

Grace Notes

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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: *Tyler Dymond*
Director of Youth &
 Family Ministries: *Nicki Egger*

January

2022

*"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 3 - 6:00 p - Nurture
January 5 - 6:00 p - SPRC
January 11 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
January 17 - 6:00 p - Finance
January 18 - 6:00 p - Church Council
January 25 - 6:00 p - Childcare



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

From the Pastor

One Thing

January 1. We roll the calendar over to a new year, a new start, another beginning. We often make resolutions at the beginning of the year (which we, statistically speaking, don't follow through on for much more than a month or so...sigh) because we recognize there are things in our lives that need to change. We may need to eat healthier, get more exercise. We may need to be more regular with devotional reading or praying. We may need to quit something or start something or some other kind of change.

It can be overwhelming.

David Crowder in his book *Praise Habit* discovered that it takes about 4 weeks for something to go from being something I think about doing or not doing to something that happens (or doesn't) automatically. Years ago, I was a nail-biter – right down to the quick all the time. My fingers hurt all the time... When I decided it was time to quit nail-biting, it took me a bit more than 4 weeks to stop the habit (it had been ingrained in me for 35 or more years... so it might take a minute to stop...) but within a couple months, I had changed my habit.

Here's the thing. I didn't try to change ten habits that month. I didn't try to lose weight and quit nail-biting and get more exercise and read more of the Bible and pray more and spend more time with my family and focus better at work. Whew! I needed to do all those things (and more!!), but that's overwhelming, right? So, I picked one thing. Not the easiest on the list, to be sure, but I picked one thing that I could focus on.

Our faith is a journey, Paul compares it to a race sometimes. In Philippians 3 (10-14), Paul says:

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it.

Yeah, that's not exactly the race analogy yet – but sets it up for us. Paul recognizes that sometimes the living out of our faith can be overwhelming, the goal can seem so far off, but he too chooses to focus on one thing. Paul says:

But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

One thing I do... what's your one thing for today? How is God calling you to move forward in one thing?

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Bill

Choir Notes



January is, of course a great time to look back and look ahead.

Looking back with a short-term memory we can recall our Christmas Choir Concert that was presented to our community on 12/12 at 4. If you missed it you can possibly find it online, but remember it's always better live. I want to once again thank all the people involved. They each gave the best of themselves to come together and present the Gospel in song.

Sopranos: Karen Conarro, Karen Gray, Nancy Johnson, Catherine Lyon, Beth MacPherson, Renee Magnuson, Beverly Petersen, Cindy Price, LuAnn Saeli. **Altos:** Liz Anderson, Sandy Darr, Trish Gentilman, Helena Moore, Vickie Morrison, Alice Pedersen. **Tenors:** Carol Knowlton, Larry Knowlton. **Basses:** Art Anderson, Bill Gentilman, Tristan Johnson, Kris Magnuson, Don Smith.

And our masterful **Accompanist** on Piano, Bells, Strings, Organ, and whatever other thing he had playing on the keyboard: Kris Magnuson.

Trombones: Art Anderson, Bob Lewis, Todd McLean, Paul Near, Pete Weinreich, John Zawadski. Special Guests: D. J. Anderson and David Guckenberger. DemBones are arranged and directed by Kris Magnuson.

Audio/Visual: Dave Moore and Pastor Bill.

Acolytes: Kylie and Katelyn Jurkowski. Thank you, Linda Knapp, coordinator.

Thanks also to Linda Knapp and her committee for the elegant cookie and punch reception following the concert.

January is an excellent time to join/rejoin the choir. We practice at 7pm each Wednesday. Come on in, we'll have music waiting for you. You can talk to any choir member to find out how rewarding it is to sing with a good choir. I think you'll sleep better after a good rehearsal!

This is what king David wrote when he was in the wilderness of Judah. Psalm 63:1-5

"O GOD, you are my God, earnestly I seek you, my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you."

