

Grace Notes

May 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: *Rev. William Beatty*
Coordinator of
Congregational Care: *Cindy Price*
Choir Director: *Floyd Moore*
Organist/Accompanist: *Debbie Airgood*
Office Administrator: *Meghan Brooker*
Office Manager: *Mary Quiggle-Pickering*
Director of Children &
Family Ministries: *Lori Beatty*
Director of Youth &
Family Ministries: *Nicki Egger*

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



May Meetings

May 5 - 6:00 p - SPRC
May 12 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
May 18 - 5:30 p - Education
May 19 - 6:00 p - Finance
May 26 - 6:00 p - Church Council



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

From the Pastor

How Is It?

Sometimes I have some bad internet habits. No, there aren't any "questionable" charges on my credit card accounts to websites that would have made my grandmother blush. Not those kinds of bad habits.

Here's the scenario. A while back I was getting ready to preach for Sunday morning and I wanted to use the Martin Luther quote, "Sin boldly" but I wanted to get the full context and some commentary so that I didn't completely misuse it. So, I Googled "sin boldly" and "Martin Luther." I got a bunch of hits and got my information but on the page where I found the letter Luther wrote to Philip Melancthon (where the quote comes from), there was a link to Luther's 95 Theses – you know, the catalyst for the whole Protestant Reformation. I thought to myself, "Hmmm. What were the theses? I remember indulgences... what else was there?" <click> "Oh, yeah. Salvation by faith." <click> "Nailed to the Wittenburg door." <click...search for Wittenburg door> "Castle Church, that's right." <another link> "Oh, wow. I remember the Wittenburg Door Magazine (Christian satire at its... best?) <click> Now it's online only. Hmmm, they haven't updated the magazine since last Christmas. <click> 'Our Very Own Halftime Show...with a kosher, hermeneutical, year-end pigskin review.'" <click>

So after ten minutes of surfing, a few chuckles and a couple dozen mouse clicks later, I'm back to typing my sermon (or, in this case, newsletter article...yep did it in the middle of this, too).

But sometimes that bad habit turns up some really good surprises (actually, the Wittenburg Door article was mildly entertaining) and sometimes so strange and unexpected results.

I remember years ago reading a friend's blog and they had a link to a site where people anonymously mail their secrets on postcards and the host of the site puts the anonymous secrets up for everyone to see. Some were seemingly innocuous like, "Every time I hear a siren, I say a little prayer for whoever is in trouble." Or strange: "Subconsciously I constantly narrate my life in my head – in third person – in a British accent." Some were sad: "TV is my only joy." And some were troubling: "I feel lonely every single day of my life but I'm ashamed to admit that to the people who love me."

Studies show that people are much more likely to be honest about difficult subject matter when they are assured anonymity. People will mail things to this website that they won't even tell the people closest to them. Turns out <click> that the website is still up and running almost 20 years later and people are still more comfortable sharing their secrets anonymously than they might be sharing their reality with the people around them.

But Jesus told us to love each other and that means that we really should be able to share what's really going on in our lives. Maybe I don't need to know your deepest, darkest secret, but I DO want to know how I can lift you up, how I can support you, how I can be in your corner.

John Wesley, in his class meetings, used to ask, "How is it with your soul?" In part, "How's your relationship with God?" and in part, "How IS your soul?" We are body, mind and spirit, so how is it with one-third of who you are? Maybe people answered honestly, maybe not.

Can we tell the people that we are closest to the deepest things that trouble us and break our hearts? Can we trust those who say they love us that they really do?

And more importantly, can we tell our God the deepest things that trouble us and break our hearts? Can we trust God who said He loves us that He really, really does?

It's an important question. So, "How is it with your soul?"

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

What a fast school year that was! The little ones that came to us in September were a little unsure and had a little separation anxiety are now confident and ready to move on! Now we're the ones with the separation anxiety. We don't want to let them go. They are so sweet. However, we know this is part of the deal, we pour love and kindness into these littles and then send them out into kindergarten. What a blessing it was to know them. We wish them the very best in all they do!



Registration is open for the fall! We're having an open house on Thursday, May 7th from 5-6:30pm!

