ace I

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: Karen Gray Music Director: Beverly Petersen Meghan Brooker Office Administrator: Office Manager: Mary Quiggle-Pickering

Director of

Family Ministries: Kayla Schwanke

"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

January Meetings

January 7 - 6:45 p - *SPRC*

January 8 – 7:00 p – Property Trustees

January 14 – 6:00 p – *Childcare*

7:00 p – *Finance*

January 21 – 7:00 p – *Worship*

January 28 – 7:00 p – *Outreach/Witness*



January Greeters

6—Becky Gnage Skip & Linda Morrison

13—Skip & Linda Morrison Becky Gnage

20--John & Karen Larson

Pat Slattery 27--Pat Slattery

John & Karen Larson

Parking Lot Door

Prospect St. Door Parking Lot Door

Prospect St. Door

Parking Lot Door

Prospect St. Door Parking Lot Door

Prospect St. Door

January Ushers

Dean Johnson, Melinda Johnson, Bob Silzle

Sunday, January 6th



This month's Communion offering will benefit The Crossing. Please use the Communion envelope in your monthly packet or pew pocket envelope for your contribution.

From the Pastor

For Prayerful Consideration

have prayed as long as I can remember. As a kid I talked to God not just at night before bed or when I forgot to study for a test (there are no atheists in math class!!), but also when I was sad or happy or confused. I never heard a voice back from God, but I've always kind of immersed myself in being, I guess, "in conversation" with God. Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
(1 Thess. 5:16-18 NIV)

And that's kind of how I've always approached prayer – kind of like it's always "on." But I realized a couple years ago that while I pray frequently...

I'm not very good at it.

I know they say that "practice makes perfect" but it turns out that's only true if you practice the right things. Practice, it turns out, reinforces what you practice. So... practice the wrong things and you get really good at... the wrong things. The reality is that practice with feedback leads to improvement. That's why coaches are constantly harping on the fundamentals of the sport, why instrument teachers insist on how you hold your hands, playing scales, and all the basics. That's why we need never tire of hearing the story of salvation time and again.

I know I'm not alone, some of you have confessed similar concerns about your prayer time. Several years ago Steven Furtick who is the lead pastor of a Megachurch in Charlotte North Carolina preached a sermon called, "I Have an A.D.D. Prayer Life" in a series called "Confessions of a Pastor." I get it. Maybe you do, too.

Realizing that there was something lacking in my prayer life, I prayed (just as the disciples asked Jesus), "Lord, teach me to pray." And I have prayed

that prayer many times. I also have spoken to a number of people about prayer, been very conscious of listening and joining in when others pray, and I have gathered a number of books and resources on prayer that I'm slowly working my way through.

So... Teach me to pray. When the disciples asked Jesus (Luke 11:1), Jesus teaches them the Lord's Prayer. That is, when the disciples ask to be taught to pray, Jesus gives them a model for prayer — an outline. And I've seen lots of models, usually based on the Lord's Prayer, to help us stay focused in our prayer time: ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication), PRAY (Praise, Repent, Ask & Thank, Yield), CHAT (Cheer God, Humble yourself, Appreciate what God has done, Tell God your needs) and others. And they're fine, and they're useful tools.

Still, I'm on this journey of being taught how to pray and I want to invite everyone to take on such a journey. Prayer is our direct connection with God and I want that connection to be stronger.

So we're going to begin the year with a worship series focused on prayer. We're going to look for more ways to encourage one another in prayer and ways to pray for one another. The bottom line is: we're going to pray more!

Let me reissue a challenge I set out last spring: to spend some soul-bared, honest, face-to-face prayer time with God. How about 5 minutes a day thanking God for your blessings? Nothing else. Just 5 minutes of pure gratitude. How about a few minutes praying for the people who most annoy you? How about praying prayers of forgiveness?

I've been convicted (and I know many of you share in this) that anything that can grow our church, anything that can deepen our faith, anything that can extend our reach, anything good that will ever happen here at Grace Church, will start with prayer.

"Lord, teach us to pray."

In Christ's Love, Pastor Bill



appy New Year!! As this is being written Christmas is still over a week away, but I guess that's the way of good literature! I hope your holidays were happy and peaceful.

The Concert was again just wonderful. There was a good crowd and many folks who were not Grace members were there. It is a true community event. This year the children charmed the audience. Thanks to Meghan and Lily Brooker for over-seeing them. They were adorable.

