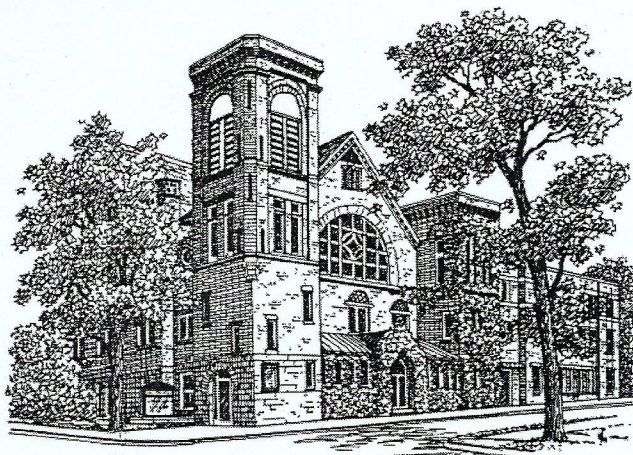


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE
OIL CITY, PA 16301
(Address Service Requested)

7/22

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GRACE NOTES

July 2022

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 - 2:00PM

E-Mail: church@graceoilcity.org

Website: www.graceoilcity.org

Facebook: Grace United Methodist Church in Oil City

TV Broadcast: Ch 22 Sunday Live 10:00AM,

Rebroadcast 8:30 AM & 8:00PM

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

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Sunday School: will reconvene in the Fall, Sunday September 11, 2022