Have a wonderful summer!!

Jen & Soojye

SOC – Support Our Children Grace Promise Preschool does a special offering collection on months that have 5 Sundays to help with their programming. The next collection will be **Sunday, May 31st**. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Flock Talk

*“God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.”
Psalms 46:5*

This is the month of new beginnings! The earth comes to life, birds abound and flowers are abundant. Nature speaks of God's greatness and His generosity. One of His most generous acts was to give us mothers with loving hearts.

The celebration of Mother's Day brings a host of emotions. For many, this is a time to be thankful and to surround ourselves with family. For others, it brings memories of sorrow and lost opportunities. It's a time to tread carefully with emotions that run high.

I was blessed to have a mother who loved me to the blue skies and back. The blessing continues with being able to have celebrated her until the tender age of ninety-nine. We never experienced grandchildren, but we certainly found ways to love others along our path. She was my dearest friend and I was hers.

Grace Church does a wonderful presentation on Mother's Day Sunday. Every woman's journey is mentioned without feeling like somehow they didn't meet the criteria. I personally am so thankful for that. Pastor Bill is wonderfully sensitive to how this holiday affects all of us.

Be free with your hug and quick with words that bring joy to the hearts of all women on this day. We never know what they have in their backpack or how long they have carried it. Help them balance the weight, even just a little nudge will do.

Tenderly,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader



During Worship
 9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
 11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)
 May 3 – Anna Peterson
 May 10 – Melissa Zaffino
 May 17 – Anna Peterson
 May 24 – Melissa Zaffino
 May 31 – Anna Peterson



Items for the **June 2026**
 Newsletter need to be delivered
 to Mary in the office
 to mary@graceumcwarren.com by
Monday, May 18.
 Thank you.

Grace Church Finance Report

Grace Church ~



Below you will find our financials for the month of March. I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer, sunny days! Let's show God how thankful we are for his generous gifts this year!

Thank you!

2026 Monthly and YTD Financials

	March '26	YTD
Total Income	\$32,215.07	\$91,835.53
Office Expense	\$159.97	\$3,936.99
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$11,260.37	\$24,498.22
Ministry Personnel	\$19,984.18	\$63,651.50
Church Council	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education Ministry	\$194.79	\$303.60
Nurture Ministry	\$24.99	\$209.68
Worship Ministry	\$142.83	\$1,222.92
Outreach Ministry	\$247.32	\$542.87
Connectional Apportionment	\$2,649.88	\$7,949.64
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Ministry & Expense	\$34,664.33	\$102,315.42
Net Income	(\$2,449.26)	(\$10,479.89)

Shortfall

Account Balance 03/31/2026	(\$34,341.70)
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **spaghetti sauce, dry milk, cereal, and Knorr sides** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!





May 4-8 is Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you to all the schoolteachers, preschool teachers, and Sunday School teachers for their hard work and dedication. We appreciate you!

Come Join Our Messy Church

Messy Church? It's a time for family games, crafts, worship, Bible story, and dinner together. Monthly on the third Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:30pm.

Our next event is **Wednesday, May 20th**.

Please check the church website for the updated list of items needed for Messy Church.

www.graceumcwarrenpa.com/children-youth-ministries



Grace Promise Preschool registration is now open! A completed registration form and **\$20 non-refundable fee** is required to hold a spot for the 2026-2027 school year. A handbook and registration form can be found on the church website www.graceumcwarrenpa.com, picked up at the church office, or by calling (814) 723-8011 during school hours (Tuesday-Thursday 9a-11:30a).

Questions? Email Promisepreschool@myyahoo.com

****Grace Promise Preschool Open House! Thursday, May 7th 5-6:30pm****

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 or text Karen Conarro 814-688-6445.



Wednesday, May 13th 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.



ATTENTION 2026 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Grace Church would like to recognize you on **Sunday, May 31st**! Please email a picture, full name, school you're graduating from, and any future plans to meghan@graceumcwarren.com



Every year, the Chief Cornplanter Council hosts a summer camp for Cub Scouts ages 5-11. This year's summer camp "*A Pirate's Life for Me!*" is from June 11-14. In order to provide meals for the Scouts attending, we are asking for donations from the congregation. Grace Church has been assigned **boxes of cereal**. Donated items can be placed in the box in Wesley Parlor by **June 1st**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kim at (814)730-8176.

