

Grace Notes

October 2026

Phone - 814-723-9440 GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FAX - 814-723-6137
501 Pennsylvania Avenue East Warren, PA 16365
Email - office@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>
Coordinator 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>Lori Beatty</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



October Meetings

October 6 - 6:00 p - SPRC
October 13 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
October 20 - 6:00 p - Finance
October 27 - 6:00 p - Church Council



This month's Communion offering will benefit **World Communion Sunday**. This provides scholarships to U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution.

From the Pastor

Change

My very first appointment was as an interim pastor at church where, because of a pastor's death, this pastor had been moved to a different church in February instead of our normal United Methodist process of moving July 1. When I met with the church secretary, I asked if I could have a few bulletins from the past year to kind of get a sense of how worship flowed because I was only going to be there a few months and just wanted to make the transition from the previous long term pastor to the next fully appointed pastor.

She said, "It changes every week. We never know what the order of worship is going to be."

I was stunned. That's not how I grew up with worship – and *certainly* not how they taught it at seminary. So, I did what I always do. I figured something out, tweaked it over a few weeks and then that's what we settled on for the four and half or so months that I served there.

But even as I kept that one thing the same for a third of a year, many other things changed in my time there. Most of them small things, but things that (I hoped!) would make the transition to the incoming pastor's life better. Changes, not simply for the sake of change, but for the purpose of moving forward.

That's the nature of life, right? One of my friends always said there's *three* things in life that you can count on: death, taxes, and change (with apologies to Ben Franklin, Daniel DeFoe, et al).

Our God who never changes...

- "I the Lord do not change." (Malachi 3:6a)
- Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. (James 1:17)

...put in motion a creation that is constantly changing...

- And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years..." (Genesis 1:14)
- There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens... (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

...and God works in new ways all the time:

- "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19)
- "And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, 'The old is better.'" (Like 5:37-39)

Knowing that the world is constantly in motion, that creation is moving and changing all around us, we can still be strangely resistant to change. But God is constantly doing new things in us and through us. Author Erwin McManus in his book *Unstoppable Force* talks about our modern relationship with technology and how we embrace technology (change) that makes us more comfortable – love the indoor plumbing and electric lights – while we often resist the technology (change) that makes us uncomfortable – he calls those technologies that produce creativity and innovation.

I'm writing this (a day late, with apologies to Mary) the week after our first big changes in the order of worship since the Covid interruptions. We've reinstated the passing of the plates at 9:30 and 11:00, we've moved the Children's message at 9:30 and removed it from 11:00, added in a time of collecting our joys and concerns during prayer, we've added our kids check-in system for Sunday school, and we've shuffled

the elements of the worship service a bit at both of those services.

And it was a little... chaotic and maybe a little uncomfortable. Chaos isn't good (1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.") but it is not uncommon and not unhealthy... unless the chaos persists.

Discomfort is inevitable with change. Even good changes can sometimes feel uncomfortable. When my family moved from a kind of run-down house my parents were renting to a kind of run-down house my parents purchased, I was 9 years old. The new room – my own room that I got to pick the wallpaper for (antique cars, thank you very much) and the carpet colors (lots of colors...and *ugly*) – took a few weeks to get used to, to make it feel like my own.

God is doing something new. I've been looking back on my 9+ years here at Grace Church and paying attention to the ways that God has been moving and leading and changing us. And that will continue. God ALWAYS has something new for us on the horizon. Some of it requires change on our part – uncomfortable, maybe, but when change comes from God it always leads us to a better place.

So hear what God said through Isaiah) "See, I am doing a new thing!" Watch for what God will do!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

Chosen Bible Study

Thursdays from 6 - 8pm – You can join us anytime! The Chosen Series and Bible Study is held in the library. We watch two episodes per night with Bible Study and discussion after each episode. No cost to participate – see Lori Beatty if you have any questions. We will not meet on Nov. 26 (Thanksgiving), Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve), Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve) and will continue through May 28, 2027.

Nurture News

DID YOU COMPLETE A NURTURE SURVEY? On Sunday, 9/6, the Nurture committee passed out a survey about possible trips to The Ark Experience and/or the Sight and Sound Theatre in late Spring or early Summer of 2027. If you are interested, there are surveys on the stand behind the sound booth. Please place completed cards in the offering box. As of 9/9, we have over 20 people interested in each of the trips.

Saturday, October 24 @ noon – Soup and Pie Senior Luncheon in Higginbotham Hall. See Judy Templeton for details. Bring your appetite :)

The next Nurture committee meeting will be held Thursday, November 12 at 5pm in the library.

