

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*

May 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*



May Meetings

May 4 - 6:30 p - Education
May 10 - 6:00 p - Finance
May 11 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
May 18 - 6:00 p - Childcare
May 24 - 7:00 p - Outreach
May 25 - 6:00 p - Church Council

Ushers & Greeters



May Greeters

Will resume soon.

May Ushers

Will resume soon.



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

From the Pastor

You. Are. My. Biggest. Fan

One of my daughter's favorite movies is a Tom Hanks vanity project called *That Thing You Do* about a (semi-fictional) sixties one-hit wonder band from Erie, PA called "The Wonders." It doesn't really explore deep themes of life, the universe and everything, but it does touch on the nature of fame, relationships and the fickle nature of the music industry.

There's a scene where the drummer of the Wonders, Guy Patterson, has a chance to meet his drumming hero, (the fictional) jazz drummer Dell Paxton. When Patterson introduces himself to Paxton, he is so nervous that his introduction, rushed, goes like this:

Guy Patterson: I'm Guy Patterson, I'm from Erie, Pennsylvania, I'm in a band called The Wonders and we just cut a record, we're out here on the coast and I play the drums and I have all your records well not all of them but a lot of them but ah at least I did until some of them got swiped when I was stationed in Germany and you were playing in Germany at the time that I was stationed there, but you know what I couldn't see you because you were playing in Hamburg and I was stationed in Munich but I listen to your records and I think you're great.

[takes a breath]

You are my biggest fan.

Dell Paxton: Thanks.

I love that moment. "You are my biggest fan." Of course he meant to flip that around – I am your biggest fan. It's a funny little moment in the movie.

I was thinking, though, about Grace Church. Who might say about us, "You are my biggest fan"? You know what I mean? Who in this community knows that we are for them? Who knows that we are in their corner?

What if we focused on being FOR WARREN COUNTY?

You know the church is too often accused of just being against things, of being a negative force in

people's lives. Don't do this, don't believe that, don't say that, don't go there.

What if we were for people? Jesus was for people.

"When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." (Matthew 9:36)

What if we would FOR the people around us? I mean no matter what they believe or how they live? What if we could see beyond the stuff that divides us like political views and religious differences, like views on wearing a mask or getting a vaccine, like the color of our skin or the circumstances of our birth. What if we were simply there FOR people?

Being for someone means you accept that person and value that person as a human being, made in the image of God, breathed the breath of life by the Holy Spirit of God.

Being for someone means they don't have to live up to your standards, but you have to live up to God's standards.

Being for someone means that their worth and dignity is important to you because it is important to God.

Being for someone means that it's about them, not you.

So, how can we be FOR WARREN COUNTY?

It starts in each of our hearts and minds as we look at our community, our neighborhood, our family, our friends, our enemies (our frenemies even!!). It starts when we fix our eyes on Jesus and not on ourselves.

Let's be FOR WARREN COUNTY!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

I'm Contagious!

A politician recently came to to my door on a Saturday and asked how I was doing. That big guy physically recoiled after I told him I have painful shingles in my eye. I guess he worried I might blink at him!

Shingles are quite contagious when they're new. I was not very contagious (or happy) at the time.

Then I got to thinking. I AM contagious. My attitude, my outlook, my belief in God is contagious. Almost everything I say or do, good or bad, is contagious. There's not much I can do about it. No mask, no distance, no cleanup can hide the evidence of how I live my life.

That got me thinking about a simple old Sunday school song. Sing along:

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine.

*Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.

*Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

In Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus said "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

So, whatever you do, **You** are contagious!

Now what?

Choir Notes

Remember that fun retirement party we threw for Bev over a year ago? Well, I believe I owe her another one after she graciously took over for me while I suffered at home with shingles in my face and eye. Over Easter week, no less! Please thank Beverly for me every time you see her. The music was wonderful! (Although always better live, rather than at home, just sayin'.)

The choir has maintained this strange, adapted worship participation schedule for months now, and we need to continue at least through May. Just as a reminder, the Madrigals will sing the first

Sunday, the Women of Grace the second Sunday, and the Men of Grace the third Sunday, with rehearsals for each group during the 2 prior Wednesdays. The Madrigals and the Men will rehearse at 6:30, and the Women at 7:30 on their respective Wednesdays. As soon as it's deemed safe, we'll meet together again as one Choir. Stay Tuned!

