

# Grace Notes

March 2021

**Worship With Us!**  
10:45 Worship Service

The word Lent is taken from an Old English word for spring, but is so much more than the end of a dark cold winter.

See below for  
rebroadcast  
times.

Lent is intended to be a time of preparation. You might ask, preparation for what? Part of the answer is the celebration of Easter. But in another sense Lent is about joining Christ in his death, so that we can also join him in new life.

**Contact Us**

Look at Romans 6. Paul begins by answering the question “Shall we go on sinning...” Of course his answer is an emphatic NO. But he explains his answer in a surprising way. He says we should not sin for we have been joined to Jesus’ death.

**Email:**  
[church@graceoilcity.org](mailto:church@graceoilcity.org)

**Phone:**  
814-677-3013

Ro. 6:3,4 “Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death?... (in order that) we too may live a new life.” Paul is telling us that a new union has been formed when we were joined to Christ by faith. We believe in Christ, so we are joined to Christ. And being joined to Christ means we are joined to his death. He died FOR sin, and we die TO sin. And so Paul goes on to command “... count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ” (Ro. 6:11)

**Website:**  
[www.graceoilcity.org](http://www.graceoilcity.org)

**Facebook:**  
Grace United Methodist  
Church in Oil City

Lent is a season meant to help us experience our connection with Christ. We have died to sin, so we rise to a new life.

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

Not long ago I heard an interview with a man who had written a book called *Ten Days Without*. He said he had always heard he should care for the poor, but never found a way to have real compassion. When he heard a presentation about not having shoes, he decided to try it. He would live for 10 days without shoes. (I don’t think he did it in March in northwestern PA.)

**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.

He said the experience changed him because it allowed him “to walk in another person’s shoes” for awhile (yes, pun intended). The discipline of living without helped him identify with others and so changed his life.

**Web Broadcast:**  
[graceoilcity.org](http://graceoilcity.org) – or –  
[streammedia.tv](http://streammedia.tv)  
-Sundays at 10:45AM  
-Replay Sundays at 8PM  
All weekly services are  
available online

Lent is like that. It asks us to change our lives for 40 days. It asks us to be more consistent in our spiritual disciplines of worship, prayer and Bible reading. It does this because changing what we do has a profound impact on who we are, and who we are becoming. Lent is not magic. But God does work his grace in us when we seek him. Lent is about that pursuit.

So how might you do something different?  
Try Fasting

- Read through the Gospel of Mark. I’m preaching each week from that Gospel so it would be a good connection.
- Keep a prayer journal

Change is good. Lent allows God to change us.

Pastor Byron

### Laymen's Good Friday Breakfast and Service.

Unfortunately, the Laymen's Good Friday Breakfast has been canceled due to Covid again this year. The 7:00 worship service is planned to be remote only. Mr. Frank Gile will be this year's speaker. The Grace TV Ministry Team will show the service live on Oil City Cable channel 22. It will also be streamed live on our website. Shortly after the service concludes it will also be available on Youtube at ("good Friday laymen's service oil city").

## Mission Notes - March 2021



### **Wesley Woods Update**

"The Comeback" is what Wesley Woods is calling their new summer camp program. After a tough Covid restricted 2020, the camp is looking forward to serve Christ in 2021. They plan to offer outdoor experiences such as hay rides, hiking, sing-alongs around the camp fire with friends, and add Bible stories with lively worship. The camp is offering a lower registration fee. If you have kids/grandkids looking to fill the summer with a camping adventure consider the Wesley Woods summer camp program. You can find information on the various camps and registration online at [www.wesleywoods.com](http://www.wesleywoods.com).

The Wesley Woods camp has several other opportunities to enjoy Christian fellowship in the outdoors. Check out the events listed on the web page. The annual camp work week is set for May 14- 22. This is the week when the camp gets its' yearly cleaning and repairs. If you can clean, paint, landscape, do electrical wiring, are handy with basic carpentry, etc. you are needed. Contact Jerry Brosius if you would like to help. That will help us in the planning of this event.

