

# Grace Notes

## November 2023

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  
Visit Our Facebook Group - www.facebook.com/groups/embracegrace

*To know Christ and to make Him known!*

Senior Pastor:                      *Rev. William Beatty*  
Director 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:      *Amanda Slattery*  
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*



### *November Meetings*

**November 6 - 5:30 p - Nurture**  
**November 7 - 6:00 p - SPRC**  
**November 13 - 6:00 p - Worship**  
**November 14 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees**  
**November 21 - 5:30 p - Education**  
**November 28 - 6:00 p - Church Council**



This month's Communion offering is **Grace Church Youth Group (CREW)**.

Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution.

# *From the Pastor*

## **Give It Away**

In 1959 Rodgers and Hammerstein's stage version of *The Sound of Music* included an intro to the reprise of "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" that says this:

"A bell is no bell 'til you ring it,  
A song is no song 'til you sing it,  
And love in your heart wasn't put there to stay -  
Love isn't love til you give it away."

My generation of country fans will recognize those words sounding an awful lot like Reba McEntire's "Love Isn't Love ('Til You Give It Away)" (from 1983!!).

There's a song by a duo called Jenny and Tyler that says this:

"There is plenty on this earth to suit our needs,  
But there will never ever be enough to satisfy our greed.  
Weigh this heavy on me now til' I can hardly breathe.  
Love through me. Love through me."

Here's the thread that runs through these for me. What I have – my talents, my resources, my love, my joy, my hope, even my salvation – isn't really much of anything until I give it away... Until I make it known and real in someone else's life.

Love. Remember being in Junior High and "loving" someone... that you never once talked to? Was it really love? When I tell Lori I love her, I am giving her something real and tangible. When I tell the girls I love them, it's not just something I think in my mind, but it's something I demonstrate with my life: for my wife and for my daughters and for all the people in my life. It's real. Because I give it away.

November is stewardship season – when we focus on all the ways God has blessed us and how we can then be a blessing to others with our Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness. I suppose it's because of Thanksgiving. You know, we're all thinking about reasons to be thankful anyway, so it's a good time to be talking about generosity... And we will talk about money (as Keith Price mentioned in the service on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, our income has been falling short of our expenses significantly). But it's so much more than about money. It's our spiritual gifts. Do you know how God has gifted you? Do you know *why* God has gifted you? It's about our interests and abilities. What are you good at? That's where you will probably make the greatest impact for the kingdom of God. It's about being present with one another and with our God.

It's about not hoarding and holding *anything* that God has blessed us with.

It's about living that love that God loves us with.

Love isn't love until I give it away.

God... Love through me.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Bill

## Choir Notes

**W**e have a lot to be thankful for, and a lot of music to put our expressions of thanks into song.



Just to get started, here's a few in our United Methodist Hymnal. Hopefully you can look these up in your hymnal and carry the tune with you throughout your day.

**Come, ye thankful people come 694; For the beauty of the earth 92; Now thank we all our God 102; Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! 139**

Here are two choruses that are newer than the hymnal but are really worth singing often:

### **Give Thanks Written in 1978 by Henry Smith**

Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One;  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. (repeat)  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong;" Let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)  
Give thanks!

### **Thank You, Lord By Seth and Bonnie Sykes, 1940**

Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul, Thank You Lord, for making me whole,  
Thank You, Lord, for giving to me Thy great salvation so rich and free.

We have plenty of reasons to be thankful. Not just during the month of November, but let's always remember to praise God for His blessings.

### **Count Your Blessings By Johnson Oatman Jr. and Edwin O. Excell**

When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings – name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

#### Chorus:

Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done. Count  
your blessings, name them one by one; Count your many blessings, see what God hats done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care? Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings; every doubt will fly, And you will be singing as the days go by.

#### Chorus

When you look at others with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has promised you His wealth  
untold; Count your many blessings; money cannot buy Your reward in heaven nor your home on high.

