

# Grace Notes

## March 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*  
Piano Accompanist:          *Lori Beatty*  
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*



**March 6 - 5:30 p - Nurture**  
**March 7 - 6:00 p - SPRC**  
**March 13 - 6:00 p - Worship**  
**March 14 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees**  
**March 21 - 6:00 p - Finance**  
**March 23 - 6:00 p - Preschool**  
**March 28 - 6:00 p - Church Council**



This month's Communion offering will benefit **UMCOR** with **UMCOR Sunday being March 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please use the special Communion envelope in your monthly packet for your contribution and the special UMCOR Sunday envelope on that day.

# *From the Pastor*

## **Life More Abundantly**

In John Chapter 10 Jesus says, “I am the gate for all the sheep.” (v6) That’s kind of a weird image – but he’s talking about surrounding us with his presence, like a sheepfold (a pen with a gate). “I am the gate; whoever enters through we will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.” (v9) So Jesus extends the image – not only when in the sheepfold, but when in the pasture (he’ll expand on that in verse 11, “I am the good shepherd.”). But it’s verse 10 I want to zero in on: “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full [or have it more abundantly, *NKJV*].”

In 1938, the Harvard Study of Adult Development began to seek out some of the root causes that make people flourish. The study started with 724 disadvantaged boys from Boston, then traced through their spouses and, more recently, 1300 descendants of those initial 724. What they found as a constant for a fulfilling and satisfying life was not some of the things we often think of: it was not primarily from wealth, success at work, freedom to travel, greater material acquisitions. (The Atlantic did a long article on this on January 19<sup>th</sup>)

The primary driver for a fulfilling life – for life more abundantly – is deep and connected relationships. We as Christ followers don’t need an 85-year-long study to tell us this. These are Jesus’ own words. “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35) The Apostle Paul echoes this truth so many times: “Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” (Ephesians 5:21) “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11) There’s a hundred other places.

Deep relationships matter to our mental, physical and spiritual well-being. God’s intention for us is to be in communion with God and in community with one another. That is life more abundantly.

So, during Lent, each Sunday I challenge you to walk up to someone you don’t know at Grace Church and introduce yourself. Sure, it might be awkward for a minute, but have a chat. “This is how they’ll know you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Then, during the week, do the same thing outside of the church. A neighbor. The guy who walks his dog past your house every day. Someone at work, at a restaurant, at the store. People you see all the time but don’t know. “This is how they’ll know you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

And 99% of the time you’ll only end up acquaintances (at the most!), but you can’t form deep relationships if you don’t take that first step. And once you know somebody by more than a category (he’s no longer “the guy who walks his dog past my house” but he’s Joe who lives two blocks over), we make connections, we begin to love people because they are now people and not just categories.

Life more abundantly.

In Christ’s Love,  
Pastor Bill

**T**hank you all for your prayers and support for my mom during her recent illness, both at the ER in Warren, and at St. Vincent hospital in Erie. She's gaining strength daily, and I learned a lot. One thing that surprised me was when she was given a blood transfusion and it looked just like one of the many packets I've donated over the years. (Hers was my type, but not mine.) It was amazing to see how God, through your prayers, and that transfusion revived my mom. That of course got me thinking of a rousing, old hymn I sang quite often while I was growing up.



### **There is Power in the Blood**

Would you be free from your burden of sin? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;

Would you o'er evil a victory win? There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

Chorus:

There is pow'r, pow'r, Wonder – working pow'r in the blood of the Lamb,

There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder – working pow'r in the precious blood of the Lamb.

Would you be free from your passion and pride? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;

Come for a cleansing to calvary's tide, There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

(Chorus)

Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;

Sins stains are lost in its life – giving flow, There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

(Chorus)

Would you do service for Jesus your King? There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;

Would you live daily, His praises to sing? There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

(Chorus)

Especially during the season of Lent we meditate on the Lamb of God and His selfless shedding of His lifeblood for our sins. Please accept His free gift of eternal life and be rejuvenated, refreshed and reborn by the blood of Christ, given for you, as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus our Savior.

See you in Church!

Floyd Moore  
Choir Director

**UNITY DONE RIGHT**  
**CHURCH UNITY THROUGH PAUL'S EYES N.T. Wright**

**“W**hat Paul was describing throughout his letters to the early churches was a unity that was completely inexplicable by the cultural standards of the day.”