Thanks to wonderful Kris for his accompaniments and diddles. He is <u>so</u> good. And thanks, also, to the soloists. Have you ever seen a choir with so many soloists? We are indeed blessed. Thanks to <u>all</u> of you who had any part of it. It was great... and it's over. I start worrying about it after Labor Day and it's such a relief to have it done – even though I enjoy doing the actual program at the time.

The following Wednesday we gave the condensed concert to the folks at the Rouse Suites. Again, thanks to the faithful choir for doing that!

We ended the evening at Perkins and were treated royally. They were so kind to us. It was delicious and fun, and we were home before 9:00.

Now we don't meet on Wednesdays until January 9. That's the reward for all the hard work, plus all the Sundays in summer that we sang.

We miss Jan M. who is recovering at home from surgery. Bless you, Love. I hope each day sees you feeling better.

Congratulations to Tyler (Cindy's daughter) for graduating college! Now it's on to the wedding!

Things are going to look a little slim in the ranks, as many are traveling for Christmas and would've gone earlier but stayed for the concert. Safe travels to all!!

Again – Happy New Year!! And come to church!!

Beverly Petersen

From the Director of Congregational Care

"We can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

ou may have a few Christmas cookies left over to nibble on while you untrim the tree. And now that the decorations are stored away until next Advent season does your home seem as plain as ours?

I do miss the carols, family gatherings, twinkling candle lights and merry wishes. Then I remember that <u>we can</u> keep the majesty, music and memories of Christmas in our hearts all year long.

We can greet each other with a "have a merry day." We can make a list of "gifts of love." We can give every day. We can sing, and ring "Joy to the world the Lord has come." We can decorate our homes with the spirit of hospitality. We really can as we enter 2019.

David McCasland's church prays this prayer at their New Year's Eve service, "Father, we surrender this past year and give it up to you. We give you our failures, regrets and disappointments for we have no more use for them. Make us now a new people, forgetting what lies behind and pressing on toward that which lies ahead of us. We give You all our hopes and dreams for the future. Purify them by Your spirit so that our wills shall surely reflect Your will for us. As we stand on the threshold of another year, encourage us by the power of Your Word and guide us by the presence of Your Holy Spirit." Amen.

Can we pray that prayer? Yes, <u>we can!</u>
Now 2019 Christ reflecting people, reach out to other with the love and life of Jesus Christ. Then <u>they can</u> too.

Grace, mercy and peace, Karen D. Gray



ecember was a busy month full of excitement as we prepared for the Christmas season. We decorated the room and tree, learned many new songs and listened to wonderful stories. Both classes got to hear Pastor Bill tell the Christmas story as they sat around the nativity in the sanctuary. We made special gifts for our moms and dads and decorated our own gift wrap. Our parents came to school on December 20th to share our fun and see firsthand what preschool is like for us. When we return to school after our Christmas break, the morning class will begin working on colors, shapes and writing our names. The afternoon children will continue learning the skills they will need for kindergarten. We hope your Christmas season was filled with the same joy and excited anticipation that we experienced with our students.

Registration for the 2019-2020 schoolyear will begin in January for our current preschool families, Care With Grace children and any Grace Church members. Be sure to pick up a registration form in the office or contact us at preschool@atlancticbbn.net so we can mail you a form. Registration will open to the public in February so it is first come, first serve! Happy New Year!

~Trish Gentilman & Brenda Whyte

n January 7, the youth will be kicking of the New Year! They will be doing a study called Boss from a group called Grow.



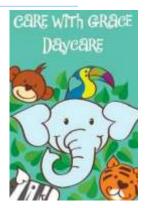
From the youth and myself, we would like to thank everyone that supported the spaghetti luncheon on December 2^{nd} . All your donations will help cover almost all of the cost to send the kids to SPARK. SPARK is January 11-13, 2019 in Station Square in Pittsburgh.

For those who are wondering what SPARK is, it's a youth rally that is put on by youth for youth. The conference youth ministry team are the coordinators of the event and they are mentored by adult leaders. Each group the attends is required to bring adult leaders from their church. Grace Church hopes to send at least 4 kids this year!

~Kayla Schwanke - Director of Family Ministries

e can't believe that Christmas is over and it is 2019.

Happy New Year!
Over Christmas break we cleaned our rooms top to bottom and added some color to the back by the room we share with Sunday School and to the Co-



Directors' office. So, when we reopen for the new year, we'll be clean as snow.

A big thank you goes out to all who bought soup and/or donated to us over the Christmas Holiday. We are so thankful.