#### Chorus

So amid the conflict, whether great or small, Do not be discouraged; God is over all, Count your  
many blessings; angels will attend, Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

#### Chorus

**Remember, our annual Christmas Concert is on Sunday, December 10 at 4p.m.**

(By the way, I only found 1 typo – did you?)  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Floyd Moore  
Choir Director

[amfm123@verizon.net](mailto:amfm123@verizon.net)

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## DELIGHT ..... LOVE ..... ADORE

It's interesting how the use of language changes over the decades. Delight is not a word I hear used much anymore. Delight is more than just happiness. It has to do with great pleasure: abundant happiness! So, it is no surprise that the Bible use this word many times, especially in the Psalms.



Psalms 1:2 "His delight is in the Law of the Lord" Psalm 37:4 "Delight yourself in the Lord"

And also in the New Testament:

Mark 12:37 "The large crowd listened to him (Jesus) with delight" 1Corinthians 13:6 "Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth"

Contrary to our use of delight, the word love is often overused in our society. While we truly love our family and our Lord, we also *love* football, guacamole and that homecoming dress! Love is an intense feeling of great affection. References to love, in my NIV Concordance, take up over 2 pages of very small print! And, that is about equal to the references to Lord; both of which are second to the word God.

Matthew: 22:37 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

That "admonition (Mt 22:37) can mean only one thing. It means to adore Him. I use the word 'adore' sparingly. ... Adoration I keep for the only one who deserves it. In no other presence and before no other being can I kneel in reverent fear and wonder and yearning ...." (from Tozer's devotional On the Holy Spirit October 3, p 309).

Need I say more?

Blessings, Cindy Price

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**O**ur "community helper" unit in October was a big success. We would like to thank the Warren Fire Department for visiting us at school and showing us the truck and teaching us what to do in an emergency. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day and the kids were beyond excited to see a fire engine and all the tools our community heroes use!



This November we will be talking about fall and how our animal friends prepare for winter. Mrs. Gentilman's class will bring in their teddy bears and we will teach them how to hibernate. We'll learn about nocturnal animals and what they do while we are asleep. The afternoon class will be busy with cool art projects, a pumpkin science experiment and fun language arts games with Mrs. Lynds.

Of course, we will also learn about Thanksgiving, play in our teepee and sail on the Mayflower. The month will conclude with our Thanksgiving feast where we will share thanks for all of our blessings.

We want to wish everyone a wonderful November and Happy Thanksgiving!

Trish Gentilman & Jennifer Lynds



**Kitchen Memorial**

**For: Carol Mead  
By: Harold & Janis Wall**

**General Memorial**

**For: Shirley Pearson  
By: Dave VanOrsdale**

**For: Hazel Finley  
By: Donald McCurdy**

**During Worship**

**9:30 a.m. (0-2 yrs.)  
11:00 a.m. (0- 5 yrs.)**

**November 5 – Anna Peterson  
November 12 – Melissa Zaffino  
November 19 – Anna Peterson  
November 26 – Melissa Zaffino**



**Welcome new members:**

**Judy & Jack Zelina  
Diane Bolin**



The Grace Church Food Pantry needs replenished! We are in need of **EVERYTHING** at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!



Items for the **December 2023** Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office [mary@graceumcwarren.com](mailto:mary@graceumcwarren.com) by **Wednesday, November 15.**



**Flock Talk**

***“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise: give thanks to Him and praise His name.”***

***Psalm 100:4***

I would like to give thanks on behalf of Grace Church for people who are bearing witness to God’s presence in their lives. I’m choosing but a few, knowing that there are a multitude that deserve appreciation.

Thank you to the parents who make sure their children are up and ready. They could have slept in. They could have made Sunday a day off instead of going through the routine of one more school day. Instead they watched the clock, they have a plan and lovingly say, “Time to go!”

Thank you to the elderly who have stiff joints and are weary at a deeper level because of life’s demands. When they look out the window and see that it’s going to take some profound effort to show up all winter. When they put everything in order and bundle up and say, “I can do this.”