Prior to the birth of the Christian church, Jews and Gentiles did not associate with one another. The Jewish people identified themselves as God’s chosen people. Anyone who was not Jewish was a Gentile. However, the grace of God was available to everyone by virtue of the sacrifice of His son; who then rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to live within us. Consequently, some Jews and Gentiles became united in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and working together to form the Christian church. So, *unity done right* is all about associating with people who are not exactly the same as oneself. While that is important *within* the church, it is, perhaps, even more so *outside* of the church!

How many of your acquaintances or co-workers know that you are a Christian? Does your behavior reflect the values taught by Jesus? Do you think “WWJD” (what would Jesus do?) but not act on it? OUCH – this is hitting a bit too close to home for me too!

God does not intend for us to do this on our own. He is always present to guide us along. And we often find Him present in His people. We have heard the phrase, “it takes a village to raise a child” (African Proverb). I would like to offer up that “it takes a church family to raise up Christians”. We need to support one another through prayer, actions and accountability; all of which are grounded in love and provided to us by God’s grace – through faith – so that we can do good works.

With you in God’s grace,  
Cindy Price

---

**General Memorial**

**For: Doug Smith Jr**  
**By: Anne Poleon**



**CREW**

**For: Tim Bearfield**  
**By: Linda & Arden Knapp**

---

The month of February is almost behind us, and it's looking like Phil's prediction is WRONG! We already have a few crocus coming up beside the church and have been out for a walk in 68 degree weather! We enjoyed our class party and exchanged Valentine's and treats with our friends. It's hard to believe it's less than three months of school before summer break!



Our current afternoon class is registering for kindergarten and are so excited about working on all those skills they will need as they begin public school in the fall. The 3-year-old class is completing their color books and we will be celebrating "rainbow day" with songs, treats and games.

Will March come in like a lion or a lamb? Will the leprechaun visit our classroom and leave us some gold? As we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, keep our eyes open for "visitors", celebrate "official" spring and keep track of the weather, we know the month will fly by!

Our Sarris Candies Fundraiser is going very well! Thank you to all that have ordered so far. Easter is coming soon, so it's also a great resource for all those Easter treats!

We still have a few openings for the 2023-2024 school year so if you know of anyone looking for preschool for their child, registration forms are available in the church office or by calling 723-8011. We feel fortunate every day to experience the joys of working with these children! You can contact us at [preschool@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:preschool@atlanticbbn.net) or check out our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/GracePromisePreschool](https://www.facebook.com/GracePromisePreschool)

Trish Gentilman & Jen Lynds



### During Worship

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

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

March 5 – Anna Peterson

March 12 – Melissa Zaffino

March 19 – Anna Peterson

March 26 – Melissa Zaffino

---

Grace United Methodist Church is offering a new Women's Ministry!  
"Full of Grace"

We meet on the **fourth Monday of each month** in the Eaton Parlor from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Karen Conarro at: [fullofgraceumcwarren@gmail.com](mailto:fullofgraceumcwarren@gmail.com)





### Flock Talk

*“Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,  
with the cross of Jesus going on before!”*

**M**arch has arrived! With it comes glimpses of spring and the promise of warm sunshine. Plus, more snow. Still, we march forth!

There are over one hundred references to marching in the Bible, but the verse we take greatest to heart comes directly from Jesus. It’s when Jesus gave His disciples their marching orders to go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey all His commands. That one belongs to us. We own that today and every day.

Jesus bolstered their courage to accept these marching orders by telling them He was with them always, even to the end of the age. That one belongs to us, too. We own it by believing we receive Him by grace through faith. It doesn’t end there - we have good works to do. And, here is where we begin thinking about our marching orders.

It may seem intimidating to think, “Me? What would I do?” The answer rests on *what will God do through you!* Maybe we’ll do something big or something quiet and nice. Maybe it will be known or remain unnoticed until needed. The list is easy, yet takes a commitment of our behavior.

- Forgive someone who offended you.
- Befriend a neighbor.
- Comfort someone who is grieving.
- Trust Him in the face of uncertainty.
- Surrender control.
- Non-negotiable - make disciples!

