

Grace Notes

April 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



April Meetings

April 7 - 6:00 p - SPRC
April 13 - 6:00 p - Worship
April 14 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
April 23 - 6:00 p - Preschool
April 28 - 6:00 p - Church Council



This month's Communion offering will benefit **Grace Church Children's Ministries**. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet or a blue pew envelope for your contribution.

*Our 2026 Easter Offering will be split with half going to the **Grace Promise Preschool** and half going to the **CREW (youth group) 2027 Current Trip**. Envelopes will be included with the Easter letter or use a blue pew pocket envelope and label it Easter.*



From the Pastor

What Do You Mean?

I'm sure we've all experienced this: someone you care about is obviously upset and you ask, "What's wrong?" And they say, "Nothing." It's one of the most frustrating answers because it can mean a lot of different things: "I'm upset with you and you should know why." Or, "I'm upset about something but I don't want to burden you." Or, "I'm upset about something that will just cause trouble between us." Or, "I'm not upset and your ability to read me is pretty terrible." Or, well, you get the picture.

"Say what you mean and mean what you say." That was advice given to me as a young man and I've really tried always to live up to that, yet sometimes I'm the one answering that question with, "Nothing."

Jesus said, "But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one." (Matthew 5:37, NKJV) Jesus is talking about swearing oaths and telling the truth. If I need to say to you, "I swear this is true," it suggests that other things I say are not true, right? But, rather, say what you mean and mean what you say. Yes is yes, no is no.

I saw in a blogpost from Thom Rainer a few weeks ago: "A Translation Guide for What Church Committees and Boards Really Mean." They're pretty entertaining:

"Let's put this on the agenda for next month."

Translation: "We hope you forget about this before next month arrives."

"Let's proceed with caution."

Translation: "This idea is going to create too much work for us."

"We've never done it that way before."

Translation: "And we would prefer to keep it that way until at least the Second Coming."

"Let's pray about it."

Translation: "We are not ready to decide, and prayer feels like a safe parking place."

"This is a great idea—for another church."

Translation: "We hope you stop talking now."

He goes on to write, "Healthy churches learn to say what they mean—with kindness, humility, and courage. They pray and decide. They steward resources and take faithful risks. They honor the past without being trapped by it."

"And occasionally, they laugh at themselves in the process."

Our boards and committees at Grace Church do a pretty good job of speaking the truth in love, praying and deciding, but we can all kind of get into that trap of saying one thing and meaning another. I confess, I've been tempted to say, "Let's put this on the agenda for next month" hoping that we never speak of it again... Say what you mean, mean what you say.

What do we say as Grace Church? Our Purpose Statement is, "To Know Christ And To Make Him Known." How are we communicating this truth? How are we sometimes MIS-communicating it? How are we telling the community that we know Christ? How are we making Christ known to our friends and family and neighbors and strangers? What does it mean to you to Know Christ?

The Apostle Paul echoes our Purpose as he prays for the church at Ephesus:

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know [God] better. (Ephesians 1:16-17)

Let's put hands and feet to what we believe. Let's say what we mean, mean what we say. Let's live our

lives as witnesses of the grace and truth and mercy and righteousness of God, so that we can know Christ better – and make Christ known by how we represent him.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there!

Ok, this is my new favorite hymn. If you missed our choir arrangement in the March 22 eleven o'clock service, you can find it online. I'd encourage you to sing along and digest this encouragement.



Hymn #522 Leave It There

by Pastor Charles Albert Tindley

If the world from you withhold of its silver and its gold,
And you have to get along with meager fare,
Just remember in his Word how he feeds the little bird,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Chorus:

Leave it there, leave it there, take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.
If you trust and never doubt, He will surely bring you out;
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

If your body suffers pain, and your health you can't regain,
And your soul is almost sinking in despair,
Jesus knows the pain you feel, He can save and He can heal,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

(Chorus)

When your enemies assail, and your heart begins to fail.
Don't forget that God in heaven answers prayer;
He will make a way for you, and will lead you safely through,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

(Chorus)

When your youthful days are done, and old age is stealing on,
And your body bends beneath the weight of care,
He will never leave you then, he'll go with you to the end,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

(Chorus)

Jesus is quoted in Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest in your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Remember Psalm 68:19 "Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens."