### **The Funka's**

Andrew and Amy continue to be healthy and active in Prague. Our missionary partners in the Czech Republic reported in their latest news letter that the progress of the Christian International school of Prague is moving ahead. Jodi Oppenhuizen has been selected as the school director and will begin in April. The Wholehearted school is in the process of recruiting teachers. There are COVID restrictions in the Republic, but learning continues and the people are hungry for Christ and Bible studies.

The Funka's also report that February in Prague has been very cold and snowy. COVID has altered their plans to travel to the USA, but they offer the internet via zoom as a way to keep in touch. This sounds familiar! They look forward to an opportunity to share progress on the numerous missions they are involved in. They express their appreciation for the prayers and support.

We continue to be thankful that God has given us this couple to be messengers for Grace Church.

### **Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser**

The Mission committee is planning a spaghetti dinner fund raiser for April 9. This was a great success for us last fall and we are sure the next dinner will be bigger and better. With Rina's special sauce and Ginny's salad dressing, you can't beat the price. We will be selling tickets ahead of time and bring the meals to the parking lot. We are looking forward to getting the kitchen crew together for a great time of throwing spaghetti against the wall!



# Parish Register March 2021

The following members of Grace Church have been hospitalized since the previous edition of Grace Notes.

N/A

If you are admitted to UPMC Northwest in Seneca, please remember to tell the admissions staff that you are a member of Grace United Methodist Church in Oil City and you would like pastoral care.

“To the Members of Grace United Methodist Church – I want to Thank all of you for the Cards, Prayers and Thoughts during the most difficult and sad time of our lives. Thank You so much.”

– Margie, Gail, Chuck, Rick and Adam

## On The March Calendar –

3/11 7PM Trustees Meeting

3/14 Daylight Saving Time

3/18 Ad Council Meeting

3/28 Palm Sunday

\*Every Wednesday 6:30PM Choir Practice

\*Every other Sunday Noon-2PM Youth Meeting

**Grace Scholarship** for High School Graduates  
Grace UM Church annually offers scholarships to students graduating from high school and pursuing further education in college, trade school or other approved educational institutions. Applicants must be Professing Members (full members) of Grace. Application forms may be picked up at the office, or can be forwarded upon request. **The deadline for applications to be returned to the church is April 15.** All student who qualify are strongly urged to apply.

## Laymen’s Good Friday Breakfast and Service.

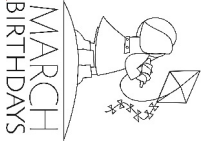

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Record of our Faithfulness	2020	2021
Ministry/Operations Offering Received (Jan.)	17,304.69	35,727.98
Ministry/Operations Expenses Paid (Jan.)	19,767.38	17,560.27
Mission Offering Rec. (Jan.)	3,519.14	5,130.25
Mission Expenses Pd (Jan.)	2,587.00	6,117.55



Through Amazon Smile, Grace Church has received: \$255.79 as of November 2020. Please continue the help.