Thank you to the single people whose only voice they hear telling them to hurry is their own. As they go through the morning rituals and prepare to head out the door, without requiring another person’s prompting and say, “I’m on my way.”

Thank you to those who are suffering in silence and no one sees the anxiousness or understands the pain that has a steely foothold. For those who find life hard, very hard. Thank you especially for not giving up. Thank you for responding to God’s whispering when He says, “I’m with you.”

For everyone who walks through these doors and no one knows how hard it may have been, *we love you.*

Heartfelt,  
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

# Grace Church Finance Report

See below for the financials for September.



## 2023 Monthly and YTD Financials

	September '23	YTD
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$24,025.42</b>	<b>\$242,141.75</b>
Office Expense	\$708.86	\$5,075.53
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$7,749.09	\$68,092.28
Ministry Personnel	\$20,105.37	\$199,105.34
Church Council	\$0.00	\$317.79
Education Ministry	\$1,557.61	\$3,427.83
Nurture Ministry	\$470.68	\$1,412.08
Worship Ministry	\$170.10	\$1,944.22
Outreach Ministry	\$0.00	\$401.96
Connectional Apportionment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Ministry &amp; Expense</b>	<b>\$30,761.71</b>	<b>\$279,777.03</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$6,736.29)</b>	<b>(\$37,635.28)</b>

## Borrowed Funds

<b>Account Balance 9/30/2023</b>	<b>(\$132,094.30)</b>
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

### Attention women!

\*Are you looking to strengthen your relationship with Christ?

\*Are you looking to bond with other women?

\*Are you looking for an evening of sharing and caring with one another?

Grace church is offering a new women's ministry! "Full of Grace" will meet the Fourth

Monday of each month in the Eaton Parlor from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We will start with an intro, video

lesson, devotional and pray time. No need to sign-up, just show-up! Hope to see you there! Questions,

please contact Karen Conarro at: [fullofgraceumcwarren@gmail.com](mailto:fullofgraceumcwarren@gmail.com)



### Grace Hiking and Walking Clubs

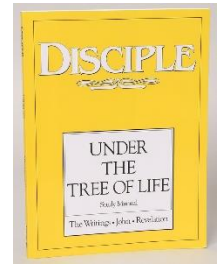
Here we go! The weather has cooled down, but it's not holding us back. There will be some beautiful hikes ahead and the trails beckon us! Lace up your hiking boots and join us on our adventures. As the leaves fall away, the scenery comes to life near Kinzua Dam. For anyone who wants to slow the pace down a bit, Audubon continues to be an ever-changing environment. Birds are migrating and we see nature abounding all around us. Watch the bulletins for dates and destinations. Offer to lead a walk or hike! Contact Sue Toombs at [fourwindsranch@verizon.net](mailto:fourwindsranch@verizon.net) or 814-730-9996.



## Disciple IV Class

Our next Disciple class will begin on Thursday, January 4th at 6:00pm in the Eaton Parlor. This will be the first half of Disciple IV and will be held weekly until the end of April. Anyone is welcome to attend and you will be amazed at the level of learning we achieve during these four months.

Disciple IV will focus on Revelation and all of the books of the Bible that help us comprehend the mystery of the end of times. We will discuss the importance of living in faithful community while setting our sights on God's victory in the future. This course will be enlightening and interactive with all the beloved qualities of a small group study. There are books available, but please contact Sue Toombs prior to class to set one aside for you. Sue will be your instructor and is happy to answer any questions.



**THANKSGIVING DINNER** Grace church will be hosting Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon. Take-outs will be available after 2. Please RSVP to the church office at 814-723-9440 no later than November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** We will need pies, workers, and lots of prayers. This will be a food prep, cook, serve, and clean up event. Sign-up sheets will be in

Wesley Parlor soon. Your service will be greatly appreciated! Any questions call Cindy Price 814-723-3953 or Judy Templeton 814-723-2618.

