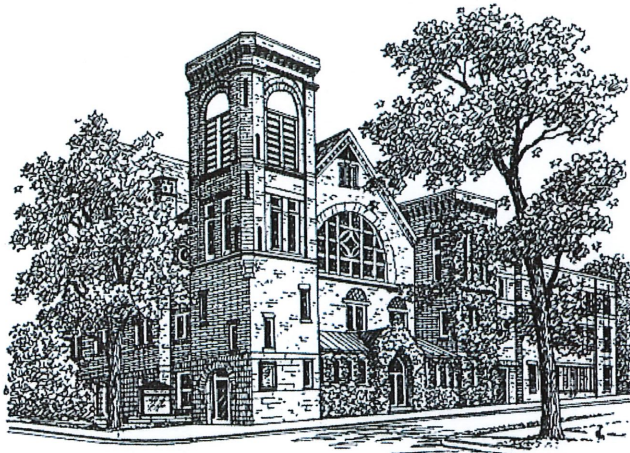


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE
OIL CITY, PA 16301
(Address Service Requested)

5/23

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Oil City, PA 16301



GRACE NOTES

May 2023

Grace United Methodist Church

100 Central Avenue, Oil City, PA 16301

Pastor Ron Geisler

Phone: 677-3013 (office) 677-3345 (parsonage)

Church Office Hours: M-Thurs 9AM - 2:30PM

E-Mail: church@graceoilcity.org

Website: www.graceoilcity.org

Facebook: Grace United Methodist Church in Oil City

Worship Service Online: <http://www.graceoilcity.org>

Sunday School: 9:30AM

Weekly Sunday Worship Service: 10:45AM

SERMON SERIES IN MAY

How do you live out your walk with Jesus the other 167 hours you're not in church on Sunday?

Pastor Ron will continue to lead us in exploring the book of James as we ask ourselves, how do I follow Jesus, every day?

EVERYDAY FAITH



a series on the book of James

May 2023

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES



OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM
Closed for lunch noon - 12:30 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Joe McCay	2 Brad Arnink Brea Fennick Pat Henderson	3 Julie Flockerzi Arnie Jones Kyle McDonald Nancy Shoemaker Joe/Denise McCay	4 Faye McKean	5 Allison Deeter Marcus Morris Matt Shiley Tim/Janette Wolfgang	6 Bill/Nancy Hoyle
7 Emily Flockerzi Nathan Wrhen	8	9 Carson Fennick Alex Meals	10	11	12 Rachel Butchart Patricia Stiles	13 Dick Thomson Jr.
14 Kathryn Flockerzi Carter Hassan Bette Magness Larry Sr./Carol Shaffer	15 Margie Moyer Mike/Jessica Gegogeine	16 Lisa Littler Don Wheeler	17 Vida Emick Arlene Wise Jason Woolcock Jason/Michele Woolcock	18 Bonnie Burrows Theo Rood Barb Taylor Mark/Traci Berry Greg/Christine Sanford	19 Caleb Geisler Mike Kenemuth	20 Betty Patterson Sara Sorkin
21 Jim Garner Bob Delaney Erik Helsley	22 Mark Cochran Lorraine Millin	23 Melanie Reckner	24 Kate Shaffer Joy Shiley	25 Tonya Meals Bruce Siler	26 Bud Lilly	27 Larry Kirkwood Madison Salvo Ron/Melissa Geisler
28 Sandra Travis Mike/Stacy Griffin Steve S./Emily Rood	29 Melissa Chapel Courtney Youkers	30 Stacia Fennick	31 Ana Lloyd Austin McDonald			

Message

FROM OUR PASTOR

On Sundays, now through the end of June, Grace Church is exploring the New Testament book of James. Our focus in this practical book is how to live our faith in Jesus every hour and day of the week. One of the big ideas we'll return to time and again is self-discipline. Living for Jesus requires a new way of approaching every moment of life.