Weekly Sunday Worship Service: 10:00AM

LOVE GOD
love people

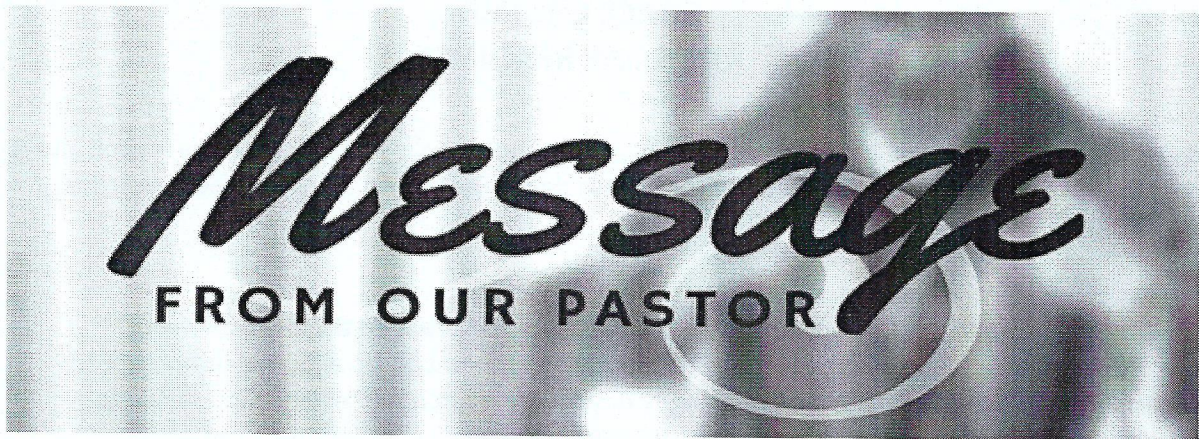
July 2022

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES



OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Closed for lunch noon - 1:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Mark Berry Jerica Hepler Jeff Lockhart	2 Michael Hassan John McCullough Pat Mong Andrea Ziegler Jerry/Jill Montgomery
3 Wesley Wolfgang	4 Ralph Kean Wendi Ziegler Lea Brosius	5 Cindy Cornelius Stacy Shimko Jodie Taft	6 Jean Sterling David Whaley Eric/Kathy Giles	7 Corie Shiley	8 Eric Giles Paul Myers Eric Smith Rob Ziegler Ryan/Chelsey O'Neil	9 Darrell Smith
10	11 Eric Goughler Nora Heber Ronald/Melanie Reckner	12 Tammy Vandenberg Gary/Elissa Myers	13 Robert P. Wygant	14 Sue Edwards Heather Motter Sarah Weible Lillian Youkers Lee/Michelle Mehlberger	15 Chris Salvo	16 Jim Gegogine Emma Shiley Jack/Susie Weiser
17 Judy Hovis Ginny Taylor Mike Webber	18 Ron/Pat Black Derek/Lisa Ristau Eric/Irene Smith	19 Dorothy Swanson	20 Nicholas Flockerzi	21 Ned Goucher Karen Greene	22 Mary Berlin Bev Borchert Rebecca Erion Jeff/Trisha Lockhart	23 Thomas Clayton Lynne Delaney
24 Brent Glover Jerry Montgomery Scott Ridgeway Matthew Woolcock	25 Donna Aaron Bryan Carner Heather Carroll Betty Fry Eva Palmer Mike/Sarah Weible	26 Tom Eberle	27 Kirsten Hassan Steve Mix Rodney Sr/Marcia Campbell	28 Gale Boocks Scott Flinchbaugh Mark Hale Kyl Harry	29	30 Faith Mahle Nicholas Schorr Edward/Susan Munoz
31 Bryan/Wendi Ziegler Ray Cornelius Nicole Snyder						



Grace Church,

This newsletter article is both joyful and painful to write. It is joyful because I am beginning my second appointment year here among you. While the pastoral transition (and all that it brought) was challenging, I've certainly been encouraged by many of you over the last twelve months. In this second year with you my commitment remains the same: **discipleship**. We are all on a journey of becoming like Jesus.

This article, though, is also painful to write. My assumption is that by now, all of you are aware of the splintering within the United Methodist Church. It's not been sudden. Rather, it's been developing over decades finally resulting in all that we see now. The splintering is theological and practical. Traditionalists and Progressives view and interpret Scripture in significantly diverse ways. The diverse interpretations of Scripture have led to important practical implications, especially around human sexuality, the practice of homosexuality, and the ordination of self-avowed practicing homosexuals into ministry. I echo what many others have written and said, "we are at a crossroads."

Here at Grace Church, we want you to be well informed about these events and the implications for all of you. By the time this newsletter reaches you, two of three informational sessions will have been held detailing the Annual Conference legislation related to this subject as well as a comparison of the continuing United Methodist Church and the emerging Global Methodist Church. The third session, scheduled for **July 14 or 16** will attempt to answer any lingering questions and provide more clarity. I hope you will attend.

Your Administrative Council has been tasked with listening to the information and to you. Since the United Methodist Church is connectional, every local church is impacted by all that is occurring. The role of your Administrative Council in all of this is to discern what the next steps will be for Grace Church based upon the decisions and movement of the larger denomination. I know you will be praying for them in the coming weeks.

These are not easy times. We are in the midst of multiple changes and challenges both from the church and from the culture. While these are not easy times for followers of Jesus, they are important times. These times will measure our trust in Scripture, our commitment to Jesus, and our connection to the Christian movement. I ask you to be both prayerful and willing to engage in the larger conversations ahead.

Pastor Ron

GRACE CHURCH JULY 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?

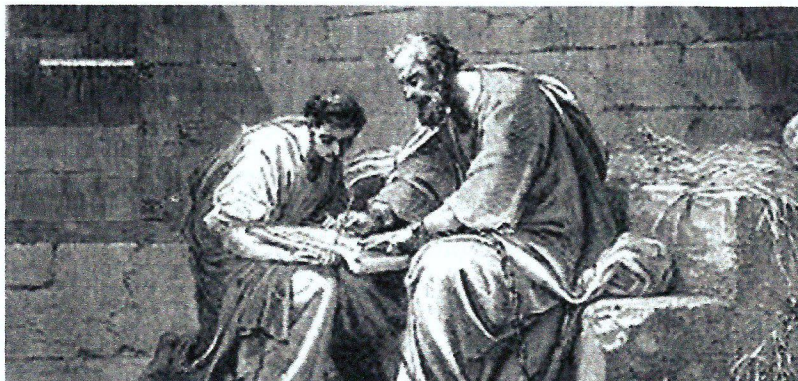
What do you observe in your reading? Jot these observations in a journal or notebook.