Sometimes it's very hard to retain the simple faith to just take every burden that we have and leave it with Jesus. I'm very appreciative of the many prayers of friends and family through the past months. Lets all constantly dig into more scripture (and song) to find more daily encouragement.

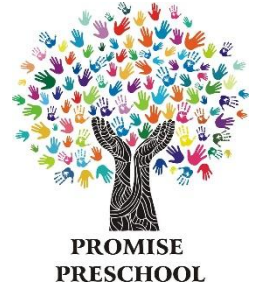
Thank you for your prayers and support of the worship ministries here at Grace!

Remember to attend our Maundy Thursday service at 7pm on April 2nd and our Easter services on April 5th.

See you in church.

Floyd Moore
Choir Director
amfm123@verizon.net

Happy Spring!
We have been waiting a LONG time to say Spring is here!
March was fun with our Leprechaun traps for St Patrick's Day and we grew grass in our Easter baskets, made cards for some church members, had a Peep taste test for Easter! April will bring more fun! We have a field trip to the library and a playground fun day, we will be baking and crafting! We plan to get outside when we can. It's hard to believe the school year is almost over!
See you in May!



Jen & Soojye

In February, we started off with learning about Creation. We had 29 participants (14 kids and 15 youth/adult volunteers). In March, we had 32 participants (19 kids and 13 adults) and learned about Noah and the Ark. We made rainsticks, sand rainbows, bracelets, arks, rainbows, and even made our own slime!



Looking forward to April, we will be delving into the theme of New Life in the Spirit! We will be incorporating activities using wind and symbols of fire. Spread the word and bring a friend!

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, April 4 @ 10am – Easter Egg Hunt

We are still in need of candy! - donations can be dropped off in Wesley Parlor.

Saturday, April 11 – Paint Night – Kelly Hunt and Jan Moore will be leading an evening of painting (see picture) – Ages 10 and up – \$25 per person – sign up list will be on the bulletin board. We hope to see you there!



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

We must have a **minimum of 50 riders** to hold this event. Sign-up on the bulletin board across from the Church Office by **April 19th**.

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.

Lori Beatty



Flock Talk

"And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

Imagine walking into our church and simply listening. The first sounds we would hear would be friendly voices, talking gently, choosing uplifting words, and greeting others with sincerity. Next, we would hear music in the background with musicians warming up for worship. And, always, the sound of footsteps arranging and minding to all of the last minute touches.

Now, the sound that lifts hearts - children! Every age group is represented. Every stage of vocalizing that brings them closer to adulthood. It gets even better. There're babies! Now, we have unpredictable squeals of joy and even a wee disgruntlement as expected. The sound of music lets loose and the reassuring voice of Pastor Bill follows. This is when listening gets serious. This is when we hear our concerns in our minds as we link his message to what we are going through. No one else hears that part, the part of our brain that says, "it feels like he's talking to me".

Perhaps that's why our voices are more kind and convey greater encouragement when we stand to say good-bye. We heard what we came to hear. It changes us. It quickens the action of the Holy Spirit within us to be more like Christ. We hear mercy. We hear love. We hear forgiveness.

Attentively,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader



During Worship
9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)
11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)
April 5 – Anna Peterson
April 12 – Melissa Zaffino
April 19 – Anna Peterson
April 26 – Melissa Zaffino



Items for the **May 2026**
Newsletter need to be delivered
to Mary in the office
mary@graceumcwarren.com by
Wednesday, April 15.
Thank you.

Grace Church Finance Report



2026 Monthly and YTD Financials

	February '26	YTD
Total Income	\$30,227.03	\$59,620.46
Office Expense	\$3,333.94	\$3,777.02
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$5,967.26	\$13,237.85
Ministry Personnel	\$20,416.53	\$43,667.32
Church Council	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education Ministry	\$108.81	\$108.81
Nurture Ministry	\$162.93	\$184.69
Worship Ministry	\$405.01	\$1,080.09
Outreach Ministry	\$121.23	\$295.55
Connectional Apportionment	\$2,649.88	\$5,299.76
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Ministry & Expense	\$33,165.59	\$67,651.09
Net Income	(\$2,938.56)	(\$8,030.63)

Shortfall

Account Balance 02/28/2026	\$31,892.44
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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 **box potatoes, jelly, and canned fruit** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!