Several months ago, I wrote a blog about this. Below are a couple of paragraphs that sets the tone for what James is all about. I hope you'll not only join us on Sunday morning as we take a deep dive into James, but I hope you'll read through that entire letter. And, if you want to read more of what I wrote, check out my blog – www.rongeisler.com

“In reading the lives of great men, I found that the first victory they won was over themselves... self-discipline with all of them came first.”– Harry S. Truman

Self-discipline determines success. It is the magic bullet to unlock your potential and finally move forward with your life. Self-discipline is the ability to put off what you want at the moment for what you want in the long run. It is a habit of self-regulation for the sake of improvement. Some have said it's the ability to do the things you don't want to do. Are you familiar with the marshmallow experiment? Four-year-old children were each given one marshmallow. They could either eat the marshmallow immediately or, if they waited 15 minutes, could receive another marshmallow. The kids who could wait generally became successful and well-adjusted adults.

In contrast, the kids who quickly ate the first marshmallow had more trouble dealing with stress, frustration, and impulse control. Everyone wants a shortcut on how to be more disciplined. But there isn't one. It is simply a matter of training. It is saying “No!” to the things that waste your life and your time and saying “Yes!” to habits that draw you closer to success.

Replacing your old habits and lifestyle with new ones is crucial.

There are consequences to your actions. If you want new results and positive consequences, change your actions.

Living On Purpose,

Ron

GRACE CHURCH MAY SOAP READINGS

Using the SOAP method of Bible reading can keep us on the disciple's pathway. You're invited and encouraged to use the following Bible passages each day of the month. Here's a quick reminder of SOAP.

S – Scripture. Use the ones listed on the calendar

O – Observation. What is God speaking through these verses? What do these verses mean?

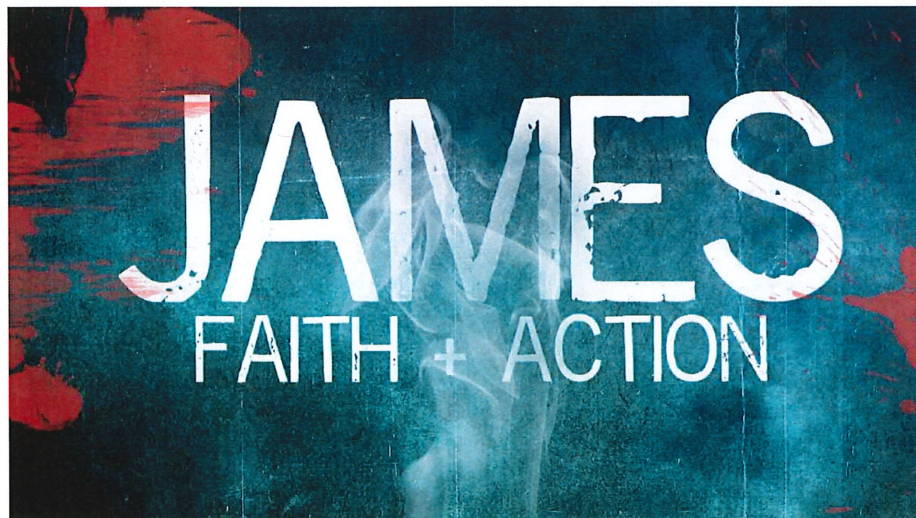
What do you observe in your reading? Jot these observations in a journal or notebook.

A – Application. How does what you read apply to your life, right now? What is God saying to you? What principles can you apply to your life today?

P - Prayer. Close the time in prayerful conversation with God. Thank him for what you learned and for how this applies to you right now.

During May, the SOAP readings will focus on the book of James, his ecclesiastical leadership, and other Scripture which supports his message.

