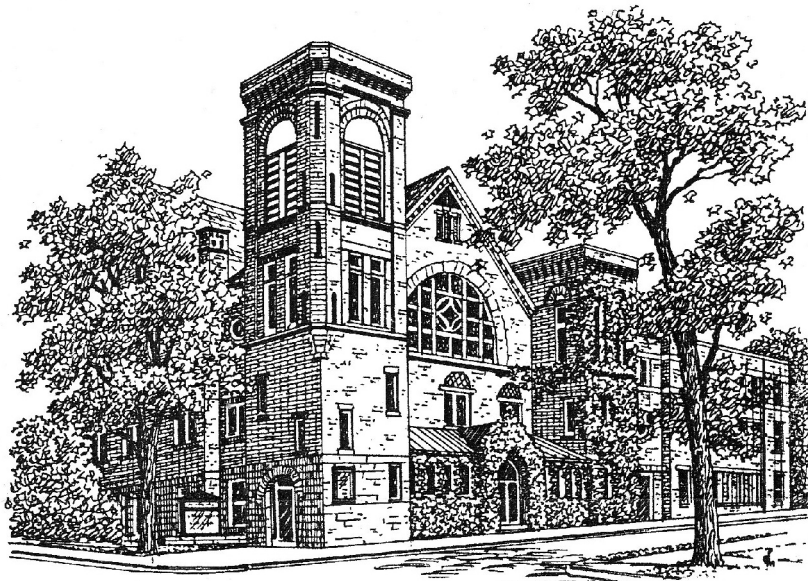


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE
OIL CITY, PA 16301
(Address Service Requested)

04/21

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 302



GRACE NOTES

*Because He Lives,
I can face tomorrow...*

HE IS RISEN

April 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

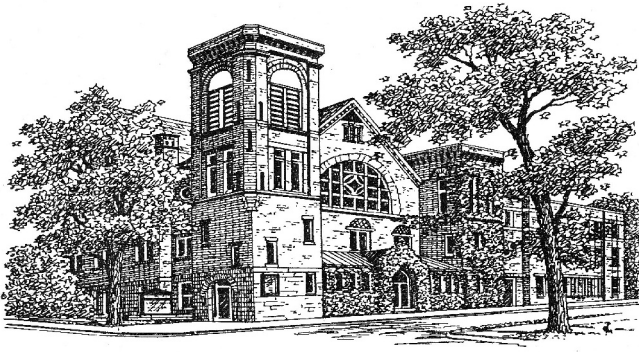
TV Broadcast: Ch 22 Sunday 8:30 & 10:45AM, 8:30PM

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

Pastor: Byron Myers
Church Secretary: Shena Sprohar
Finance Secretary: Leeann McCullough
Custodian: Bill Lamberton
Organist: Joe Emanuele
Choir Director: Debbie Stahl

Sunday School 9:30AM (tentative)

Weekly Sunday Service 10:45AM



Grace Notes

April 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

Dear Friends,

What if the New Normal ... was Better?

“The New Normal” has become a common phrase during Covid-19. We all wondered how Covid would change our lives. I remember, early in the pandemic hearing a commentator speculate that Covid would end the hand-shake forever. Nothing is permanent: there’s always something new, normal or not.

The disciples accompanied Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and were caught up in the enthusiasm of the crowd. People stripped off their coats and laid them on the road for the donkey to walk over. That could leave a nasty stain on your new Go-to-Passover clothes. Don’t think those people were unaware of that possibility. They were so filled with hopeful expectations they did not want to restrain themselves. They shouted hosanna, and recognized Jesus as the awaited one.

Through the week, Jesus, taught in the Temple every day, and returned to the Mount of Olives each night. His enemies tried to trip him with trick questions, but he answered every one with truth and wisdom. The disciples had to be ecstatic. Jesus was passing every test he faced. Something huge, life changing, was just around the corner.

And then Thursday night. Jesus said, “One of you will betray me,” “All of you will deny me.” He was arrested, and crucified. He died on a Roman cross. Stout hearted women followed his body to the borrowed tomb and watched as the stone was rolled into place in front of the door. That was life changing, but not at all what they expected...

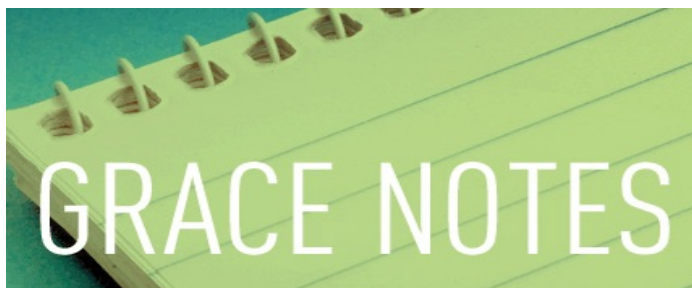
Three dark days passed. Those same strong women went to the tomb. Again, it was not what they expected. Their question, “Who would move the stone” became “Where did you put my Jesus.” The stone was gone and the tomb was empty.