Floyd Moore

From the Director of Congregational Care

LOVE GOD ↔ LOVE PEOPLE

These are difficult times for minorities. When people act out against those who are different from them, bad things happen. Within the past year we have learned of the deaths of Black Americans, Asian Americans and Jewish worshippers.

Last August, the United Methodist Western PA Conference launched the "Now, Action" Anti-racism Pledge. So far, they have provided over 500 people with daily "Prayers for Change" via email along with book suggestions, articles and podcasts. While 500 may seem like a lot of people, it really isn't when you consider the breadth of the WPAUMC! IT is not too late to sign the pledge at:

wpaumc.org/now-action-pledge

Notice the name of the pledge: "NOW-ACTION". As followers of Christ, we need to be proactive in expressing our beliefs. It is work to "do what Jesus would do". But work we must. To borrow from Pastor Bill's message on April 18th, "To love God is to love People. To love People is to love God". It would be difficult to truly do one without doing the other. To be able to be loving to all will take a change of the minds and hearts for many of us. Pray for that change to come to your life and the lives of those around you.

There is a local opportunity to learn with others about how racism affects us. Contact Rev. Matt Scott (Trinity Episcopal Church) at msrev2007@gmail.com or call 814-723-9360 to



learn more. As attitudes change, we will have the strength in numbers to lead us onward in the way we should go.

"...act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God."

Cindy Price

Hello Grace Church!

CREW attended Spark 2021 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center on April 17, 2021. What an awesome experience for our youth! It is so important for them to see their faith in action beyond the Church and beyond our classroom.



Left to right: Brennah Ward, Isabella Egger, Ryan Egger, Kylie Jurkowski, AJ Slattery, and Charlotte Keeperts

They were able to hear two fantastic messages from Shanterra McBride and listen to awesome worship from Caitie Hurst and her band. Shanterra McBride is an author, speaker, preacher, and teacher. She is founder of MARVELOUS UNIVERSITY, a social enterprise that offers life coaching and success planning for young people, specializing in leadership development for girls and young women. Her expertise encompasses everything from youth development and youth needs, to diversity and inclusion and allyship. She works with young people of all backgrounds, as well as with adults seeking to become better trusted allies in the lives of the young people they interact with.

Throughout the day, the group attended two breakout sessions:

- To Love and Be Loved: How to Support Teen Mental Health with Val Farester.
- Who is Jesus? with Rev. Seth McPhearson from Community UMC.

They also assisted with a service project for Erie United Methodist Alliance Church. They put together baskets filled with cleaning and laundry products to be distributed to those in need.



(L-R, Kylie, Brennah, Isabella, Charlotte, AJ and Ryan)

The kids had a blast and are already talking about attending next year! What an awesome endorsement! God Bless!

Nicki Egger

As the weather is continuing to change (and change and change again) I



am hopeful that Grace Church's Children's Ministries will be able to offer more outside events. It has been wonderful to see the participation for the last few outdoor events, even though the weather doesn't always cooperate.

I would like to point out that these events are open to all Grace members or nonmembers! The next event in early May at the Hatch Run Conservation Trail will probably be past once the newsletter is printed, but if anyone would like to participate in or help with future events, we would love to have you!

Libby Yaegle



Our school year is quickly coming to an end and we are looking forward to summer vacation! The year certainly has been a busy and exciting one. We are so thankful we made it through a majority of the year without having to shut down again. Please pray for good weather on our last day so we can have a small gathering outdoors for our afternoon class as we send them off to Kindergarten!

As we spend our last few days together, we hope the weather will get warmer so we can play outside and look for signs of spring. Our school year will conclude with acting out some stories, discussing summer fun and safety and making our own pizzas on the last day of school.

We would like to thank all of you for the incredible support for our preschool program. We continue to work with our Care with Grace Daycare program to provide the best care and learning experience possible! We are always humbled at the on-going support we receive from our Grace Church Family! This year we were blessed with several memorial gifts and are so thankful for the generosity and encouragement to our program.

We still have some openings for next school year. If you know of anyone that has not registered for preschool, please have them give us a call! Our tuition is only \$75 a MONTH! Registration forms can be picked up in the church office during the week or can be mailed. Please call the church office for more information 723-9440.

Have a great summer!

Trish Gentilman & Jessica Rex

preschool@atlanticbbn.net or find us on Facebook!