May 1	James 1:1-8	May 17	James 4:13-17
May 2	James 1:9-12	May 18	James 5:1-6
May 3	James 1:13-18	May 19	James 5:7-9
May 4	James 1:19-21	May 20	James 5:10-12
May 5	James 1:22-25	May 21	James 5:13-20
May 6	James 1:26-27	May 22	Acts 15:1-5
May 7	James 2:1-4	May 23	Acts 15:6-11
May 8	James 2:5-13	May 24	Acts 15:12-19
May 9	James 2:14-19	May 25	Acts 15:20-22
May 10	James 2:20-26	May 26	Acts 15:23-29
May 11	James 3:1-6	May 27	Acts 15:30-35
May 12	James 3:7-12	May 28	Leviticus 19:18
May 13	James 3:13-18	May 29	Genesis 15:1-6
May 14	James 4:1-3	May 30	Genesis 15:7-16
May 15	James 4:4-10	May 31	Proverbs 18:21
May 16	James 4:11-12		



PARISH REGISTER May 2023

Our May Servants

Counting Team

Kim Eberle, Don & Sandy Hartsell

Ushering Team

Captain – Tom Eberle, Jim Puleo, Frank Fultz, Rob Ziegler

Sharing Grace Ministry fna TV Ministry

Director/Graphics/Audio/PowerPoint

May 7 – John McCullough/John McCullough/Ian Scheer/Wesley Scheer

May 14 – Bill Lamberton/Rodney Campbell/Tom Eberle/Brea Fennick

May 21 – Ian Scheer/John McCullough/Jim Whaley/Charlie Motter

May 28 – John McCullough/Rodney Campbell/Jon Sterling/Leeann McCullough

Greeters

May Captain – Eva Palmer

May 7 – Ramp/Judy Cochran, 1st St./Brenda Chapin

May 14 – Ramp/Larry & Diane Andres, 1st St./Patty Shiley

May 21 – Ramp/Chris Salvo & Brent Mader, 1st St./Brenda Chapin

May 28 – Ramp/Jerry & Lea Brosius, 1st St./Amy Ziegler

Coffee Bar

May 7 – Open Door Class

May 14 – Disciples Class

May 21 – The Net Class

May 28 – Youth Group

Worship Leaders

May 7 – Lynne Delaney

May 14 – Lynne Delaney

May 21 – Judy Hards

May 28 – Ron Black

If you would like to be a Worship Leader, please contact Anita Eberle.

Record of our Faithfulness	2022	2023
	March	March
Avg Sunday School Attendance	38	22
Average Worship Attendance	70	49
Ministry/Operations Offering received	\$12,903	\$9,677
Ministry/Operations Expenses paid	\$20,008	\$13,688
Mission Offering received	\$6,415	\$1,046
Mission Expenses paid	\$9,433	\$0

Thank you for your generosity!

Your routine giving supports the ministry of Grace Church.

We encourage your online giving on our website:
graceoilcity.org/giving



CHURCH MEMBERS ON OUR PRAYER LIST:

- Ginny Taylor as she receives chemo treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- Kate Shaffer was diagnosed with breast cancer and will be having a double mastectomy and reconstruction in May, pray for her family as well.
- Blaine Beers for good test results, being tested for cancer.
- Shirley Baughman for healing after a fall.

To add someone to the Prayer Chain or if you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain email, call or email Donna Books. 814-676-4423 or donigale@icloud.com



INTRODUCING NEW CHURCH STAFF

Please welcome our newest member to the staff at Grace Church – Susan Kirstein.

Susan will be taking over as church secretary as Eva Palmer moves into the financial secretary position due to the retirement of Leeann McCullough.

Congratulations to Leeann on her retirement, and many thanks for her hard work and dedication.

GRACE CHURCH CONTACTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM

PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

10:45 AM

Contact Us

Email:

church@graceoilcity.org

Susan Kirstein:

secretary@graceoilcity.org

Eva Palmer:

financialsec@graceoilcity.org

Pastor Ron Geisler:

rgeisler@graceoilcity.org

Phone:

814-677-3013

814-677-3345 Parsonage

Website: www.graceoilcity.org



Grace United Methodist Church in Oil City

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9-2:30

Closed noon-12:30

Web Live Broadcast:

Worship service live @ 10:45 via our website at

<https://www.graceoilcity.org/worship-service-recordings.html>

Previous recordings also available on YouTube.

On the Church Calendar:

Continue to check the weekly bulletins, our website and Facebook pages for calendar updates. Meetings are always being added throughout the month.