On that first resurrection Sunday, Jesus appeared to the women, Peter, Cleopas and his companion, all eleven remaining disciples, and others with the disciples whose names we don’t have. The Crucified was ALIVE!

Jesus IS alive! That is an entirely NEW Normal. Sin and death have been destroyed, the new birth is available, the Kingdom is wide open. Forgiveness is granted to all who believe in the name of Jesus. And all the forgiven receive the opportunity and power to live new lives, free of hatred, envy, lust, and greed, and free to love and serve, and embrace the peace and joy of Christ.

What if the New Normal was BETTER? It is in Jesus Christ! He is risen, indeed!

Pastor Byron



Palm Sunday - the Venango County Ministerium is sponsoring a virtual Palm Sunday evening service. It will be shown on OC cable channel 22 at 7:00 p.m. It will also be available on line at various churches. Check local congregations for details. Pastor Byron is preaching. Several area pastors are participating. Joe will play the organ.

Giving to Grace UMC

In this time of "Social Distancing", please remember that giving to Grace UMC is available through on our website, www.graceoilcity.org.

We accept debit and credit cards, as well as PayPal. Additionally, you can set up direct payments to Grace UMC through your bank, or mail a check directly to the church at 100 Central Avenue in Oil City PA 16301.

Covid-19 has disrupted so much of life over the past 12 months. It eliminated in-person worship last Easter. Now it's time to come out of our bunkers, feel the sun on our faces, and worship the risen Son of God. If you've been thinking, "I should start back to church," Easter is a great day to re-establish your practice of worship. Let Easter be an important part of your New Normal and see how Christ can make it better in your life.

Good Friday Laymen's Breakfast and Service

The Laymen's breakfast has been canceled again this year. However, the 7:00 a.m. service will be carried live on OC cable channel 22. It will also be available online at goodfridaylaymen.org after 10:00 a.m. on Friday.

Good Friday Cross Walk.

The annual Good Friday Cross Walk in Oil City is scheduled for April 2. It will start at noon in the Main St. parking lot near the Petroleum St. Bridge/Rt 8 traffic light on Mail St. The walk will proceed through both the north and south sides. All are welcome to join in. Bring an umbrella if it rains or snows.

What if the New Normal was BETTER?

That's our Easter theme, because Christians believe Jesus is alive and he forgives and changes us, giving us new, better ways to live. Take the opportunity this Easter to come to worship and to invite your friends and family, co-workers and classmates to worship as well. You already received an invitation card in the mail. It has all the Easter Sunday information. Pass it along to someone and say, "Come to worship on Easter with me. I really want to go." More invitation cards for you to hand out are available in the church office. You can also direct people to www.graceoilcity.org. We've redesigned the home page to include only Easter information. You can still access the website using a link from this landing page. That's an easy way to invite anyone.

Lent and Easter Giving

Donations made through the Lent and Easter Giving Envelopes are split equally between the Ministry/Operations Budget and the Missions Budget, unless you specify otherwise on the envelope.

The Ministries and Operations Budget covers the cost of local ministry and operating our church. It includes programs such as Super Seniors, Youth and Church Family Life, the Children's, Sanctuary, and Handbell Choirs, and the TV ministry. It also includes operating costs like utilities, insurance, and taxes, salaries and supplies.

The Missions Budget is our mission support fund. It includes Apportionments, the UM method of supporting the entire denomination. It also supports ministries directly. These ministries are as varied as Wesbury (the UM nursing home in Meadville), and UMCOR - our denomination's disaster relief agency. Additionally, Grace supports missions locally, nationwide, and worldwide.

The Building Fund pays for repairs and improvements to the church building and to the parsonage.

Thank you for your continued, faithful support of our church.

Parish Register April 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.

Women of Grace will be holding the Annual Jumble Sale. **Date: August 5, 6, and 7, 2021**
Times to be announced at a later date.

Please bring in your goods to the church during office hours beginning: July 28, 2021

Any questions please contact Beth Rood or Leeann McCullough.

A bake sale has not been decided as of this date.

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.

On The April Calendar –

4/8 7PM Trustees Meeting

4/9 Missions Spaghetti Dinner (carry out)

4/25 Memorial Meeting after worship

*Every Wednesday 6:30PM Choir Practice

*Every other Sunday Noon-2PM Youth Meeting

Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser. The Mission committee is planning a spaghetti dinner fund raiser for **April 9, Ticket holders times are from 4 - 5 pm and Non-ticket holders 5 - 6:30 pm.** 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 **\$10 a ticket.** 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!

Record of our Faithfulness	2020	2021
Ministry/Operations Offering Received (Feb..)	13,079.92	13,032.20
Ministry/Operations Expenses Paid (Feb.)	19,454.18	17,575.93
Mission Offering Rec. (Feb.)	4,313.45	5,522.55
Mission Expenses Pd (Feb.)	14,587.00	1,742.83



All through the year, when you shop at Amazon, remember to begin at **smile.amazon.com** a percentage of your purchase will be donated to

Grace Church at no cost to you. To set up your page, go to **smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0965381** this is the page for Grace Church. Bookmark this page so you will begin each Amazon shopping trip here. Amazon donates a portion of its sales directly to Grace Church each quarter and your prices are not effected. All church-related Amazon purchases are made through smile.amazon.com.

