



# Grace Notes

July and August 2021

## Worship With Us!

10:00 AM

Summer

Worship Service  
Hours

## Contact Us

Email:  
church@graceoilcity.org  
secretary@graceoilcity.org

Phone:  
814-677-3013

Website:  
www.graceoilcity.org

Facebook:  
Grace United Methodist  
Church in Oil City

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

Local Public Access TV:  
Channel 22 -  
-Previous week service  
broadcast at 8:30AM.  
-Current week service at  
10:00AM  
-Service rebroadcast at  
8:30PM each Sunday.

Web Broadcast:  
graceoilcity.org – or –  
streammedia.tv  
-Sundays at 10:00AM  
-Replay Sundays at 8PM  
All weekly services are  
available online

Friends of Grace Church,

My family and I are so excited to be with you in this new season of ministry. Personally, I'm grateful for the great work of Pastor Byron over the last two decades and I'm blessed to be able to build upon all of those great things. It's wonderful to think about all that lies ahead of us.

You've already heard about me, so let me introduce you to the rest of the family. Melissa is a native of Ft. Lauderdale. We met in Kentucky while in graduate school. She will be pastoring the First UMC of Franklin. We've been married for 26 years.

Caleb is our oldest (22). He attends Gannon University focusing on Criminal Justice. He is also a member of the PA National Guard. Caleb and Karly will be married on September 4. Andrew (18) will be a freshman at Penn State Behrend in August. He'll be studying Electrical Engineering. He enjoys volleyball, skateboarding, snowboarding, video games, and guitar.



And of course, Ranger. Ranger is our three-year-old Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. He was rescued a couple of years ago. He enjoys walks, sleeping, and fetching a ball!

Thanks so much as you pray for us during this significant time of change. You've already made us feel welcome and at home.



Feel free to reach out to me. My email after July 1 will be [rgeisler@graceoilcity.org](mailto:rgeisler@graceoilcity.org). You can also find me on FaceBook and Twitter.

— Pastor Ron

# Parish Register July and August 2021

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

*Don Hartsell, Claire Henderson,  
Vinnie Lehman*

**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.

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## Update from the Evangelism Committee

Another outreach event is scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup> with a tentative time of 7pm. Plan on inviting a friend or neighbor for a concert by a vocal ensemble from Geneva College - "New Song"



As usual there is no charge - just come and enjoy, and be a welcoming church to everyone there!

In August we will be doing a backpack and school supply outreach. We will get the details to you at a later date.

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## Local Churches to be Focus of Walking Tour

This summer the Oil City Ministerium, in conjunction with the sesquicentennial of Oil City and Oil City Heritage Days will provide a church walking tour of our local churches. Heritage Days will run from July 21st-24th. Church tours will be held on Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> from noon-3pm. They will be broken up to allow for smaller groups at each location. Keep your eye out for more

## On the Church Calendar:

July 5 - Holiday - Church office is CLOSED today  
July 8 - Trustee Meeting 7PM  
July 15 - Administrative Council Meeting 7PM  
July 22 - "New Song" Concert 7PM (tentative)  
July 28 - Begin accepting Jumble Sale items  
August 5, 6 & 7 Grace Jumble Sale  
August 12 Trustee Meeting 7PM  
August 18 Grace Notes Information Deadline  
August 26 Grace Notes Mailing 9AM

Check the weekly bulletins, our website and Facebook pages for calendar updates.

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Many THANKS to all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly to help with the necessary renovations on the parsonage. Your hard work helped to expedite the move of Pastors Ron and Melissa. You are priceless!

Grace Church purchased the parsonage at 11 West Second Street in 1972. Next year we will have owned our parsonage for 50 years.

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## Giving to Grace UMC

In this time of social distancing please remember that giving to Grace UMC is available through our website, [www.graceoilcity.org](http://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.

## Mowing Volunteer

Grace Church is looking for someone to volunteer to mow the grass at the parsonage. If you are interested in serving the church in this manner please contact the church office at 677-3013 for more details. Thank you.

