

Grace Notes

May 2025

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
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



May Meetings

May 6 - 6:00 p - SPRC
May 13 - 6:00 p - Property Trustees
May 19 - 5:30 p - Education
May 20 - 6:00 p - Finance
May 27 - 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 for your contribution.

From the Pastor

(Almost) Ready, Willing and Able

‘I’ll do it later.’ ‘I’ll get to it.’ ‘In a minute.’

When my girls were little, still in school, we’d hear those phrases way too often (probably because they heard ME say the same things way too often...) We had a routine: the girls were supposed to come home from school and do their homework immediately. And often they would so just that. But they had just spent all day in school and homework is... well... homework. So sometimes we would hear those phrases as they come through the door. You know, there’s more important things to do – like walk the dog or change clothes (which would always take forEVER) or... well, you get it. ‘I’ll get to it. I just have to do this first. Oh, and this. Oh, and this and this...’

And the times when I would let them put it off, invariably we would get close to bedtime and I’d hear, ‘Oh no, I still have History and Language to do!’ And it was too late. They had put it off too long and we were **not** going to let them stay up until midnight to finish the work just because they decided at 3:30 that they could ‘just get to it later.’ (THAT did not make me popular among the 9-12 year olds in the Beatty household, let me tell you).

Don’t get me wrong. They didn’t do this every day. And, as I said, they learned it from me (sigh)... In fact, they rarely did it to that extent. But when it happened, it would make me crazy. Because ‘I’ll do it later’ has consequences. And it’s easy to see the consequences when it’s something like putting your homework off until it’s too late (ever tried to assemble a diorama at 10:30 at night?) or missing a deadline on a bill payment or not RSVPing for a function. But there are always consequences, aren’t there?

Just this morning I pulled up my devotional reading and thought, ‘Man, I’m too busy this morning to read this. I’ll do it later.’ And I closed the Bible. Now, today, I DID get back to it, I DID read and did pray. But it’s a coin toss whether or not I really will get back to it if I don’t do it in the morning. One of the first things. And if I don’t, there are consequences. Spiritually.

Now, it’s not like God says, ‘You didn’t read your Bible today so I’m going to make your day terrible.’ Here’s what happens. If my day doesn’t begin focused on God, it’s not likely (for me) that my day will end up focused on God. If I’m too involved in me to spend that initial time with God, I’m probably too involved with me to spend ANY time with God. But I think, ‘I can do it later. I’ll get to it.’ Does it happen?

And that’s a small example – but with kind of big consequences. Because, what about when God is speaking to us, calling to us, leading us? Is my answer, like Isaiah’s, ‘Here I am, Lord’ (Isaiah 6:8) or do I say, ‘I’ll get to it later’?

Every day the Holy Spirit speaks to us. Are we listening? Are we ready? Are we willing? Or... will we get to it later? The writer of Hebrews warns us that this kind of procrastinating can actually lead us away from God. He writes (Hebrews 3:13-15):

“But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called ‘Today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. As has just been said [referring to quoting Psalm 95 just a few verses before]:

*Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion.”*

God speaks through the Bible, God speaks through other people, God speaks in our prayer time if we’ll listen, God speaks in our own hearts – sometimes in small, quiet ways, sometimes in overwhelming ways. But God speaks to us every day.

“Here I am Lord,” or
“Just a minute, Lord”?

So, TODAY, as you hear God’s voice, will you respond with a willing heart?

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Bill

Favorite Verses

Do you have a favorite verse?

You might think of John 3:16. Or The 23rd Psalm. Maybe “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path”. Wait, that’s a song, isn’t it? Yes, Psalm 119:105 is a great scripture that has been set to music. Sometimes songs are great ways to carry scripture with us in our everyday lives. My favorite verse is not a scripture though, but part of my testimony.



My favorite verse is Hymn 77, verse 3:

“And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin.”

Join me on the chorus:

“Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!”

Carry your favorite verses with you everywhere you go. You’ll find that you can recall God’s strength, guidance, and encouragement quicker than Google!

Do you have a favorite verse you’d like to share? Submit it on the yellow card, and we’ll try to sing it in one of our services this summer.

See you in church!

Floyd Moore

amfm123@verizon.net

April was a busy and quick month at Preschool! We learned about Easter and had egg hunts and science experiments and a field trip to the library!

May brings a bittersweet end to a fast school year. It’s so exciting to see how much these little minds grow during a school year. It’s sad to see them move on and to say goodbye.