January will have a couple of no school days. January 18 and 21 we will have all day care for our school age.

~Jolee Cradduck & Irene Garris, co-directors



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

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

January 6 – Anna Peterson

January 13 – Becky Fuller

January 20 – Anna Peterson

January 27 – Becky Fuller

Our hearing assist system is back in working order! If you require assistance hearing worship services, please ask a sound technician or an usher for a device.





Our budget the month of November 2018:

Other income consists of funds from Sunday

School, Room Rental, Bible Studies, Literature Tables, Fitness Ministry, Easter, Christmas, and Misc. Income.

BUDGET 2018 2017 Other Income: 405.10 433.20

Offerings &

Tithes 27,487.13 26,248.40 **Total Income** 27,892.23 26,681.60 **Number of Sundays:** 4 0 Borrowed 0 29,508.42 27,869.99 **Expense:** Attendance: 1,034 958

Connectional Apportionments

Obligation-
Paid3,504.50
3,504.50Ahead (Behind)0

Percent of year to date paid 92%

His income: Was \$1,210.63 higher in November

2018 compared to November 2017

Our expenses: Were \$1,638.43 higher in November 2018 compared to November 2017

Submitted by:

Alice Bonnell, Finance Chair

Covered by Grace needs mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves to be placed on the clothesline on the front porch. Each item is tagged with a message reading "If you are cold this winter season and need some extra warmth, take this gift as a sign that you are covered by the Grace of God's love." The donation box is located across from Pastor Bill's office in the hallway behind Wesley Parlor. Thank you to everyone for supporting this outreach ministry.

Yarn, Yarn, Yarn!



Yarn Angels has been blessed with more yarn than we can use. We are giving some away. Can you knit or crochet something for the front porch give away? Do you

know of someone else that needs something you can make? Yarn will be on the table in Wesley Parlor on Sunday, January 13. Please help yourself.

Good afternoon. We want to thank you for sending the monthly newsletter. Mom, as well as we, do enjoy receiving it and reading it. Mom is doing well, and we are looking

forward to her 105th birthday this coming July.
Sincerely, Dave & Barb & Cora Watt

Many thanks to all those who helped in any way with the reception following our choir's wonderful Christmas concert on December 9. The dozens of cookies furnished by more than 20 people were

beautiful, delicious, and enjoyed by all! We greatly appreciated the time and effort put into setting up, serving, and cleaning up by the many workers. A special not of gratitude to the Jurkowski family, Ann Rossman, Bonnie Lopez, Peggy Twist, Julie Hitchcock, Sheryl Richards, Shirley Shaffer, Tristan Johnson, and the lovely ladies serving: Blanche Shuman, Dottie Higgins, Bev Himes, Sue Shall, and Barb Graziano.

Over the years we have used the church's silver coffee and tea service, Mrs. Wayne (Lillian) Price's glass punch bowl, and the handcrafted nativity sets made for the table decorations by the Armstrongs. What fun it is to use these special items.

Linda Knapp

The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **cereal.** Thanks to all who contribute to the Grace Church Food Pantry!





Grace Fitness Health Series

Beginning in January, a monthly series of health presentations will be offered at Grace Church. They will cover many aspects of fitness, nutrition and a better understanding of our health. Everyone is welcome, including guests. Susan Toombs, Certified Fitness Trainer, is the presenter. This event is from 6:45-7:45pm in Higginbotham Hall. It is on the last Monday of each month and the topics will be highlighted each month in the newsletter.

Monday, January 28th - Rekindle Your Metabolism

Monday, February 25th - Choose Your Food Wisely

Monday, March 25th - Fortify Your Bone Density

Monday, April 29^{th} - The Art of Exercise

The first presentation on January 28th will discuss how our level of activity has a direct effect on our weight management. There are several easy approaches to improving our calorie burn and having dependable energy.

We are blessed with a metabolism that needs fuel, but also needs accountability. The motivation to fine tune our fitness also helps us to be enthusiastic disciples who display God's gift of health!

General Fund

For: Gail Nelson

By: Chris & Karen Dutchess

For: Gail Nelson

By: Mark & Dorothy Dutchess

For: Leo & Nellie Baughman and

Harold & Alice Smith By: Denny & Linda Smith For: Leo & Nellie Baughman and

Louis & Madalyn Geer By: Craig & Bev Baughman

For: Wayne & Marry Ellen McManigle, Larry Faulkrod, Louise Meel, Sherry Cannada, Ralph & Jean Grant, and Becky Grant By: Brenda & Dave Samuelson

January Worship Assistants



Advisors:

Sheryl Richards 726-3876 Linda Knapp, 726-1199

The January Acolyte list is currently a work in progress. Please see the advisors to confirm your date to serve.