No matter what wilderness we are in, let's chew on those verses this January 2022.

Please continue to pray for your ministry and your congregation here at Grace.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Floyd Moore
amfm123@verizon.net



JESUS WEEPS

We are grieving. We will continue to grieve for many, many days into the future.
Shock Denial Anger Bargaining Depression Testing Acceptance

We will have to negotiate our way through some or all of these stages of grief.

We can do it together.

We grieve for the loss of young lives and the loss of innocence. We are thinking, "How could this happen here?" We grieve that a pandemic is sweeping around the world. We grieve over racial, gender, socio-economic and political divides in our country. We long for unity.

But, for all of our differences, we have a common bond. We are GOD's creation - - - we are GOD's children. Therefore, we are recipients of GOD's love. A love that exceeds anything we can imagine.

At Ryan Egger's service, his mom Nicki spoke from her heart about how Ryan's life impacted those around him: family, friends and teammates. His infectious wit and ready smile were evident to all! Everyone marveled that Nicki was able to do that. I believe that her love for Ryan inspired her to share her precious memories with all of us and GOD's love gave Nicki the strength to scale that mountain of emotion that was surrounding her. **I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.**

In the midst of our grief, GOD has promised that **Joy will come in the morning.**

This is not the giddy joy of an unexpected gift, but the joy of a promised one. A gift that is mercifully given to us by GOD. A gift that will bring us peace as we are surrounded by HIS presence.

Cindy Price



December 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. Pastor Bill shared the Christmas Story and showed us the Nativity in the sanctuary. Mrs. Morrison brought her guitar and sang Christmas songs with us. We also enjoyed our Christmas Fun Day with games, songs, extra craft projects, decorating and of course eating our own special cookies!

January will be focused on winter fun. The morning class will begin a color unit with projects and nursery rhymes. The afternoon class will be working on their skills in preparation for kindergarten.

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year 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 served!

We appreciate the support of our church, friends, and families during this unprecedented time! We pray that everyone will stay safe and healthy this holiday season!

Happy New Year!

Trish Gentilman & Jennifer Lynds

Happy New Year from Care with Grace! We have some exciting news; we are well on our way to moving up in STARS level. We will soon be a STARS level 2 facility. This means that we are recognized for safety and quality beyond that of a level 1 facility. We are also now fully staffed! This means that we should be able to start accepting more applications for more children. Beyond that, our staff is also well on their way to furthering their education in Early Learning. We have several staff members with degrees currently, we have a few more that are working on them currently, and more that are working on their Child Development certificates. As we enter the new year, we are reminded of this verse. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" --



Marc Merchant
Director



During Worship

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

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

January 2 – Anna Peterson

January 9 – Becky Fuller

January 16 – Anna Peterson

January 23 – Becky Fuller

January 30 – Anna Peterson

The Grace Church Food Pantry is fully stocked again! Due to the incredible number of donations over the past month we are currently not in need of anything. Thank you to all who contribute.



Items for the February Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office mary@graceumcwarren.com by Monday, January 17. Thank you.



Flock Talk

“And you now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man takes from you.”

John 16:22

How do we say a good goodbye?

We loved Ryan. As a church, as his friends. He was a bright and shining star in Grace Church. When he walked into a room, his warmth surrounded us. His smile made us reflect on all that is good. His laughter made our hearts happy. His presence was uniquely his own and he shared it with us in the most generous of ways, by simply being himself. Himself, with a sparkle in his eyes and with his flashing and handsome smile.

Life has its tides, with its highs and lows. The waves come crashing in, yet we grasp onto the peaceful serenity of calm that happens in between. When we say there are no words, there are. There has to be words. There has to be a way that love overcomes and outdistances the sadness. The words happen when we instantly become kinder, better, more gentle people. We are learning how to love one another more deeply through Ryan. We are trying to make some unfathomable sense out of something our minds cannot grasp.