# MARCH 2017 - BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 5 Patrick Meals Spencer Mehlburger Jack Travis	6 <b>Casey Hassan</b> Joyce Beightol Seth Updegraff	 7 <b>Kaylee English</b> Curtis Hawke Elissa Myers Gary/Kris Flinchbaugh	1 <b>Taylor Meals</b> Marie Sweigert	2 Deborah Moore Gale/Donna Boocks	3 Angela Morris Kathy McAlevy Steve/Party Sherrick	4 <b>Tan Somers</b>
12 Samantha Duarte Janette Wolfgang	13 <b>Amanda Bradley</b> <b>Makayla Yount</b>	14 <b>Sara Flockenzi</b> <b>Garrett Zerbe</b> Bob/Lynne Delaney	15 <b>Cadince Delaney</b>	16 M. J. Eckert Mark Patterson Tina Ziegler	17 John Davidson Sheila Updegraff	18 Sass Galla Kelly Plkna Sue Seidle Ian Sterling
19 Dan Atkins Sandy Knight Hanna Lepley	20 Pat Black Pauline Case Amy Middleton	21 Deb Bennett Miriam Myers	22 Elizabeth Bayne	23 <b>Damecka McDonald</b> Travis Seefried Mary Yount	24 <b>Jennifer Delaney</b> Michael Gegogaine Melissa Roxberry David/Penny Bayne	25 <b>Brandon Siler</b> Ron Shiley III Debbie Stahl Chris/Kelly Kosman Ron/Joy Shiley
26 Amy Highfield Penny Lehnort Tom Lehnort	27 <b>Wesley Scheer</b> Ed Woolcock Linda W/then Pat Zerbe Randy/Donna Aaron	28 Philip Erion Diane Stephenson Chris/Shannon Wygant	29 Libby Williams	30	31 Barbara Swavey Barbara Walentosky	

## March 2021 Birthdays & Anniversaries

2	Deborah Moore Gale/Donna Books	18	Sass Galla Sue Seidle Ian Sterling
3	Angela Morris Kathy McAlevy Steve/Patty Sherick	19	Sandy Knight Hanna Lepley
4	<b>Ian Somers</b>	20	Pat Black Pauline Case Amy Middleton
5	Patrick Meals Jack Travis	21	Deb Bennett Miriam Myers
6	<b>Casey Hassan</b> Joyce Beightol Seth Updegraff	22	Elizabeth Bayne
7	<b>Kaylee English</b> Curtis Hawke Elissa Myers Gary/Kris Flinchbaugh	23	Dameaka McDonald Travis Seefried Mary Yount
8	<b>Taylor Meals</b> Marie Sweigert	24	<b>Jennifer Delaney</b> Michael Gegogaine Melissa Roxberry David/Penny Bayne
9	<b>Matthew Myers</b>	25	<b>Brandon Siler</b> Ron Shiley III Debbie Stahl Chris/Kelly Kossman Ron/Joy Shiley
10	Bill Hoyle Dan Myers Dave/Barb Walentosky	26	Amy Highfield Penny Lehnortt Tom Lehnortt
11	<b>Caden Highfield</b> <b>Maggie Motter</b> Christine Jazwinski Dustin Jazwinski Georgia Strawbridge	27	<b>Wesley Scheer</b> Ed Woolcock Linda Wrhen Pat Zerbe Randy/Donna Aaron
12	Samantha Duarte Janette Wolfgang	28	Philip Erion Diane Stephenson Chris/Shannon Wygant
13	<b>Makayla Yount</b>	29	Libby Williams
14	Sara Flockerzi Jenny Wheeler Bob/Lynne Delaney	31	Barbara Swavey Barbara Walentosky
15	<b>Cadince Delaney</b>		
16	M. J. Eckert Mark Patterson Tina Ziegler		
17	John Davidson Sheila Updegraff		

## OUR MARCH VOLUNTEERS

### WORSHIP LEADERS

N/A

**COUNTING TEAM** Rina Anderson, Rhonda Cubbon, Scott Ridgeway, Penny Weichel, Carla Wheeler, Amy Ziegler, Rob Ziegler

**USHERING TEAM** Captain - Lynne Delaney, Rina Anderson, Donna Books, Cyndee Clayton, Kim French, Marilyn Kirkwood

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

### CAMERA OPERATORS / AUDIO

Mar 7 Carson Fennick, Steve Scheer / Ian Sterling

Mar 14 Rob Ziegler, Wesley Scheer / Jim Whaley

Mar 21 Paul Myers, Jim Carner / Lloyd Rodgers

Mar 28 Andrea Ziegler, Scott Ridgeway / Tom Eberle

### NURSERY

N/A

### JUNIOR CHURCH

N/A