Youth 180 is a youth ministry for any youth grades 6th – 12th held the third Friday of every month at Grace Church from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Pizza, pop, and snacks will be provided. Open gym, organized activities, board games, rock painting, coloring, Nintendo Wii, and Youth 180 lesson. Bring friends! For more information find us on Facebook under Grace Warren, email youth180@yahoo.com, or call 814-688-64445.



Items for the February Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the Church office (mary@graceumcwarren.com) by Tuesday, January 15. Thank you!



January 3 - Alexis Vavala

January 4 - Alice Bonnell, Taylor Eggleston

January 6 – Carol Knowlton, Bob Gustafson, Patty Wineriter

January 7 - Dennis Tuttle, Cole Brocklehurst

January 8 - Brenda Lord, Jordan Trisket

January 9 - Karson Werner, Kaden Werner

Nancy Stanton, Carriebelle Hoffman, Agnes Reed

January 12 – Jonah Swartz, Chuck Pearson,

Cole Abplanalp

January 13 - Karen Gray

January 14 - Anne Miller

January 15 – Susan Toombs, Jack Napolitan,

Abbie Buerkle, Joe Sprentz

January 16 - Austin Linn

January 17 - William McClement, Kevin Haley,

Troy Burns

January 18 – Mark Napolitan, Cindy Strandburg,

Colter Johnson, Stacy Knapp

January 19 - Rocky Knapp, Dick Risinger,

Lucy Phillips, Mark Danielson

January 20 - Dick Hitchcock

January 21 - Dave Brocklehurst

January 22 - Chris Dutchess, Emilee Shafer

January 23 - Nancy Nichols, Bill Beatty

January 24 - Elise Brown, Liz Anderson

January 25 - Elaide Olney, Warren Winters,

Gunner Ceresa

January 26 - Barb Mintzer, Mike Stimmell

January 27 - Amanda Slattery, Peyton Morrison

January 28 - Ruth Sienkiewicz

January 29 - Sarah Wentworth

January 30 - Jeff Brown

A special Happy Birthday to Pastor Bill on January 23rd!



Green Pastures



We never know when one of our innocent statements will turn into a source of amusement. One such statement was made by Dean Johnson when he had to miss a meeting. "I

have a cow loose." He simply stated the fact that he had to catch a cow that evening. But those of us on SPRC suddenly wished that during some of our more rigorous meetings that we also needed to stay home to catch a cow!

Dean's grandfather and mine were good friends. His father and mine were friends from grade school through old age. Dean and I were in first grade together. Isn't it interesting how God places people in small circles where He might later use them. Dean's life as a farmer gives him the opportunity to see the world from a different perspective, from the seat of a tractor. This farm country we share gives such a glorious view of God's creation!

A year ago, Dean quietly mentioned that he may step down from being our Lay Leader. After many years of serving Grace Church, it is understandable that he chooses to pass the baton. Our church respects and deeply appreciates every word of wisdom, every kind gesture and every intercession he has made on behalf of his friends. Our appreciation extends to Melinda, his wife, for sometimes being the one who had to lasso a loose

From my observations, Dean understands "love one another" in the way it was meant to be set in action. He is a testimony to our mission at Grace. His wise counsel will always be sought and his spiritual giftedness will forever be lifted up among us. Your church thanks you dearly for your service, Dean.

With a strong calling and several months of enthusiastic preparation, I have extended my hand to the baton. This January, I will begin as the new Lay Leader of Grace Church. This opportunity is a blessing, an honor and a privilege to step forward. I adhere to the advice of John Wesley who said, "go where you are needed most". This is where I believe I am needed. I offer you my sincere commitment while we travel together toward the future of our

church. As we stay aware of God's mission and how it applies to our local level, we find ways to work together, equipping each other to live out our faith. On behalf of our laity and Pastor Bill, I devote my service to you as your Lay Leader.