God painted us all into this landscape. Some with big, broad dramatic strokes and some with delicate, fine tuned etching. Here we stand, arms linked and pulling together. With the power and might that can only come from God Himself we lift Nickole and Jesse and Bella up and we carry them. We surround this family with unconditional love. We join together and love so fully that we see God’s glory shine with a beautiful and unparalleled radiance in Ryan’s memory.

With love,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

What if...?

Grace Church did not exist?
Grace Church Ministries disappeared?



Like most other churches, Grace Church has faced challenges over the past several years; most recently, a shrinking membership and a world-wide pandemic. These challenges have placed further financial stress on an already stressed budget.

Grace's Finance Committee has revised the presentation of the church's income and expenses in order to be more transparent with our financial position. The major categories of the budget below include expenses for maintaining our church building and property, paying our church staff, funding the church's ministries and outreach, and other expenses.

In order to cover administrative expenses and church ministries over the past few years, the church has borrowed funds from other church accounts, shown below under "Borrowed Funds". The finance committee is exploring ways to reduce expenses and/or increase income to balance the budget and reduce the deficit below.

We are asking all members of the congregation to pray about your stewardship for the church and consider your contributions to help Grace in these challenging times.

2021 Actual to Budget

	November '21 Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Income	\$28,982.96	\$316,002.03	\$324,729.12
Office Expense	\$857.37	\$6,006.31	\$8,891.62
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$4,384.86	\$72,929.11	\$80,024.80
Ministry Personnel	\$24,819.20	\$249,421.38	\$252,307.84
Church Council	\$0.00	\$317.79	\$458.32
Education Ministry	\$567.87	\$2,068.49	\$2,566.64
Nurture Ministry	\$309.76	\$764.92	\$3,804.16
Worship Ministry	\$853.54	\$2,769.30	\$3,689.55
Outreach Ministry	\$119.69	\$732.55	\$458.32
Connectional Apportionment	\$3,334.83	\$36,683.13	\$36,683.16
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,833.32
Total Ministry & Expense	\$35,247.12	\$371,692.98	\$390,717.73
Net Income	(\$6,264.16)	(\$55,690.95)	(\$65,988.61)

Borrowed Funds

Account Balance 11/30/21	(\$129,317.56)
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings given.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

Memorial

**For: Marty Adams
By: Mary Conarro**

**For: Carole Schoenborn
By: Blanche Shuman**



**For: Luella Chase
By: Elle & Rick Gentilman, Stan & Shirley Pearson**

**For: Martha Anderson
By: Mark & Dorothy Dutchess, Carole & Jim Wilson, Stan & Shirley Pearson, Lynda Slocum**

HOPES

**For: Marty Adams
By: Arden & Linda Knapp**

**For: Luella Chase
By: Carol Ostergard**

**For: Martha Anderson
By: Carol Ostergard**

Music Memorial

**For: Luella Chase
By: Arden & Linda Knapp, Kris & Renee Magnuson, Pete & Marge Smith**

**For: Charlotte Fichtner
By: Arden & Linda Knapp**

**For: Marty Adams
By: Kris & Renee Magnuson**

**For: Martha Anderson
By: Kris & Renee Magnuson**

**Kitchen Memorial
For: Martha Anderson
By: Arden & Liinda Knapp**

**Heifer International
For: Ryan Egger
By: Jonah Swartz**

**Youth - SPARK
For: Ryan Egger
By: Keith & Cindy Price**

Christmas Offering

**For: Ryan Egger
By: Marian Aranyos**

**For: Austin Eggleston
By: Marian Aranyos**

Promise Preschool

**For: Trish Gentilman
By: Michael Pasquarett & Patricia McEvoy**



Dear members of Grace,

Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, text messages, emails, greeting cards and messages on social media that you sent to Jim and Marty Adams (and to their daughters Shari and Karen) this year as Jim and Marty faced serious health issues. They were very encouraging to our entire family. Thank you also for each of the birthday cards that you sent to Jim and Marty this summer in celebration of their 79th birthdays. You helped to make these birthdays (and what turned out to be Marty's final birthday) extremely joyous. Marty's death on November 13 has been very difficult for our family, but the many sympathy cards and messages of prayers we received helped us to remember that we were not alone during our time of grief, and they provided us with a great deal of comfort. Thank you for the food you provided to us and for the lovely luncheon that was held after Marty's funeral. She would have loved it! Many of her favorite foods were served then, and it gave us an opportunity to hear stories about her which was very therapeutic for us.