Care with Grace has seen growth in enrollment. For the summer and fall we are currently slated for 45 children. We have also experienced transition in staff. Irene Garris has stepped down as the Director of Care with Grace Daycare. The Childcare Board has started an active search to fill the position. We have also promoted Cindy Kalkbrenner to Assistant Director.



Summer is almost near, and we are working on our summer schedule and field trips. We have great things planned for the children that follow Covid-19 and CDC guidelines.

Megan Minich
Board President

Flock Talk



“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

What a great month May signifies! Temperatures are on the rise, days are getting longer, blossoms abound, and Mother’s Day is fast approaching!

No matter who we are, if we are alive today, we have our mother to thank for bringing us into this world. Our thoughts may be through memories or through distance, but we all have something that God intended us to know - a mother’s love.

I feel blessed beyond belief that my Mom is still leading me with the wisdom she has acquired over these past ninety-four years. I learn something new every day. Her expertise is “how to treat people”.

When it comes to mercy, I feel like a fledgling at the edge of the nest as I watch the mama bird fly. Being merciful is one of those traits where we think we have sure footing until something truly tests us. It’s easy for us to avert our eyes, to walk

away, to heal our own wounds and maybe even to toughen our skin a little as we brace for the next time something goes wrong.

Mercy says “no” to that. Mercy says today you put on the mind of Christ and walk into the storm. Today you look at this situation, this person, and you change the outcome. Not the circumstances or even the personality of the other person. “You” change.

Easier said than done, right? That should be a given that it won’t be easy, especially if we are trying to face obstacles on our own. Glory be to God, we are not meant to do it that way. The big robust word of “empowering” says it all. We are empowered to act through the Holy Spirit and to please God in the simple task of showing mercy.

It is this very mercy that I am still learning from my Mom. She’s an expert. I’ve seen her in action since I was little. How in the world she has tolerated some of the stuff I have witnessed, I don’t know. But, because of her merciful heart, I am better than who I would have been without her as my Mom! Thank you, God, for the love of all mothers!

Lovingly,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader



During Worship
9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
~
11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)
Will resume soon.

May Worship Assistants



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

Will resume soon.

Guest Speaker

On May 9th pastor, storyteller and author Rev. Charles Maynard will be speaking at our 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. Rev. Maynard will be leading a retreat at Olmsted Manor and has graciously offered to join us for worship on Sunday morning.

From his bio:



Charles W. Maynard, is a storyteller, author, and ordained United Methodist minister. Charles graduated from Emory & Henry College and Emory University and has been a member of the Holston Conference since 1978. He has served churches in Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia. He

was Development Director for Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries for 8 years before he was appointed a District Superintendent of the Maryville District. Charles is currently serving on the pastoral staff of Cokesbury UMC in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Charles has authored or co-authored 32 books, including 22 children’s books. He worked as the first executive director of Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and was named as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the History of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Discover Life in America, and the Smoky Mountain Heritage Center. He was Director of Advancement for the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, TN. Charles married his high school sweetheart, Janice, who is a well-known novelist. They have two daughters, Caroline M. Lamar and Anna M. Lee. Charles and Janice both enjoy writing, traveling, and spending time with family – especially their grandchildren – Anastasia, Ainsley, Allie, Levi, and Hattie.

Our budget the month of March 2021:



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

Easter, Christmas, and Misc. Income.

BUDGET	2020	2019
Other Income:	20.00	1,113.50
Offerings & Tithes	<u>27,697.56</u>	<u>27,791.38</u>
Total Income	27,717.56	28,904.88

Number of Sundays:	4	5
Borrowed	0	0

Expense:		
Staff Parish	24,265.57	19,753.26
Trustees	11,145.84	8,005.10
Ministry	<u>5,003.48</u>	<u>6,564.82</u>
Total Expense	40,414.89	34,323.18
Attendance:	1,436*	1,002

Connectional Apportionments

Obligation-	3,334.83
Paid to date	10,004.49
Ahead (Behind)	0

Percent of year to date paid 25%

His income: Was \$1,187.32 lower in March 2021 compared to March 2020

Our expenses: Were \$6,091.71 higher in March 2021 compared to March 2020

We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings given.

*March 2021 attendance is estimated due to online worship services.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair

To Our Friends at Grace,
Our sincere thanks for the cards,
calls, gifts, & prayers. It made
our special day much more
special. Thank you all again.