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?

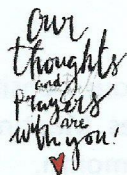
P – Prayer. Close the time in prayerful conversation with God. Thank him for what you learned and for how this applies to you right now.

During July, we will read through the letters of Philippians and Colossians. Along with Ephesians and Philemon, these letters are called the “prison epistles” and were written by Paul while he was imprisoned in Rome. While Philippians was a letter of love to the Christians in the city of Philippi, Colossians was a directed response to false teachers who sought to undermine the divinity of Christ. Both letters teach us who we are in Christ and how to walk in relationship with him.

July 1	Philippians 1:1-6	July 16	Colossians 1:1-8
July 2	Philippians 1:7-11	July 17	Colossians 1:9-14
July 3	Philippians 1:12-18	July 18	Colossians 1:15-20
July 4	Philippians 1:19-26	July 19	Colossians 1:21-23
July 5	Philippians 1:27-30	July 20	Colossians 1:24-29
July 6	Philippians 2:1-4	July 21	Colossians 2:1-5
July 7	Philippians 2:5-11	July 22	Colossians 2:6-8
July 8	Philippians 2:12-18	July 23	Colossians 2:9-15
July 9	Philippians 2:19-30	July 24	Colossians 2:16-19
July 10	Philippians 3:1-6	July 25	Colossians 2:20-23
July 11	Philippians 3:7-14	July 26	Colossians 3:1-11
July 12	Philippians 3:15-21	July 27	Colossians 3:12-17
July 13	Philippians 4:1-7	July 28	Colossians 3:18-25
July 14	Philippians 4:8-13	July 29	Colossians 4:1-6
July 15	Philippians 4:14-23	July 30	Colossians 4:7-18
		July 31	Acts 16:11-15



PARISH REGISTER July 2022



The following members of Grace Church have been hospitalized since the previous edition of Grace Notes: Barb Siler

Please keep these members in prayer: Judy Guyton and daughters Amber and Danielle. Jim passed away June 8th; he would attend mass at St. Stephen Church and then worship at Grace Church with his family afterwards. Unspoken prayer for Vinnie Lehman; Barb Siler was in rehab after hospitalization for pneumonia, is now home and on oxygen; Tom Bish has bone cancer; Jim & Loraine Puleo and their son-in-law, Dewy, who has stomach and renal cancer; Patti and John Reed for his healing and strength.

Our July Servants

Worship Leaders - TBD

Counting Team

Rina Anderson, Rhonda Cubbon, Penny Weichel, Carla Wheeler, Amy Ziegler, Rob Ziegler

Ushering Team

Captain – Don Hartsell, Doug Eberle, Christopher French, Jim Fink, Ken Vogan

TV Ministry

Director/Graphics/Audio/PowerPoint

July 3 – Brad Arnink/John McCullough/Tom Eberle/Wesley Scheer
July 10 – Bill Lamberton/Rodney Campbell/Jim Whaley/John McCullough
July 17 – Ian Scheer/John McCullough/Jon Sterling/Wesley Scheer
July 24 – John McCullough/Rodney Campbell/Ian Sterling/Wesley Scheer
July 31 – Ian Scheer/John McCullough/Wesley Scheer/Leeann McCullough

Greeters

Captain – Cindy Fultz
July 3 – Frank & Cindy Fultz, Amy Ziegler, Leeann McCullough
July 10 – Darrell & Gayle Smith, Amy Ziegler, Judy Cochran
July 17 – Judy Bloom, Judy Hards, Cindy Fultz, Ruth Woolcock
July 24 – Judy Bloom, Judy Hards, Bob & Ginny Taylor, Cindy Fultz
July 31 – Art & Rhonda Cubbon, Nancy Whaley, Leeann McCullough

Children's Chapel

Will resume in the fall

Coffee Bar

Will resume in the fall

Record of our Faithfulness	2021	2022
	May	May
Avg Sunday School Attendance	CLOSED COVID	39
Average Worship Attendance	89	74
Ministry/Operations Offering received	\$11,184	\$16,016
Ministry/Operations Expenses paid	\$18,369	\$22,684
Mission Offering received	\$3,374	\$16,903
Mission Expenses paid	\$13,743	\$13,708

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE?