Walking alongside,  
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader



The Grace Church Food Pantry is not in need of anything at this time. Thank you to all who contribute!



Items for the April 2023 Newsletter need to be delivered to Mary in the office [mary@graceumcwarren.com](mailto:mary@graceumcwarren.com) by Friday, March 17. Thank you.

**Valentine’s/St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon** All seniors (aged 55+) are invited to a lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and pie lunch on Saturday, **March 11<sup>th</sup>** at noon in Higginbotham Hall. Entertainment will follow the meal. All seniors and their friends are invited. Please make your reservations by calling Grace Church office at 814-723-9440 no later than March 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions, call Judy Templeton at 814-723-2618. Hope to see you all there!

# Grace Church Finance Report



## Starting the New Year

Below are the financials for January 2023. As we start out the year please continue to pay close attention to the finances of our church and pray for Grace to make it through our recent changes so that we may focus on the ministries of the church.

### 2023 Monthly and YTD Financials

	January '23	YTD
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$27,505.82</b>	<b>\$27,505.82</b>
Office Expense	\$286.29	\$286.29
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$10,733.27	\$10,733.27
Ministry Personnel	\$21,132.67	\$21,132.67
Church Council	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nurture Ministry	\$49.65	\$49.65
Worship Ministry	\$139.40	\$139.40
Outreach Ministry	\$401.96	\$401.96
Connectional Apportionment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Ministry &amp; Expense</b>	<b>\$32,743.24</b>	<b>\$32,743.24</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$5,237.42)</b>	<b>(\$5,237.42)</b>

### Borrowed Funds

<b>Account Balance 1/31/2023</b>	<b>(\$99,696.44)</b>
----------------------------------	----------------------

We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee

Grace Promise Preschool and Care with Grace Daycare are having a Sarris Candies fundraiser! Orders will be accepted through **April 4!** To order go to **sarriscandiesfundraising.com** and click on fundraising then online ordering. Put in **Group ID 10-3656**. Orders will ship directly to your door for only a \$5 processing fee.



### One Service with a Potluck to follow!

On March 19, we will be having one combined service at ten o'clock with a Potluck Luncheon to follow. Feel free to bring a dish to share and join in the fellowship! Table service and drinks will be provided.

**“Yoga 101: Am I Doing it Right?”** Saturday, March 4th 10:00am - 12:00pm Higginbotham Hall

This class is for anyone who is already attending yoga or who is considering trying these Christian yoga classes. It will be a fun learning experience and a great opportunity to ask questions. Our final 15 minutes will be spent in prayerful meditation. Please bring a mat. Usual prices apply. If you have questions, contact Sue Toombs at 814-730-9996 or fourwindsranch@verizon.net.



**Grace Promise Preschool Registration is now open!** A completed registration form and **\$20 non-refundable registration fee** is required to hold a spot for your child for the 2023-2024 school year. Be sure to reserve a place for your child today! Additional forms can be picked up in the church office or by calling (814) 723-8011 during school hours.

Mrs. Gentilman & Mrs. Lynds [preschool@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:preschool@atlanticbbn.net)

---

The Agape Bible Study is a group of individuals who meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Winger Parlor to study the Bible and various topics related to Christianity. The group is usually taught by Lois Strycula. This study is open to all—men, women, young, old, people who are familiar with Christian beliefs and the Bible and those who are not.

The studies used are chosen by the group themselves. Studies chosen are based on suggested topics or perhaps from a list of possibilities. There is always coffee and hot water for tea available. Every once in a while someone may bring a snack to share.

Folks are welcome to attend just the studies that interest them or all studies. In fact, if someone wants to learn more about a subject the class is doing; but goes to the 9:30 am service, why not come to Agape for the duration of that study. At the end of that study, you could return to the 9:30 service. Pastor Bill will understand.

If you would really like to learn more on a certain subject, *please* contact Lois Strycula (814-728-8675 or [lois.strycula@gmail.com](mailto:lois.strycula@gmail.com)). We will work to find something on that subject. Gathering in a group is a great way to meet additional members of our congregation and to grow your faith. With group discussion you almost always learn more. Watch the bulletin for announcements of upcoming studies. Come try out the Agape Bible Study. You'll never be put on the spot and will always be welcome.