May 4 – National Day of Prayer Service, Venango County Courthouse Steps, noon & 6pm

May 11 – Trustee's Meeting, 7pm

May 14 – **Mother's Day**

May 16 – Super Seniors Picnic Luncheon, noon in Asbury Hall

May 18 – Administrative Council Meeting, 7pm

May 22 – Grace Notes Deadline for submitting articles

May 29 – **MEMORIAL DAY** – **office closed** (remembering our deceased will be November 5, 2023 – All Saints Sunday)

May 30 – Grace Notes Mailing Day

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE FOR SUMMER

BEGINS 6/4/23 – 9/3/23

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

WORSHIP 10am-11am

Requesting Names of 2023 Graduates

On Sunday June 4th we will honor our Grace Church Graduates during Sunday morning worship. They will have the opportunity to stand before the congregation and be recognized for their accomplishments.

If you know a **Grace member** (full professing member) who will be graduating from high school, college, tech school, etc. please contact the church office with their names so that we will be able to invite them to worship.

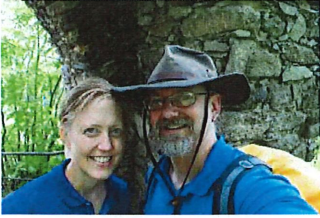
We will also include their information in the June 4th Sunday bulletin and in the June Grace Notes.

Thank you!



GRACE CHURCH MISSIONS/MISSIONARY UPDATES

Andrew and Amy Funka



It's always interesting to study how other countries celebrate special Christian events like Easter. Andrew gives us a look at Easter in what they refer to as the non-religious Czech Republic. Most Czechs use this Easter holiday event to travel. This leaves Andrew and Amy at a Sunday worship with a small group of faithful Christians in a special "Celebration of Life." Sound familiar?

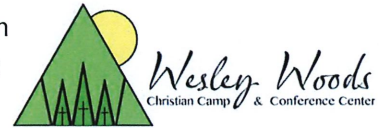
The Funkas have spent a major part of their April planning and meeting with other missionaries serving in the Czech Republic. The primary discussion focuses on ways to support local churches to facilitate positive change with the goal of improving the effectiveness of team planting of new churches.

The Wholehearted School continues to grow but the current challenge is recruiting teachers as there have been staff teachers leaving for what Andrew calls, "good reasons."

The Funkas share their appreciation for our prayers, encouragement, and support.

Wesley Woods

It's work week time. This year's work week is set for May 12-20. It is followed by an open house of the cleaned and polished camp on May 12 from 10 am till 2 pm. Please contact the camp if you can give a couple of days to help this year. It would be appreciated.



Wesley Woods plans to offer the usual options of camps that include the ABC camp for ages 4-6, senior camps for ages 12-17, and everything in between. A camp for exceptional people is also available.

FYI, Grace church has a history of providing Wesley Woods with youth counselors and they are currently looking for a few good workers for this summer's camping season.

UMCOR



UMCOR is the outreach part of United Methodist Global Ministries. Grace includes UMCOR in its' budget as a separate line item for \$2,300 annually. The UMCOR program has been expanded to include a Mustard Seed Migration program. This new program can be described primarily as a grant program designed to encourage individual United Methodist churches to engage in ministries to migrants. UMCOR will award grants of up to \$2,000 to churches that create projects or ministries that are focused on migrants and refugees. This is a new and creative way of reaching out to address our countries growing immigration crisis in the name of Christ.

ABC Life Center

Don't forget the "baby bottle" fund raiser that the Franklin Life Center organizes annually. Dropping your loose change in a baby bottle for a month is a wonderful way to support a life-saving local non-profit. More info on the back of this page.



Tuesday May 16th CATERED PICNIC LUNCHEON @ noon

The Super Seniors are hosting a picnic luncheon catered by Heath's Marketing and will be held in Asbury Hall at noon on 5/16. All are welcome. No cost but please reserve your seat by 5/12 by calling Donna Books at 814-676-4423 or Judy Hards at 814-671-0101.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

Fill a Bottle
for LIFE.



Filling a bottle helps meet the physical and spiritual needs of men and women who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy.

Pick up your bottle: May 14, 2023

Return your bottle: June 18, 2023



Life Center: herlifecenter.com or 814-432-2229