**Hanging of the Greens** – The annual Hanging of the Greens for this Advent season will be on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. We will meet after 11:00 church service to begin the task. Hopefully the bulk of the decorating will be done in a couple of hours. Sign-up sheets will be available in Wesley Parlor soon. Help is needed in all areas, especially some tall, younger ladder-climbers. All decorations are provided, packed, and distributed according to the area in which they will be used.



It's Operation Christmas Child time! Shoeboxes, instructions, and information on what/how to pack are now available in Wesley Parlor. CREW will be packing boxes so items may be donated to help fill their boxes. Boxes are due back on **Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**.

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. Donations can be placed in the bin across from Pastor Bill's office or visit our website for the link to our Amazon wishlist. The lines are up November through February so please keep those items coming throughout the winter.





November 1 – Becky Gnage  
November 2 – Marge Smith  
November 3 – Kevin Werner  
November 4 – Lilly Berdine, Casey Eaker  
November 5 – Dave Cassidy, Nickie Webb  
November 6 – Paige Conklin, Caleb Hellman, Lois Strycula, Gary Trisket  
November 7 – Melinda Johnson, Kim Messinger, Jan Moore  
November 9 – Nicki Egger  
November 10 – Rick Gnage  
November 11 – Dave Hunter  
November 12 – Missy Tatarski  
November 14 – Becky Culbertson, Madison Manelick  
November 15 – Ken Brady, Lyn Grey  
November 16 – Alli Jerman, Linda Tuttle  
November 17 – Chris Ei, Charles Keller, Addyson McManigle, Erick Shafer, Alicia Vavala  
November 18 – Barbara Gelotte, Rob Gafner  
November 19 – Chad Ball, Sarah Nolan, Kayla Randolph  
November 20 – Jacob Moore, Robert Tuttle, Emmet Yaegle  
November 22 – Chuck Keepports  
November 23 – Colby Fry  
November 24 – Trish Gentilman  
November 25 – RuthAnn Dennis, Janey Ickert, Heather Morrison  
November 27 – DJ Hahn, Bucky Knapp  
November 28 – Jim Babcock, Melanie Barrett  
November 29 – Pat Jerman, Marshall Johnson, Charmaine Pearson, Jakob Rodoski, Elishia Wurst  
November 30 – Lucas Green, Dominic Zaffino







# november



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>PROMISE PRESCHOOL</b> is open Sept-May Mon, Wed, and Thurs from 9:00 – 11:30 am (3-year- olds) and 12:30 – 3:00 pm (4- year- olds) located on the ground floor.		<b>1</b> 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	<b>2</b> 10:00 a Disciple 1 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group	<b>3</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>4</b> 9:00 a Praise Team 2:00 p Higginbotham Hall Reserved
<b>5</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	<b>6</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p <i>Nurture</i>	<b>7</b> 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	<b>8</b> 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	<b>9</b> 10:00 a Disciple 1	<b>10</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>11</b> 9:00 a Praise Team
<b>12</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Choir Retreat 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	<b>13</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>Worship</i>	<b>14</b> 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>Property                      Trustees</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	<b>15</b> 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	<b>16</b> 10:00 a Disciple 1 7:00 p Eaton Parlor Reserved	<b>17</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>18</b> 9:00 a Praise Team
<b>19</b> 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 @ The Crossing	<b>20</b> 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>21</b> 12:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p <i>Education</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	<b>22</b> 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	<b>23</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 12:00 p Community Thanksgiving Dinner	<b>24</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>25</b> 9:00 a Praise Team
<b>26</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 12:00 p Hanging of the Greens 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	<b>27</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Full of Grace Women's Ministry	<b>28</b> 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p <i>Church                      Council</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	<b>29</b> 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	<b>30</b> 10:00 a Disciple 1		

**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

501 Pennsylvania Ave. E.  
Warren, PA 16365

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*- Grace Praise Team -*

*Pastor Bill, Lori Beatty, Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Keith Price, Tristan Johnson,  
Shirley Shafer, Aaron Stearns, Chris Ei, John Lewis, Patrick Ward,  
Alice Pedersen, Cindy Dziendziel, Walter Miller, Dave Moore*

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***Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!***