Calling All Parents!!! Mark your calendars – 12/8/26 from 1:00 - 8:00 pm in Higginbotham Hall

The Nurture Committee, Children's Ministry, and CREW are planning a getaway day for parents to have time for holiday preparations or to just enjoy a night out! We will provide crafts, movies, games, and meal/snacks for children, aged 3 and up. All adult helpers will have their state and federal clearances. There will be a QR code provided for sign-ups sometime in October.

Also, if you are interested, the nurture committee will be offering free gift wrapping. If you would like to drop off gifts for wrapping, please note that on the QR form or email Lori Beatty at

lori@graceumcwarren.com – Gifts will be dropped off, wrapped, and stored on the second floor of the church in a locked room away from any prying eyes :)

The gifts can be picked up anytime – just reach out to Lori and arrangements will be made.

Grace Notes Choir

Grace Notes Choir is open to all students in grades 2-12 – Come and join us!!

Messy Church

October 21, 2026 – 5:00 - 6:30

Our theme this month is “Bee Kind”. Hope to see you there!

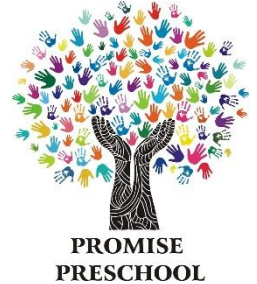
Lori Beatty

September went by in a flash! The children are doing well learning the routines and getting used to school. During September, we studied apples, we learned about families and friends!

We are looking forward to the Warren City Firefighters and Police coming to visit and talk to us about safety.

We will also study nocturnal animals and have some Halloween fun!

Have a great October!



Jen Lynds



Flock Talk

“For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.”

Psalm 50:10

There is one thing about fall that is clear in the animal world. Life will be hard for the homeless. Unlike wild animals that store away and prepare for the long months ahead, our domestic survivors live day to day. They depend on the mercy of humans to make even the slightest effort in easing their struggle.

I was in the business of animal rescue for 35 years and kept track of every one of them. There were 67 animals who I knew personally, and most of the time gave lifelong homes. Life is terribly hard for those who were born in the wrong place at the wrong time.

We see this in our parking lot with a new stray every year. I hear things like, “chase it away” or “don’t feed it”. My heart won’t let me chase away the poor. I’m praying that the right person comes along and chooses her. The L.A.M.B. Ministry helps in cases like this. When someone adopts an animal living in poverty and if they can’t afford minimal care, the ministry will provide a “starter kit”. Find me, ask me, let me know if your heart is pulled toward a rescue.

When I first began the ministry nearly nine years ago, I thought we would just be providing food for those who couldn’t afford it. Now I find myself delivering to people who live in the utmost bleak conditions, but who love their pets and simply can’t sort life out. Helping to feed their pets is helping the people who feel forgotten.

All creatures great and small, God knows them. Show mercy, even in the littlest deeds.

Enthused,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

Grace Church Finance Report



2026 Monthly and YTD Financials

	August '26	YTD
Total Income	\$30,234.77	\$230,631.70
Office Expense	\$406.78	\$6,042.36
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$7,124.83	\$61,211.02
Ministry Personnel	\$21,470.70	\$170,714.12
Church Council	\$0.00	\$360.19
Education Ministry	\$705.45	\$1,355.32
Nurture Ministry	\$263.60	\$2,275.89
Worship Ministry	\$585.07	\$3,191.31
Outreach Ministry	\$68.00	\$1,287.29
Connectional Apportionment	\$1,649.88	\$20,199.04
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Ministry & Expense	\$32,274.31	\$266,636.54
Net Income	(\$2,039.54)	(\$36,004.84)

Shortfall

Account Balance 08/31/2026	(\$59,866.65)
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee



During Worship

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

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

October 4 – Anna Peterson

October 11 – Melissa Zaffino

October 18 – Anna Peterson

October 25 – Melissa Zaffino



Items for the **November 2026** Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office by mary@graceumcwarren.com

Friday, October 16.

Thank you.



The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **everything, except canned soup** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!

Do you like to knit or crochet? Yarn Angels meets weekly on Friday mornings from **9:30am-11am** in the **church library**. If you have any questions, call Vickie Morrison at 814-726-0170.



Pastor Appreciation Month!

The month of October is that special time of year when we joyfully celebrate our pastor! When we consider the qualities that God looks for in a pastor, we realize how very fortunate we are to have Pastor Bill serving at our church.

Throughout his time with us we have come to depend upon his messages that are life changing and challenging at the same time. He is more than our pastor. He is our teacher, our guide, our leader in prayer and best of all, he is our friend!

