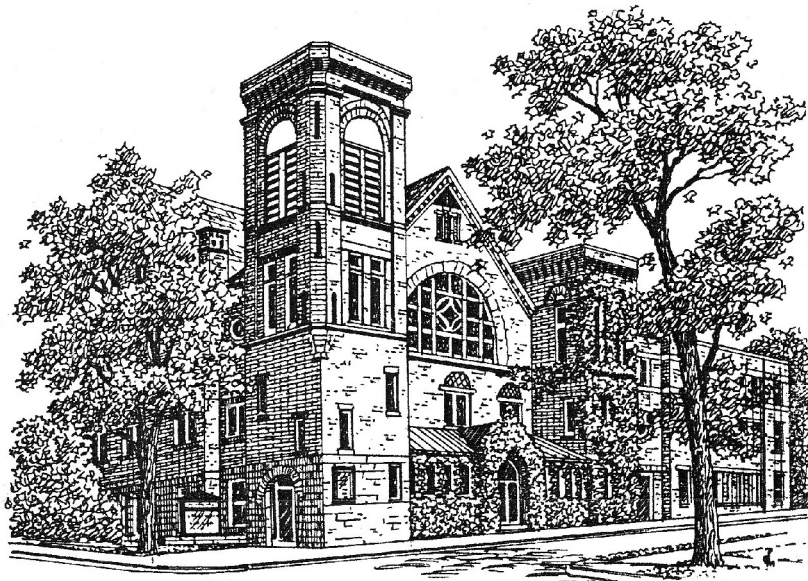


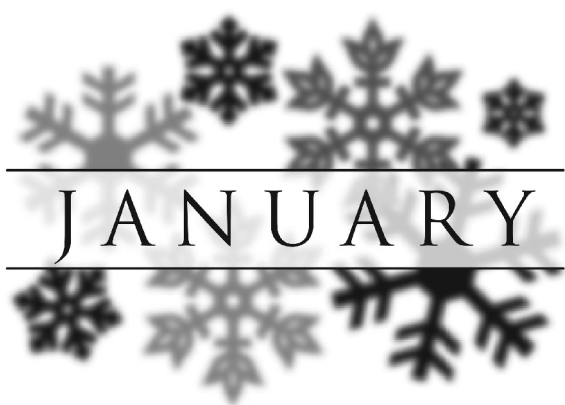
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE
OIL CITY, PA 16301
(Address Service Requested)

01/21

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GRACE NOTES



January 2021 Grace United Methodist Church

100 Central Avenue, Oil City, PA 16301

Pastor: Rev. Byron K. Myers

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

Church Office Hours: M-R 9AM - 3:25PM

Lunch: Noon-12:30

E-Mail: church@graceoilcity.org

Website: www.graceoilcity.org

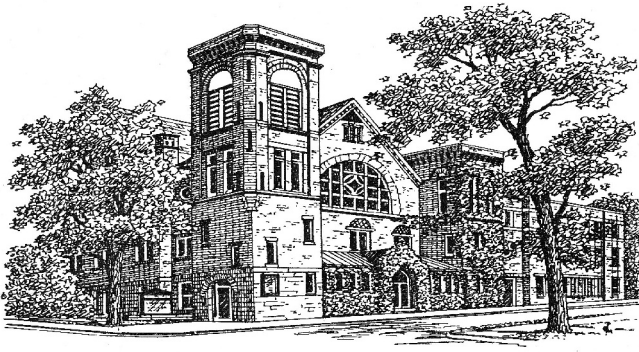
Facebook: Grace United Methodist Church in Oil City

TV Broadcast: Ch 22 Sunday 8:30 & 10:45AM, 8:30PM

Online: Graceoilcity.org Sunday 10:45AM and 8PM

Sunday School 9:30AM (tentative)

Weekly Sunday Service 10:45AM



Grace Notes

January 2021

Worship With Us!

10:45 Worship Service

See below for
rebroadcast
times.

Contact Us

Email:
church@graceoilcity.org

Phone:
814-677-3013

Website:
www.graceoilcity.org

Facebook:
Grace United Methodist
Church in Oil City

Church Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs 9-3:25
Closed noon-12:30

Local Public Access TV:
Channel 22 -
-Previous week service
broadcast at 8:30AM.
-Current week service at
10:45AM
-Service rebroadcast at
8:30PM each Sunday.