## Mission News July and August 2021

### Andrew and Karen Bush

Andrew and Karen have plane tickets and, as of this writing, plan to return to Tel Aviv on June 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have been following the Middle East conflicts, this is a tremendous act of faith. Andrew relays a report that he received from a Christian pastor in Gaza that describes what the citizens of Israel and Gaza are presently enduring as groups attempt to work out their differences with rockets and aerial bombings. Please pray for the Bush's that God will protect them and that the Israelites and Palestinians will turn their efforts to saving each other in the love of Christ.

### Youth for Christ

Grace Church continues to support this local ministry which serves the area high schools with an active mission of the message to Christ's salvation. With the COVID pandemic easing, Jeanne Biltz, the executive director, is refocusing the 64 active students on the usual activities of youth clubs, release times for Bible studies, and special youth events. Jeanne asks us to pray for their seniors as they move on to serve Christ and that their faith will continue to grow.

### Oklahoma Indian Mission / Spirit Lake Mission in North Dakota

The Methodist Church has a long history of spreading and supporting the Christian evangelism of native American Indian tribes. The Oklahoma and Spirit Lake Missions are the two that Grace Church has chosen to support with our active attendance and financial giving. The recent COVID pandemic has been very hard on them. The response of the established Methodist congregation in these areas is to set up vaccination events which have helped them considerably. Mission work that involves hands-on efforts, like providing vaccinations, are true signs that Christ in their hearts matches the deeds of their hands.

### Franklin ABC Life Center

Remember the "Baby Bottle Boomerang"? COVID made that event difficult in 2021 as physically collecting bottles was considered risky. The need still remains! Becky Kearney, the center contact person, *"invites you to engage in empowering women to chose LIFE for their babies so we can equip and educate them to raise healthy and successful children. Please consider giving them the same amount or increasing your donation this year. We are counting on you...because every child deserves Life!...A better choice!"* Here's how you can help. Visit their website at [abclifecenter.com](http://abclifecenter.com) and consider making a donation. If you have any questions, contact Becky at 814-432-5536. Their address is 323 13<sup>th</sup> Street,

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### The Lord's Pantry

#### ***Received from The Christian Life Academy Staff -***

"Thank you so much for the generous gift to the Lord for CLA! We consider it such a privilege to be able to work with these precious lives every day!" Sincerely, The CLA Staff

*This gift was given through the Askey funds which are handled by the Memorial Committee.*

In the past year Grace Church's donations to the Lord's Pantry have fallen off due to COVID. Please reconsider your commitment to this Grace Church mission and help us restock the Lord's Pantry boxes. They are located in the Sunday School hallway. Non-perishable food items are collected, as well as non-food items such as soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, etc.

These donations are given directly to our local Salvation Army. With the recent increase in grocery prices, donations currently are in greater need.

Additionally, we are looking for a volunteer who is willing to transport the Lord's Pantry donations to the Salvation Army once a month. If you are led to serve in this manner, please contact the church office. Thank you.

## 2021 Annual Jumble and Bake Sale

Dates: August 5 10am - 3pm

August 6 10am - 3pm

August 7 10am - 1pm



It's time for that annual clean out of closets, basements, attics, garages, and where ever your have "stuff" you need to downsize. Donate it to benefit the church.

**– This will be our BIGGEST SALE EVER! –**

**Weather permitting, we may extend it into the parking lot!**

The items for the annual Jumble Sale may be brought into the church beginning July 28, 2021 during office hours. If you need to bring items in prior to this date, please contact Beth Rood. Additionally, if you need to make special arrangements, need items picked up, or have questions please contact the church office, Beth Rood or Leeann McCullough.

We are still looking for helpers to assist with the set up, actual sale, and clean up. Contact Beth if you'd like to help us.



**As in years past, we will hold a BAKE SALE in conjunction with the Jumble Sale.**

This year the Bake Sale will be chaired by Linda Stine.

The goodies for the Bake Sale can be brought to the church during office hours on August 3 and 4.

Proceeds from both sales will finance various projects at Grace Church.

Contact the church office if you have any questions.

***Donate. Shop. And Support Grace Church!***