There are exciting things being planned for next year! It will be here before we know it!

We also wish Trish congratulations on her retirement! We wish her well and thank her for her dedication to the program.

Happy Summer!

Jen Lynds



Flock Talk

"We love, because He first loved us."

1 John 4:19

We talk about having a "church family" and we understand the concept of worshipping together, but . . . how does it personally affect us?

To use Mother's Day as an example, we have an environment of love in our church that makes every Sunday feel like it could be a Mother's Day celebration. Women of all ages and all walks of life are sharing life. For those of us who don't have children, we are surrounded by them and have the opportunity to not only watch them grow up, but to watch them grow spiritually. For those who have lost or are losing their mothers, every Sunday offers comfort.

A church family offers support. If we are going through a difficult time, we don't have to do it alone. Those who have struggled most are often the ones who serve as the greatest help. They understand hardship and suffering. They remember what helped them and they reach out and lift up with the same hands that may have asked for steadiness.

We at Grace fortify each other. We provide a safe place to worship and rejoice and recover and grieve. We do this all by pointing out what matters most, our faith in Christ. Belonging to this church family makes all the difference because it clarifies what to hold onto and what to let go. Hold onto God's love and His shelter, let go of the stumbling blocks that make us anxious.

Mothers do this naturally and we celebrate them this month with their beautiful day to feel appreciated. Embrace this tremendous opportunity to have a family, *to be a family*, and to feel loved.

Warmly,
Sue Toombs, Lay Leader

Wednesday, May 14th 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.



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.



Attention women!

"Full of Grace" Women's Ministry meets the **fourth Monday of each month at 10:30am or 6:30pm** in the **Grace Church library** (take the elevator to floor 2). If you have any questions, contact Karen Conarro at 814-688-6445.

There will be **no** meeting in May due to Memorial Day.

On April 13th during the 8:30am service
Annabelle Rosenberg was baptized.
She is the daughter of Nathaniel & Jaclyn Rosenberg.



Grace Church Finance Report

Grace Church ~



Below you will find our financials for the month of March. YTD 2025, we've had a net loss in all three months. This brings us to a total net loss of \$12,006.04 for the year.

As we outlined in the church bulletin recently, this impacts our shortfall as shown at the bottom of the report. Currently the shortfall is just under \$100,000. Months with a positive net income will start to reduce this shortfall and put Grace in a better position for the future.

Thank you!

2025 Monthly and YTD Financials

	March '25	YTD
Total Income	\$36,349.99	\$93,230.18
Office Expense	\$354.84	\$3,336.19
Buildings & Ground Expense (Church & Parsonage)	\$13,766.92	\$30,369.14
Ministry Personnel	\$20,920.76	\$64,419.10
Church Council	\$0.00	\$0.00
Education Ministry	\$178.44	\$620.81
Nurture Ministry	\$6.00	\$108.10
Worship Ministry	\$328.28	\$1,263.08
Outreach Ministry	\$195.81	\$195.81
Connectional Apportionment	\$1,641.33	\$4,923.99
Witness Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Ministry & Expense	\$37,392.38	\$105,236.22
Net Income	(\$1,042.39)	(\$12,006.04)

Shortfall

Account Balance 3/31/2025	\$99,965.84
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We praise God for the generous gifts and offerings.

Submitted by:

Brian A. Jurkowski, Finance Chair & the Finance Committee



During Worship

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

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

May 4 – Anna Peterson

May 11 – Melissa Zaffino

May 18 – Anna Peterson

May 25 – Melissa Zaffino



Items for the **June 2025**
Newsletter need to be
delivered to Mary in the office
mary@graceumcwarren.com
by **Friday, May 16.**
Thank you.

Come Join Our Messy Church

Messy Church? It's a time for family activities/crafts, worship, and dinner together. Monthly on the last Saturday of the month from 3:30-5:45. Our next event is **Saturday, May 31st**.



The Grace Church Food Pantry is in need of **canned fruit, canned meat, spaghetti sauce, syrup, pancake mix, pork & beans, powdered milk, boxed jello, and boxed pudding** at this time. Thank you to all who

Grace Promise Preschool registration is now open! A completed registration form and **\$20 non-refundable fee** is required to hold a spot for the 2025-2026 school year.