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, April 15th**.



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

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.



The outreach team will be holding a rummage sale on **Saturday, April 25th** from **8am to 1pm**. Please drop off your items for the sale on Friday, April 24th from 4 to 6 pm. Kids' clothes are welcome but no adult clothing please. Please contact Chuck Keeperts at 814-688-8534 if you have any questions. Donations will go toward mission projects.

Healing Yoga Saturday, April 4th 12:15-1:30pm in Higginbotham Hall

Experience the restorative effects of this class as we focus on the connection between the emotional mind and our physical responses to stress. I have chosen Easter weekend to emphasize our relationship to Jesus in all we do, especially concerning our healing and sense of peace. Please feel free to attend this class, even if you have never tried yoga. The fee is \$8 and never a need for reservations. Simply walk in. Contact Sue Toombs at fourwindsranch@verizon.net



April 1 – Gillian Rapp, Robert Morrison, Chase Card, Molly Grey

April 2 – Adam Flagella

April 3 – Alice Pedersen, Laurie Dickson, Sigrid Jedor

April 4 – Christa Yaegle

April 5 – Freida Ecelberger, Jesse Lucks, Katelyn Jurkowski

April 6 – Rob Pearce, Dave MacPherson, Zach Foster, Jack Lynds

April 7 – Carolyn Fry

April 8 – Jackie Johnson, Brooke Johnson

April 9 – Melissa Culbertson

April 11 – Hannah Fry, Michele Coffman

April 13 – Dave VanOrsdale, Nancy Eaker, Chase Alex

April 14 – Shallin Shelby

April 15 – Jaime Housler

April 16 – Hunter Trisket

April 17 – Kyle Jones

April 18 – Bob Sedon, Chloe Meddaugh, Callie Hampson, Zachry Tucher

April 19 – James Miller

April 20 – Sandy Shene, Tina Moore

April 21 – Jean Buerkle

April 23 – Cheryle Stellato, Morgan Danielson, Thatcher McClellan

April 24 – Jody Benjamin

April 26 – Kristen Lucks

April 27 – Vicki Garrett

April 28 – Jennifer Lynds, Degan Peterson

April 29 – James Ostergard, Andrew Knowlton

April 30 – Don Smith, Michael Barrett, Jenafer McKown, Vance Anzalone

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 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.	2 Maundy Thursday 8:00 a Pickleball 6:00 p Disciple I 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 7:00 p Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p Gym Reserved	3 Good Friday 8:30 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	4 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Easter Egg Hunt 10:15 a Pickleball 12:15 p Healing Yoga
5 Easter Sunday 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing	6 8:30 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved 7:00 p Ping Pong	7 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>	8 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.	9 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Disciple I 7:00 p Gym Reserved	10 8:30 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	11 9:00 a Praise Team 10:15 a Pickleball 1:00 p Gym Reserved 6:00 p Nurture Paint Night
12 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	13 8:30 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>Worship</i> 7:00 p Ping Pong	14 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>	15 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 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.	16 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Disciple I 7:00 p Gym Reserved	17 8:30 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	18 9:00 a Praise Team 11:00 a Sanctuary & Higginbotham Hall Reserved
19 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:00 a Children's Choir 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship at The Crossing	20 8:30 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved 7:00 p Ping Pong	21 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Pickleball	22 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.	23 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Disciple I 6:00 p <i>Preschool</i> 7:00 p Gym Reserved	24 8:30 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 4:00 p Rummage Sale Drop Off	25 8:00 a Rummage Sale 9:00 a Praise Team 10:15 a Pickleball
26 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	27 8:30 a Pickleball 10:30 a Touch Tennis 5:15 p Christian Yoga 7:00 p Ping Pong	28 8:00 a Pickleball 9:00 a Library Reserved 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>	29 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.	30 8:00 a Pickleball 10:30 a Preschool - Gym Reserved 6:00 p Disciple I 7:00 p Gym Reserved		

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!