Web Broadcast:
graceoilcity.org – or –
streammedia.tv
-Sundays at 10:45AM
-Replay Sundays at 8PM
All weekly services are
available online

By the time you read this 2020 will be over, and good riddance!

What a difficult year! None of us have faced in our lifetime anything like the Covid pandemic. And we are all ready for this year, that included so much hardship, to end, and grateful to turn a corner and start something new.

As hopeful as I am for improved circumstances, I am more concerned for you ongoing spiritual health than I have ever been for any congregation. This is not because I think we've done something wrong. It's because hardship wears down a person's faith, and the improvement of external circumstances will not by themselves restore it.

Perhaps you remember Elijah's despair in 1 Kings 19. A great victory only increased the danger he faced and ran for his life. Finally, exhausted he fell down under a broom tree and moaned, "I have had enough, Lord. Take my life;" (1 Kings 19:4). Hardship can wear down anyone's faith.

But there is a more subtle danger of which I am more concerned. That is the effect of a spiritually inactive life. Faith that is not nurtured and used will grow weak. And like the debilitated person who doesn't get rehab, a spiritually inactive Christian can grow accustomed to their lack of vitality.

The root of this danger is the absence of public worship, Sunday school, fellowship. We rely on these opportunities to restore us every week and we have been deprived of them for weeks. To face this loss of public spiritual life we need to exert private spiritual practice.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, taught his followers to stay in love with God through spiritual disciplines. Among them are essential practices you can and must do privately, personally: 1) Private prayer, including worship and thanksgiving as well as petition; 2) The Word of God, read, studied and applied to life; 3) Fasting or abstinence (we do not live by bread alone)

Of course, they are familiar. They are so fundamental that any discussion of spiritual life MUST include these practices. They are as fundamental to Christian life as tackling, blocking, and ball carrying are to football. Get sloppy in the fundamentals and your game unravels. Get sloppy in fundamental spiritual practices and your spiritual life will unravel, as well.

So let me encourage you to read from the Bible. I don't mean one short verse, I mean over several days returned to and read extended passages from the Bible. Let me encourage you to pray, spending an extended time in which you deliberately seek God's presence for worship and adoration as well as petition?

Let us turn this corner to renewed faith and vitality. Then 2021 will truly be a New Year.

Pastor Byron

Mission Notes - January 2021



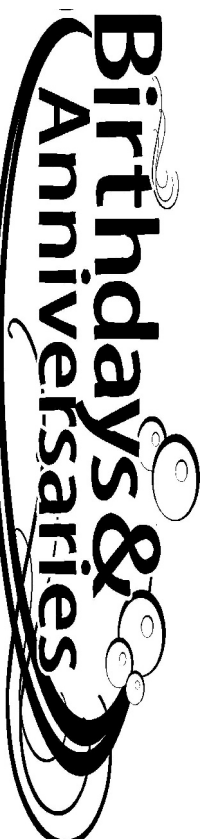
Missions Budget Update – The Grace Mission Committee was unable to meet its planned Mission Support in 2020. We were, however, able to cover our total UMC Apportionment for the year. Because a number of the missionaries whom we support are not currently able to be actively working, due to the world-wide pandemic, our plan is to meet in early January to determine where our remaining 2020 funds should be directed. Our focus will be missions, such as our local Salvation Army, which has been working throughout the year providing food and services to our local community.

Venango Youth For Christ ministered to 265 different local students during the July 2019-June 2020 ministry year. How blessed we are to have YFC in our area! Due to the effects of COVID they have had many adjustments to make in their ministry style. They now connect with their students online through social media and live video meetings. During the warmer months they met outside and in the YFC garage in smaller groups. They pass on their “thanks!” to the churches and individuals who helped them to stock up supplies and snacks for their Cranberry 6th Grade Outreach and for their weekly clubs. In November, youth participated in Operation Christmas Child. And in December they filled Stocking for our Soldiers – which went to a homeless shelter for Veterans in Pittsburgh. They are a wonderful, active, local, Spirit-filled mission which deserves our continued support.

Child Evangelism Fellowship is another program which supports local students. Each year CEF holds weekly camps for kids to attend. The camps provide fun, games, and spiritual learning. With COVID, the camps were not held this past summer, but they are looking at other ways to connect with kids. Additionally, our local CEF is in transition with its leadership and is looking for a part-time office manager. CEF is asking for your prayers and support as they consider the possibilities for their programs and as they adjust to their staffing changes.