---

### **Study of the Book of Revelation**

Pastor Bill will be leading a time of study and reflection on the Book of Revelation, meeting in Eaton Parlor. We will cover the entire Book of Revelation, so this will not be a deep dive into the complexities of this book. All you need to bring is your Bible, other materials will be provided.

There will be two offerings, 11 sessions total:

- Sunday evenings from 7:00-8:30 beginning March 12 and concluding May 21, meeting every Sunday except Easter Sunday (April 9).
  - Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 beginning March 14 and concluding May 23, meeting every Tuesday except the Tuesday after Easter (April 11).
-





**March 1 - Robert Jones, Jessica Norris**

**March 2 - Amy Stimmell, Ashley Flagella**

**March 3 - Pete Smith, Vickie Morrison, Cheryl Gupta, Kurt Shafer, Emily Steves**

**March 4 - Korrine Sauers, Alyssa Albaugh, Audrey Wurst**

**March 5 - Becky Hampson**

**March 6 - Roman Pearce, Dean Knowlton, Evelyn Phillips**

**March 7 - Alyssa Farr**

**March 8 - Alyssa Steves**

**March 9 - Dale Allmendinger II, Kim Johnson, Tyson Morrison**

**March 10 - Andrea Sedon**

**March 12 - Pat Slattery, Scott Frazier, Gail Burns**

**March 13 - Audrey Cable**

**March 15 - Joy Wiedmaier, Karen Larsen**

**March 17 - Larry Conrad**

**March 18 - Mike Card, Quincy Nolan, Amber Buchanan, MaKenna Wagner**

**March 19 - Alex Moore, Julia Green**

**March 22 - Gwen Savych, Bob Silzle, Anthony Tatarski**

**March 23 - Patty Amon, Dave Moore**

**March 24 - Randy Moore, Mary Gustafson, Brynn Norris**

**March 27 - Cindy Price**

**March 29 - Joyce Yeagle, Art Anderson**

**March 30 - Brenda Beers, Wendy Zimmer, Lindsey Brown, Elena Brocklehurst, Ella Solberg**

**March 31 - Avery Wurst**



# March



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>CARE WITH GRACE DAYCARE</b> is open Mon-Fri from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm located on the first floor (nursery) and the second floor.	<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> 5:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 6:00 p Disciple	<b>3</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Nurture Movie Night	<b>4</b> 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Yoga 101: Am I Doing It Right?
<b>5</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Girl Scouts 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	<b>6</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 5:30 p Nurture	<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> 5:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Disciple	<b>10</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Nurture Movie Night	<b>11</b> 9:00 a Praise Team 12:00 p Senior Luncheon
<b>12</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing 7:00 p Revelation Bible Study	<b>13</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Worship	<b>14</b> 9:30 a Revelation Bible Study 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> 5:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Disciple	<b>17</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Nurture Movie Night	<b>18</b> 9:00 a Praise Team
<b>19</b> 10:00 a Worship 11:00 a Potluck Lunch 1:00 p Girl Scouts 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing 7:00 p Revelation Bible Study	<b>20</b> 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:15 p Christian Yoga	<b>21</b> 9:30 a Revelation Bible Study 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Finance</i>	<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> 5:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Disciple 6:00 p <i>Preschool</i>	<b>24</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Nurture Movie Night	<b>25</b> 9:00 a Praise Team 9:30 a Church Council Retreat
<b>26</b> 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Girl Scouts 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing 7:00 p Revelation Bible Study	<b>27</b> 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:30 p Full of Grace Women's Ministry	<b>28</b> 9:30 a Revelation Bible Study 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i>	<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> 5:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p Disciple	<b>31</b> 11:00 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Nurture Movie Night	

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
501 Pennsylvania Ave. E.  
Warren, PA 16365

Published monthly;  
March 2023

---

*- Grace Praise Team -*

*Pastor Bill, 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*

***GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

*501 Pennsylvania Avenue East      Warren, PA 16365*

*Phone - 814-723-9440      FAX - 814-723-6137*

*Email - [office2@graceumcwarren.com](mailto:office2@graceumcwarren.com)*

*On the Web - [www.graceumcwarrenpa.com](http://www.graceumcwarrenpa.com)*

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