Stan & Shirley Pearson

*Thank
you*



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

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.



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 2021-2022 school year. If you or anyone you know needs a preschool for their child, sign up today! Forms can be picked up in the church office or by calling 723-8011 during school hours. Visit our Grace Promise Preschool Facebook page for more information. Trish Gentilman- Director/Teacher preschool@atlanticbbn.net

The Outreach/Witness team hosted a rummage sale at Grace on April 10th. Thank you to all that donated items and supported the event. The community was excited to support this event and find some treasures. The sale raised \$1300 for Wesley Woods Camp. We plan to do another sale this Fall.



Wednesday, May 19th

is Warren Gives day!

From 6am-10pm visit

www.warrengives.org to donate to several organizations throughout Warren County. 100% of your donation to Grace UMC will go to the **HOPES Fund**. Find out more about how to donate on their website.



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 runs from Mother's Day, Sunday, **May 9th** to Father's Day, Sunday, **June 20th**. Bottles can be picked up and returned to Wesley Parlor.



Online giving is available on the church website or the GIVE+ app.

Memorial

For: Mary Schorman

By: Stan & Shirley Pearson



For: Rev. Harold A. McCurdy

By: Donald McCurdy

For: Warren Carr

By: Audrey Cable

HOPES

For: Mary Schorman

By: Pete & Marge Smith, Harold & Janis Wall, Arden & Linda Knapp

For: Julana Hanson

By: Pete & Marge Smith, Arden & Linda Knapp

For: Warren Carr

By: Arden & Linda Knapp

Music Memorial

For: Tom Smith

By: LuAnn & Denny Munksgard

Outreach

For: Mary Schorman

By: Kris & Renee Magnuson

Items for the June Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the Church office



(mary@graceumcwarren.com) by **Wednesday, May 19**. Thank you



May 1 – Dawn Werner

May 2 – James Black, Jacqueline Sadler, Jamie Watson

May 3 – Barb Hulings, Eric Zavinski, Dudley Wineriter

May 4 – Floyd Moore, Simon Smith

May 5 – Sally Moldovan, Joe Sienkiewicz, Evelyn Eaton

May 6 – Kim Tutaro, Connor Grey, Edwin Rickerson

May 7 – Emma Stimmell, Richard Thoma

May 8 – Jan Garrett, Melissa Larsen

May 10 – Erin Werner, Susan Puhl, Julie Danielson

May 11 – Karen Schwone

May 12 – Violet Brooker, Helena Moore, Stephanie Reagle, Laura Rescorla

May 13 – Beth Ann Nichols, Brittany Saber

May 14 – Dan Farr, Linda Clover

May 15 – Gary Fleming, Donna Miller

May 16 – Matt Jeffrey

May 17 – Shane Burns

May 19 – Mary Rose Farr, Caroline Curren

May 20 – Kailee Morrison, Kylie Pearson, Mitchell Arnold

May 21 – Beth Sprentz

May 22 – Jacob McCollough, Patricia McClement, Kristen Johnson, Sarah Tarpenning

May 23 – Bev Petersen

May 24 – Tyler Gustafson

May 25 – Beau Kibbey, Marci Barker, Brandi Buchanan

May 26 – Michael Phillips

May 27 – Cory Burns, Adam Barker

May 28 – Ryan Gustafson, Julie Ross, Dave Berdine

May 29 – Taylor Napolitan, Linda Morrison

May 30 – Paul Johnson

May 31 – Tony Ross, Julie Halteman, Marty Adams, Anna Peterson, Amanda Green, Rhonda Narlee, Walt Miller



may



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship	3	4 6:30 p <i>Education</i>	5 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	6 6:00 p Praise Team	7	1
						8
9 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship	10 6:00 p <i>Finance</i>	11 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i>	12 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	13 6:00 p Praise Team	14	15
16 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 1:00 p Girl Scouts	17 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group	18 6:00 p <i>Childcare</i>	19 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	20 6:00 p Praise Team	21	22
23 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship	24 7:00 p <i>Outreach</i>	25 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i>	26 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	27 6:00 p Praise Team	28	29
30 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship	31 Office Closed		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.		

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

Published monthly;
May 2021

- 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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Phone - 814-723-9440 FAX - 814-723-6137

Email - office2@graceumcwarren.com

On the Web - www.graceumcwarrenpa.com

Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!