Evang/Hospitality Notes - April 2021





Our committee and other volunteers have been reaching out to the community and some of our church members to get them reconnected to the church after our long time coping with the COVID pandemic. It has been a wonderful experience getting to talk with them and hear how things are going with them as well if there are any needs or concerns.

One of the needs that was brought to our attention is the need for transportation to church for some of our senior members who are no longer able to drive. We would like to put together a list of names and phone numbers of anyone willing to help out on a Sunday morning for this service.

Also, we have a senior church member who is in need of having some brush cut at her house and was looking for someone to help with this. This person would need access to a truck to haul the brush away. They are willing to compensate someone for their time and energy to do this.

If you can help out in either of these areas, please email Eva Palmer at evajpalmer@gmail.com or call her at 814-758-0158. If you can't reach her by phone, contact the church office.

April 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Kendall Carner
2 Marilyn Kirkwood Shane Wheeler	3 Samantha Woolcock Jennifer Brogan	4	5 Debbie Butchart Marge Conn	6 Katie Arrink Susan Perry Michele Woolcock	7 Jack Warner Jerry/Lea Brosius	8 Lilly Shiley Dave/Gail O'Neil
9 Maria Salvo Gene/Amy Dykins	10 Dennis Puleo	11 Kris Walter	12 Charles Fentress Sandy Friggle Byron Myers Penny Bayne Michael/Kirsten Hassan	13 Todd Heffern		15 Kris Flinchbaugh Peg Shufftall Heather Williams
16 Chris/Linda Owens	17 Steve Goss Barb Siler Darrell/Gayle Smith	18 Lerisa Shiley Lana Jolley Mitchell Eberle Wes/Jo Lauer	19 Sam Shaffer Amanda Cornelius	20 Edward Berringer Rodney Campbell, Sr. Kim Eberle	21	22 Judy Cochran Matt/Sheila Updegraff Pat/Cindy Zerbe
23 Brit Flinchbaugh Holly Toy 30	24 Amanda Lehrian Pete/Gwen Berry	25 Kason Carner Liam Montgomery Tim Berry Susan Hodge Jason Mahle	26 Tina Boyd Matt/Michelle Shiley	27	28 Mary Jean Grace	29 Taylor Hepler James Dehner Norma Hogue Jason/Faith Mahle

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 **Kendall Carner**
- 2 Marilyn Kirkwood
Shane Wheeler
- 3 **Samantha Woolcock**
Jennifer Brogan
- 5 Debbie Butchart
Marge Conn
- 6 **Katie Arnink**
Emily Eckert
Susan Perry
Michele Woolcock
- 7 Jack Warner
Jerry/Lea Brosius
- 8 **Lilly Shiley**
Dave/Gail O'Neil
- 9 Maria Salvo
Gene/Amy Dykins
- 10 Dennis Puleo
- 11 Kris Walter
- 12 Charles Fentress
Sandy Friggle
Byron Myers
Penny Bayne
Michael/Kirsten
Hassan
- 13 Todd Heffern
- 14 **Anna Shaffer**
Randall Aaron
Randy Heighley
Virginia Ziegler
- 15 Kris Flinchbaugh
Peg Shuffstall
Heather Williams
- 16 Chris/Linda Owens
- 17 Steve Goss
Barb Siler
Darrell/Gayle Smith
- 18 Lerisa Shiley
Lana Jolley
Mitchell Eberle
Wes/Jo Lauer

- 19 **Sam Shaffer**
Amanda Cornelius
- 20 Edward Berringer
Rodney Campbell, Sr.
Kim Eberle
- 22 Judy Cochran
Matt/Sheila Updegraff
Pat/Cindy Zerbe
- 23 Brit Flinchbaugh
Holly Toy
- 24 Amanda Lehrian
Pete/Gwen Berry
- 25 **Kason Carner**
Liam Montgomery
Tim Berry
Susan Hodge
Jason Mahle
- 26 Tina Boyd
Matt/Michelle Shiley
- 28 Mary Jean Grace
- 29 **Taylor Hepler**
Norma Hogue
Jason/Faith Mahle
- 30 **Brandon Wheeler**



OUR APRIL VOLUNTEERS

COUNTING TEAM Jim & Loraine Puleo, Cindy & Frank Fultz, Arnie Jones, Jim & Nancy Whaley

USHERING TEAM Captain - Patty Shiley, Deborah Butchart, Judy Guyton, Sandy Hartsell, Dorie Kuzenberger, Holly Rodgers, Penny Weichel, Sarah McDonald

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

CAMERA OPERATORS / AUDIO

Apr 4 Carson Fennick, Charlie Motter / Frank Fultz
Apr 11 Steve Scheer, Rob Ziegler / Jon Sterling
Apr 18 Wesley Scheer, Bill Lamberton / Ian Sterling
Apr 25 Paul Myers, Jim Carner / Jim Whaley