Changes are coming to Grace Promise Preschool next year. New handbooks, along with registration forms, 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. Questions? Email Promisepreschool@myyahoo.com



In mid-June, Grace Church is sending a team to **Red Bird Mission** in southeastern Kentucky, one of the poorest regions in the U.S. This team will help with home improvement projects and a number of other activities of the mission. So, we suggest these 3 choices for you:

- 1.) If you feel led to go, **please sign up!** There are so many things you can do to help, even if you feel you don't have any particular skills.
- 2.) If you can't go, but would like to help, **please pray for the team** and their witness there.
- 3.) If you can't go, but would like to help, **please donate** to help with the cost of the trip.

The cost of the mission trip is \$500/member; this covers room and board but, more importantly, the costs of material for the projects to be done by the team.

Please consider **GOING... PRAYING... INVESTING!**

Every year, the Chief Cornplanter Council hosts a summer camp for Cub Scouts ages 5-11. This year's summer camp "*The Wonderful World of Wizardry! A Magical Cub Scout Adventure*" is from June 12-15. 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.

Volunteer Appreciation Day Grace Church is celebrating all of our volunteers on **Sunday, May 18th!** We are having a special reception after each service and would like to invite everyone. We are blessed with countless diligent and hard-working people who are willing to use their time and their giftedness to fortify our church.

Our lives of service have a tremendous impact on the world around us. To every volunteer, "we send a heartfelt thank you for your dedication". Much of the work is behind the scenes, but God sees and to Him goes all honor and glory! The contributions of all our volunteers have allowed Grace Church to continue to offer an exceptional worship experience in our community.

Volunteers bring a wealth of knowledge and skills, and it has been a tremendous honor to see them press forward. It takes love and faith and joy to link arms and strongly pull together. Let's show our appreciation to these devoted servants of Christ!



May 5-9 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!

ATTENTION 2025 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Grace Church would like to recognize you on **Sunday, June 1st**! Please email a picture, full name, school you're graduating from, and any future plans to meghan@graceumcwarren.com



NEEDED! Summer Sunday School Volunteer Teachers! Please consider teaching for just one Sunday this summer. Lessons are already planned and provided. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office/Wesley Parlor or email Meghan meghan@graceumcwarren.com



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 Tutarro, 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 Tarpenning, 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
	PROMISE PRESCHOOL 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.			1 9:00 a Pickleball 6:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 6:30 p Handbells	2 9:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	3 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Gym Reserved
4 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 @ The Crossing	5 9:30 a Library Reserved 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved	6 9:00 a Pickleball 11:00 a Staff Meeting 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>SPRC</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	7 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15 p Christian Yoga 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:40 p C.R.E.W.	8 9:00 a Pickleball 6:30 p Handbells	9 9:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	10 8:00 a Free Clothing Drive 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Gym Reserved
11 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	12 5:15 p Christian Yoga	13 9:00 a Pickleball 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Property Trustees</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	14 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.	15 9:00 a Pickleball 6:30 p Handbells	16 9:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	17 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Gym Reserved
18 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Girl Scouts 4:00 p Watson Home 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	19 12:00 p Caregivers' Support Group 5:30 p <i>Education</i> 6:00 p Wesley Parlor Reserved	20 9:00 a Pickleball 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Finance</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	21 7:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 p Madrigals 6:30 p Choir 6:30 p C.R.E.W.	22 9:00 a Pickleball 6:30 p Handbells	23 9:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels	24 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Gym Reserved
25 8:30/9:30/11:00 a Worship 9:30 a Agape 9:45 a Sunday School 6:00 p Worship @ The Crossing	26 Office Closed	27 9:00 a Pickleball 12:15 p Christian Yoga 1:30 p Pickleball 6:00 p <i>Church Council</i> 6:00 p Pickleball	28 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.	29 9:00 a Pickleball 6:30 p Handbells	30 9:00 a Pickleball 9:30 a Yarn Angels 11:15 a Fitness Ministry 12:15 p Christian Yoga	31 9:00 a Praise Team 10:00 a Gym Reserved 3:30 p Messy Church

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

Published monthly;
May 2025

- Grace Praise Team -

*Pastor Bill, Cyril Jedor, Jan Moore, Cindy Price, Keith Price, Tristan Johnson,
Shirley Shafer, Aaron Stearns, Chris Ei, John Lewis, Patrick Ward, Chuck Keeports,
Alice Pedersen, Cindy Dziendziel, Wyatt Stearns, Walter Miller, Dave Moore*

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Find us on Facebook under the group Embrace Grace!