Sincerely,

Jim Adams, Shari Adams and Karen Adams Trapasso



Covered by Grace is a ministry that allows anyone needing winter items to simply take them from a clothesline on the front porch of the church. The lines are up now and will stay up through February. Donations can be placed in the bin across from Pastor Bill's office. You can also visit our Amazon wishlist to purchase donations. The link can be found on our website www.graceumcwarrenpa.com



Disciple II Bible Study

This is the second study in the four phase Disciple program. The unique aspect of this study is that we use our Bible as our textbook. We learn the transforming power of Scripture and develop study skills that take us deeper into the meaning of discipleship.

The result of these classes is the unbelievably deep relationship you develop with your Bible! You can join this class without having taken Disciple I. Please ask me more!

Sue Toombs is your study leader. 814-730-9996

This is a four-and-a-half-month study beginning January 6th through the end of April.

Thursdays from 6:00 - 7:30pm in the Eaton Parlor.

Children's Ministries Board Game Bonanza

Date: January 21, 2022

Time: 6-9pm

Who: anyone!!!

Price: \$10 per ticket (tables of 6-8)

Info: Come join us for a night of fun and games!! Each table will be asked to decorate their table (and selves) in a game theme. Top 3 winning teams get a prize!

Fear not if you don't have 6 that's part of the fun! We'll let you know who your table mates are when the RSVP is done!

You can bring your own game or choose from the pile! We'll all have fun there's no denial!

Feel free to bring food for your table to share, but snack and drinks will be there!

All proceeds will go to GUM's children's ministry!





- January 3 - Alexis Vavala
- January 4 - Alice Bonnell, Taylor Eggleston
- January 6 - Carol Knowlton, Patty Wineriter, Bob Gustafson
- January 7- Dennis Tuttle, Cole Brocklehurst
- January 8 - Brenda Lord, Jordan Trisket
- January 9 - Carriebell Hoffman, Agnes Reed, Kaden Werner, Karson Werner
- January 12 - Chuck Pearson, Cole Abplanalp
- January 13 - Karen Gray
- January 14 - Anne Miller
- January 15 - Sue Toombs, Joe Sprentz, Abbie Buerkle, Jack Napolitan
- January 16 - Austin Linn
- January 17 - Kevin Haley, Troy Burns, Macie Vivian
- January 18 - Cindy Strandburg, Mark Napolitan, Stacy Knapp, Colter Johnson
- January 19 - Dick Risinger, Mark Danielson, Lucy Phillips
- January 20 - Dick Hitchcock
- January 21 - Dave Brocklehurst
- January 22 - Chris Dutchess, Mike Card, Emilee Shafer
- January 23 - Pastor Bill
- January 24 - Liz Anderson, Elise Brown
- January 25 - Elaine Olney, Warren Winters, Gunner Ceresa
- January 26 - Barb Mintzer, Mike Stimmell
- January 27 - Amanda Slattery, Peyton Morrison
- January 28 - Ruth Sienkiewicz
- January 30 - Jeff Brown

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
501 Pennsylvania Ave. E.
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Published monthly;
January 2022

- Grace Praise Team -

*Pastor Bill, Julie Danielson, Chuck Keeports, Walter Miller, Dave Moore,
Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Keith Price, Shirley Shafer, Aaron Stearns,
Chris Ei, John Lewis, Alice Pedersen, Cindy Dziendziel*

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