Mustard Seed Missions has helped over 1,300 families and individuals in our community over the past years. They provide essential services to people in need in our area. During the past year their home repair ministry and household goods delivery ministry were put on hold for a while due to COVID. But there were other projects to work on! Volunteers were able to assist another ministry, Emmaus Haven, in remodeling a building in Siverly that is going to be a shelter. They also helped the County Housing Department with renovating a house that was donated and is being converted into apartments to help families in need of emergency housing. And they are always ready to install ramps. However, in order to provide these services, Mustard Seed needs volunteers; people of all skill levels. If you would like to help with this program, please contact Eva at eva@msmvenango.org or call 814-437-1982 to be added to the volunteer list.

JANUARY 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Holly McKenzie Shirley Teifer	2 Mike Goughler Kim Scheer	3 Mike Rybak Beverly Weingard	4 Justin Woolcock	5	6 Beverly Conner Pete Knight
7 Libbie Arrink Natalie Arrink	8	9 Barb Hayes Trisha Lockhart Dan Wrihen	10 Carletta Howard Galla Vogan	11 Shirley Buchholz	12 Hailey Munoz Heather Howard Hannah Webber	13 Randy Hicks
14 Nathaniel Stoltz Bob Delaney II Ryan Shinko	15 Ethan Goughler Don Leombruno Jan Angove	16 Hudson Galla Josh Webber	17 John Greene Laura Flockerzi	18 Cyndee Clayton Ben Hickman Robert Hogg Penny Weichel	19 Chris French Chris Hare Sandy Hartsell	20
21 Jamie Kirkwood	22 Nicholas Hepler	23 Jamie Rybak	24 Donald Cochran Denise McCay	25 Abby Sharrar Tom/Cyndee Clayton	26 Sherry Flynn Richard McCreary Walter/Maureen Summer	27 Lillian Sorkin
28 Lincoln Galla Chris Hepler John Madden	29 Madison Cornelius Rhonda Bush Jim Middleton June Reisinger Sara Solida	30 Marcia Crawford	31			

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Holly McKenzie
Shirley Teifer

2 Mike Goughler
Kim Scheer

3 Mike Rybak
Beverly Weingard

4 Justin Woolcock

6 Beverly Conner
Pete Knight

7 **Libbie Arnink**
Natalie Arnink
Jennifer Davis

9 Barb Hayes
Trisha Lockhart
Dan Wrhen

10 Carletta Howard
Galla Vogan

11 Shirley Buchholz

12 **Hailey Munoz**
Heather Howard
Hannah Webber

13 **Nathaniel Stoltz**
Randy Hicks

14 Bob Delaney II
Ryan Shimko

15 **Ethan Goughler**
Dom Leombruno
Jan Angove

16 **Hudson Galla**
Josh Webber

17 John Greene
Laura Flockerzi

18 Cyndee Clayton
Ben Hickman
Robert Hogg
Penny Weichel

19 **Chris French**
Chris Hare
Sandy Hartsell

21 **Olivia Stoltz**
Jamie Kirkwood

22 Nicholas Hepler

23 Jamie Rybak

24 Donald Cochran
Denise McCay

25 Abby Sharrar
Tom/Cyndee Clayton

26 Sherry Flynn
Richard McCreary
Walter/Maureen
Sumner

27 **Lillian Sorkin**

28 **Lincoln Galla**
Chris Hepler
John Madden

29 **Madison Cornelius**
Rhonda Bush
Jim Middleton
June Reisinger
Sara Solida

30

Marcia Crawford

OUR JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS

N/A

WORSHIP LEADERS

N/A

COUNTING TEAM Kim Eberle, Kim French, Don and Sandy Hartsell, June Reisinger, Peg Shuffstall

USHERING TEAM Captain - Tom Eberle; John Downing, Frank Fultz, Jim Puleo, Scott Ridgeway, Bruce, Siler, Paul Siler, Rob Zeigler

TV MINISTRY: Directors: Brad Arnink, Dick Baker
Graphics: Rodney Campbell, Jr., John McCullough

CAMERA OPERATORS / AUDIO

Jan 5 Bill Lamberton, Chuck Beck / Tom Eberle
Jan 12 Scott Ridgeway, Ian Scheer / Lloyd Rodgers
Jan 19 Trish Baker, Hope Winger / Jon Sterling
Jan 26 Rob Ziegler, Andrea Ziegler / Ian Sterling

NURSERY

N/A