlor, at the front of the church building, not Wesley Parlor behind the sanctuary, as we have in the past. If you enter through the front doors of the church building, Eaton Parlor is on your left. There is a ramp up to the front doors.
5. Books cost \$10.50 each. This is more than the study books have cost in the past. You are encouraged to pay for your book at the first session or as soon after as possible. Please pay with cash or a check made payable to "Grace U.M.C." with "Women's Bible study" on the memo line. If you are not able to afford this workbook, **DO NOT LET THAT STOP YOU FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDY!**
6. You will need a Bible for your homework and at our group sessions.
7. The goal of Women's Bible study is always to bring class members into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ through reading, discussing, and applying God's Word.

Grace Promise Preschool and Care with Grace Daycare are having a Sarris Candies fundraiser! Orders will be accepted through April 10 so you can order for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter! To order go to sarriscandiesfundraising.com and click on fundraising then online ordering. Put in **Group ID 10-3656**. Orders will ship directly to your door for only a \$5 processing fee.





March 1 - Robert Jones, Jessica Norris

March 2 - Amy Stimmell, Ashley Flagella

March 3 - Pete Smith, Vickie Morrison, Cheryl Gupta, Kurt Shafer, Emily Steves

March 4 - Shana Grosch, Korrine Sauers, Alyssa Albaugh, Audrey Wurst

March 5 - Becky Hampson

March 6 - Roman Pearce, Dean Knowlton, Evelyn Phillips

March 7 - Alyssa Farr

March 8 - June Reigard, Alyssa Steves

March 9 - Dale Allmendinger II, Kim Johnson, Tyson Morrison

March 10 - Andrea Sedon, Hannah Nolan

March 11 - Betty Swanson

March 12 - Pat Slattery, Scott Frazier, Gail Burns

March 15 - Joy Wiedmaier, Karen Larsen

March 17 - Larry Conrad

March 18 - Mike Card, Brady Grosch, Quincy Nolan, Amber Buchanan, MaKenna Wagner

March 19 - Alex Moore, Julia Green

March 22 - Gwen Savych, Abigail Mack, Bob Silzle, Anthony Tatarski

March 23 - Patty Amon, Dave Moore

March 24 - Randy Moore, Mary Gustafson, Brynn Norris

March 27 - Cindy Price

March 29 - Joyce Yeagle, Art Anderson

March 30 - Brenda Beers, Wendy Zimmer, Lindsey Vavala, Elena Brocklehurst, Ella Solberg

March 31 - Avery Wurst



March



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	1 11:00 a Staff Meeting 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i> 6:00 p <i>Nurture</i> 6:00 p Pickleball 8:30 p Stuff Bible Study	2 Ash Wednesday 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 6:30 p Choir	3 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Praise Team 6:00 p Disciple II	4 10:30 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	5 12:00 p Higginbotham Hall Reserved
6 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School	7 9:30 a Stuff Bible Study 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Stuff Bible Study	8 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i> 6:00 p Pickleball 8:30 p Stuff Bible Study	9 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 6:30 p Choir	10 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Praise Team 6:00 p Disciple II	11 10:30 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	12
13 Daylight Savings 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Girl Scouts 1:30 p Higginbotham Hall Reserved	14 9:30 a Stuff Bible Study 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Stuff Bible Study	15 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p <i>Finance</i> 6:00 p <i>Preschool</i> 6:00 p Pickleball 8:30 p Stuff Bible Study	16 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 6:30 p Choir	17 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Praise Team 6:00 p Disciple II	18 10:30 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	19
20 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 4:00 P Watson Home	21 9:30 a Stuff Bible Study 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Stuff Bible Study	22 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i> 6:00 p Pickleball 8:30 p Stuff Bible Study	23 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 6:30 p Choir	24 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Praise Team 6:00 p Disciple II	25 10:30 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	26 12:00 p Higginbotham Hall Reserved
27 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Girl Scouts	28 9:30 a Stuff Bible Study 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Stuff Bible Study	29 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Pickleball 8:30 p Stuff Bible Study	30 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p C.R.E.W. 6:30 p Choir	31 5:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Praise Team 6:00 p Disciple II	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.	

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
501 Pennsylvania Ave. E.
Warren, PA 16365

Published monthly;
March 2022

- Grace Praise Team -

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

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!