It's the Women's Care Center "Change for Life" baby bottle fundraiser time! Bottles will be available to fill beginning Mother's Day, May 10th and returned by Father's Day, June 21st. Donate coins (not rolled please), paper money, or checks made out to The Women's Care Center. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and we ask for your prayers as well. The collection tub will be in Wesley Parlor.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 14 @ 2pm – Church picnic at Lacy Park

Table setting, Hot Dogs/Condiments, and bottled water will be provided. If you are able, please bring a dish to share. Feel free to bring games as well.

Saturday, July 11@ 11am – Waldameer

Lunch is included: Chicken Tenders, Flame Broiled Hamburgers w/cheese, Italian Sausage w/peppers and onions, Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, Fresh Fruit, Applesauce, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Vanilla Ice Cream Cup, Condiments and Pepsi Fountain Soft Drinks

Entrance Tickets including lunch (three options):

Non-Rider aged 5 and up: \$10

Rider aged 5 and up (includes amusement park and water world) \$45

Rider aged 4 and under: \$30

Transportation is self-provided.

PARK IS OPEN RAIN OR SHINE

FOOD AND SOFT DRINK IS ALSO SERVED RAIN OR SHINE.

WE DO HAVE A PAVILLION RESERVED - Coaster #1

WALDAMEER IS A CASHLESS PARK. This means that you will have to use a debit or credit card to purchase a Wally Card in the park if you intend to purchase drinks, snacks, or play games.



May 1 - Dawn Werner

May 2 - Jamie Watson, Jacqueline Sadler, James Black

May 3 - Dudley Wineriter

May 4- Floyd Moore, Simon Smith

May 5 - Evelyn Eaton, Sally Moldovan, Joe Sienkiewicz

May 6 - Edwin Rickerson, Kimberly Tutaro, Connor Grey

May 7 - Richard Thoma, Emma Stimmell

May 8 - Jan Garrett, Melissa Larsen, Bobbi Gafner

May 10 - Susan Puhl, Erin Werner

May 11 - Karen Schwone

May 12 - Helena Moore, Violet Brooker

May 13 - Beth Anne Nichols, Brittany Saber

May 14 - Daniel Farr

May 15 - Donna Miller, Gary Fleming

May 16 - Matthew Jeffrey

May 17 - Shane Burns

May 19 - Mary Rose Farr, Larry Willis Jr.

May 20 - Kylie Kennedy, Kailee Morrison, Mitchell Arnold

May 21 - Beth Sprentz, Jennifer Morrison

May 22 - Patricia McClement, Sarah Anzalone, Jacob McCollough, Kristen Johnson, Emma Peterson

May 24 - Tyler Gustafson, Amy Morrison

May 25 - Marci Barker, Brandi Buchanan, Beau Kibbey

May 26 - Michael Phillips

May 27 - Cory Burns, Adam Barker

May 28 - Dave Berdine, Ryan Gustafson

May 29 - Linda Morrison

May 30 - Paul Johnson

May 31 - Tony Ross, Walt Miller, Rhonda Narlee, Anna Peterson, Amanda Green, Julie Halteman

MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 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	4 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved	5 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i>	6 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:45 p Handbells 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	7 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:00 p Promise Preschool Open House 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group	1 9:30 a Yarn Angels	2 9:00 a Praise Team
10 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing	11 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga	12 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i>	13 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:45 p Handbells 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	14	15 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	16 9:00 a Praise Team
17 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing	18 10:30 a Touch Tennis 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p <i>Education</i> 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved	19 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Finance</i>	20 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:00 p Messy Church 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:45 p Handbells 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	21	22 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	23 9:00 a Praise Team
24 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing	25 Office Closed	26 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i>	27 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:45 p Handbells 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	28	29 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	30 9:00 a Praise Team
31 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing						

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!