In Christ,

Sue Toombs

LEADERSHIP and NOMINATIONS REPORT for 2019

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

THE CHURCH COUNCIL		
COUNCIL OFFICERS		
Chairperson	Dean Johnson	2021
Lay Leader	Sue Toombs	2021
Assistant Lay Leader		
Senior Pastor/Administrative Officer	Rev. William Beatty	†
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Stephanie Russo	2021
Recording Secretary	Julie Hitchcock	2020
Church Treasurer	Vickie Morrison	2021
CHURCH STAFF (reporting to Church Council)		
Director of Congregational Care	Karen Gray	t
Director of Music Ministries	Beverly Petersen	†
Office Manager	Mary Quiggle-Pickering	t
Office Administrator	Meghan Brooker	†
Director of Family Ministries	Kayla Schwanke	t
ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRPERSONS	•	-
Chair: Endowment Committee	Ray Toombs	2021
Chair: Finance Committee	Alice Bonnell	2021
Chair: Leadership and Nominations	Rev. William Beatty	t
Chair: Memorial Committee	Vicki Anthony	2020
Chair: Property Trustees	Larry Knowlton	>
Chair: Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations	Larry Sutton	2021
MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRPERSONS	·	
Chair: Outreach/Witness	Renee Magnuson	2020
Chair: Education	Melinda Johnson	2020
Chair: Nurture	TBD	
Chair: Worship	Cindy Dziendziel	2021
SPECIAL GROUPS	·	
At-large member	Melissa Zaffino	2020
At-large member	Joe Sienkewicz	2019
At-large member	TBD	
President: Child Care Board of Directors	Katie Card	2021
President: Preschool Board of Directors	Amanda Green	>
Scouting Liaison	Anna Peterson	2019
United Methodist Women officers	Marge Smith, Linda Knapp	>
Young Adult Representative	Elishia Wurst	2020
Youth Representative	Eliana Beatty	2020

Boldfaced=newly nominated

†=Staff

>=elected by own group

^{*}Full committee reports are available on the literature tables.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Office Closed 6:00 p Pickleball	7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Library Resv. 7:00 p Girl Scouts	5:00 Caregivers' Support Group 6:00 p Pickleball 7:00 p AseraCare	4 10:00 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	5 10:00 a Wesley Parlor Resv.
6 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Adult Sunday School 9:45 a Sunday School	7 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Youth Group 6:30 p Habitat for Humanity 6:45 p SPRC	9:00 a Disciple IV 11:15a Staff Meeting 5:15 p Healing Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 7:00 p Property Trustees	9 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Handbells 7:00 p Choir 7:00 p Library Resv. 8:15 p Madrigals	10 5:30 p Cub Scouts 6:00 p Pickleball 6:30 p Disciple IV	11 10:00 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	12
8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Adult Sunday School 9:45 a Sunday School	14 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Youth Group 6:00 p Childcare 7:00 p Finance 7:00 p Eaton Parlor Reserved	9:00 a Disciple IV 5:15 p Healing Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball	7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Handbells 7:00 p Girl Scouts 7:00 p Choir 8:15 p Madrigals	17 5:30 p Cub Scouts 6:00 p Pickleball 6:30 p Disciple IV 7:30 p Library Resv.	18 10:00 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p Youth 180!	19 10:00 a Higginbotham Hall Resv.
20 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Adult Sunday School 9:45 a Sunday School 4:00 p Watson Home	21 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Youth Group 7:00 p Worship 7:00 p Eaton Parlor Reserved	9:00 a Disciple IV 11:15a Staff Meeting 5:15 p Healing Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball	7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Handbells 7:00 p Choir 7:00 p Library Resv. 8:15 p Madrigals	24 4:30 p Wesley Parlor Resv. 5:30 p Cub Scouts 6:00 p Pickleball 6:30 p Disciple IV	25 10:00 a Yarn Angels 12:15 p Christian Yoga	26
27 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Adult Sunday School 9:45 a Sunday School	28 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Youth Group 7:00 p Outreach/ Witness 7:00 p Eaton Parlor Reserved	9:00 a Disciple IV 5:15 p Healing Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball	30 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:15 p Fitness Class 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Handbells 7:00 p Girl Scouts 7:00 p Choir 8:15 p Madrigals	31 6:00 p Pickleball 6:30 p Disciple IV 7:30 p Library Resv.	CARE WITH GRACE DAYCARE is open daily from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm located on the second-floor parking lot side and in the gym.	PROMISE PRESCHOOL is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9- 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; January 2019

~ Grace Praise Team ~

Pastor Bill, Lori Beatty, Julie Danielson, Chuck Keeports, Walter Miller, Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Shirley Shafer, Liz Anderson, Mary Hellman and John Lewis

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Warren, PA 16365

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!