We are grateful for the loving support of his wife, Lori, and of the delightful friendships of their children, Rachel and Elie. This month gives us the opportunity to sincerely thank him and his family for their care of Grace Church and for his commitment to ministry.

There will be a basket for cards in Wesley Parlor all month. Feel free to write him a note of appreciation for the many ways he makes our lives better!

Come Join Our Messy Church



Invite your friends for a time of fun activities and crafts, celebration of praise and Bible story, and a meal to share together! This is a Worship time for everyone in the family! We meet on the third Wednesday of the month (Sept-May) from 5 – 6:30pm upstairs on the second floor. Our next event “**Bee**” Kind is **Wednesday, October 21st!**

TRIVIA NIGHTS are returning this fall and winter! Evenings for the whole family, with mental challenge, fun, fellowship and food will be held in Higginbotham Hall once monthly starting in October. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m., with pizza, snacks, drinks and prizes....and, of course, great trivia questions on a wide variety of subjects. Mark your calendars! Trivia Night dates are:



October 17

November 21

January 16

February 20

March 20

...and maybe April too!

Please invite friends and neighbors! Encourage them to form a team to play every month! We see this as an outreach opportunity, to introduce folks to a church family and perhaps share the knowledge and love of Christ with them.



The outreach team will be holding a rummage sale on **Saturday, October 24th** from 8am to 1pm. Please drop off your items for the sale on Friday, October 23rd from 4 to 6 pm. Kids' clothes are welcome but no adult clothing please. Please contact Chuck Keepports at 814-688-8534 if you have any questions. Donations will go toward Warren County Equal Opportunity Council.

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will be available in Wesley Parlor soon. Boxes are due back by **Sunday, November 15th**. CREW will be packing shoeboxes too. If you 'd like to donate items for them to pack in their boxes, place the items in the labeled box in Wesley Parlor. Toys, stationery, personal care items, etc. can be donated. Please do not include soap, candy, toothpaste, war-related items, food, liquids or lotions.



Attention children in 3rd grade or above! A new acolyte class is set to begin in November! Dates and times will be decided by those wishing to attend. Typically, 2-3 classes are scheduled after school for about an hour, one day a week. If interested, call the church office 814-723-9440 or Linda Knapp 814-726-1199.



October 2 – Judy Johnson, Missy Shene

October 4 – Joe Peterson

October 5 – Jason Peterson

October 7 – Shania Brady, Amy Ei

October 8 – Annette Miller, Ray Toombs, Sara Tucher

October 10 – LaVoyce Dey

October 12 – Tom Flood, Amanda Gafner

October 13 – Barb Babcock, Mike Hahn, Keith Price, Dan Russo, Jameson Shepherd

October 14 – Blanche Shuman, Adley Brown

October 15 – Kyle Graham, Mark Risinger

October 16 – John Lewis

October 19 – Craig Esterbrook

October 20 – Sara Sienkiewicz

October 21 – Suzette Berdine, Terrie Nolan

October 22 – Darla Sabat

October 23 – Miken Beers

October 26 – Tymber Barr

October 28 – Shawn Barkley, Lily Brooker, Dylan Redfield

October 29 – Lucas Moore, Marylin Shene

October 30 – Mary Babcock, Jennifer Blum

October 31 – Sarah Stapleford

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Chosen Bible Study 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group	2 8:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	3 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Pickleball
4 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing 6:00 p Experiencing God Bible Study	5 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Ping Pong	6 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i>	7 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a Experiencing God Bible Study 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	8 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Chosen Bible Study	9 8:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	10 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Pickleball
11 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing 6:00 p Experiencing God Bible Study	12 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Ping Pong	13 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i>	14 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a Experiencing God Bible Study 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	15 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Chosen Bible Study	16 8:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	17 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Pickleball 6:00 p Outreach Trivia Night
18 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 12:00 p Church Conference 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing 6:00 p Experiencing God Bible Study	19 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Ping Pong	20 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Finance</i>	21 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a Experiencing God Bible Study 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:00 p Messy Church 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	22 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Chosen Bible Study	23 8:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 4:00 p Rummage Sale Drop Off	24 8:00 a Rummage Sale 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Pickleball 12:00 p Nurture Senior Soup & Pie Lunch
25 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing 6:00 p Experiencing God Bible Study	26 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Ping Pong	27 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i>	28 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a Experiencing God Bible Study 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	29 8:00 a Pickleball 9:00 a Library Reserved 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Chosen Bible Study	30 8:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	31 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Pickleball

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!