How about:

Greeter

Usher

Worship Leader

Care Team

Praise Team

Contact the Church Office
and let us know!



GRACE CHURCH CONTACTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Will resume on 9/4/2022

WORSHIP SERVICES

10:00 AM

Contact Us

Email:

church@graceoilcity.org

Eva Palmer:

secretary@graceoilcity.org

Leeann McCullough:

financialsec@graceoilcity.org

Allen Frederick:

dir.worship@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 9-2:00

Closed noon-1:00

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:

www.graceoilcity.org – or –
streammedia.tv

-Sundays at 10:00AM

-Replay Sundays at 8PM

All weekly services are
available online at:

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

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.

July 1 – Hospitality Team Meeting, 10am

July 3 – Communion Sunday

July 13 – Staff Meeting, 11am

July 14 – Congregational Information Session

July 14 – Trustee Meeting, 7pm

July 16 – Congregational Information Session

July 18 – Grace Notes Articles Deadline

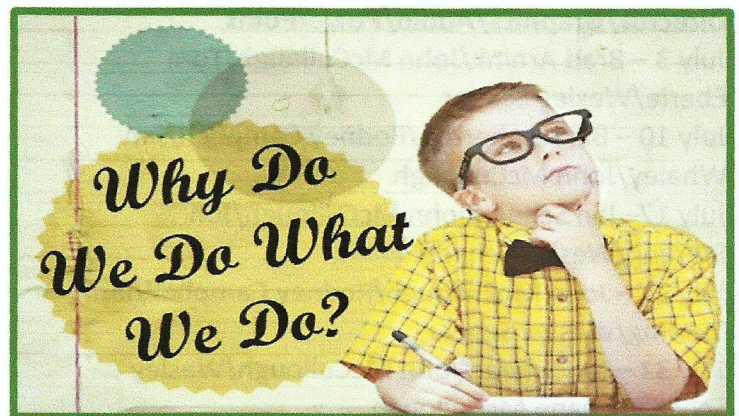
July 21 – Nominating Team Meeting, 11am

July 21 – Admin Council, 7pm

July 27 – Grace Notes Mailing Day

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

July/August



Church, have you ever wondered why we do what we do? Why do we receive communion each month? Why do we worship in different ways? Why do we give? Serve? Invite? Love? Believe it or not, there's a reason for our methods.

This summer, Pastor Ron will be teaching us what the Bible says about these subjects (and even a few more). We'll understand why we do what we do and what all of this means for Jesus.

Join us in worship beginning July 3 @ 10am.

GRACE CHURCH MINISTRIES

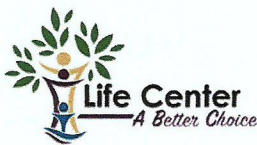
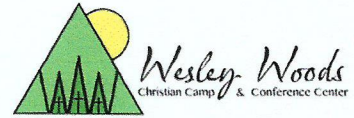
Missions

Sugar Valley Lodge Many of you may not know that Grace Church supports Sugar Valley Lodge. It is a charitable personal care facility that provides 24-hour care and supervision to 72 residents who are over 18, have a disability and need assistance in the simple activities of everyday living. The lodge is comprised of 4 facilities. Three are located in Sugar Creek and one is in Polk. Our donation to this Venango County assistance is \$2,500 annually.

A variety of services are offered to the residents such as recreation activities, outings, shopping trips, access to a "go" bus, and rides to physician appointments. Three rooms are made available for temporary emergency housing to residents of Venango County that are struggling. A local church offers transportation to Sunday services.

Sugar Valley Lodge accepts private pay and offers a sliding pay scale for low-income residents who do not qualify for state assistance. This leaves a significant shortfall that is covered with grants and donations from various organizations such as Venango County, charitable groups and local churches.

Wesley Woods Don't forget Wesley Woods in your summer's activity schedule. The camp offers a weekend of old-time church camping the weekend of July 15-17. New RV sites with full hookups are available for \$25 per night within easy walking distance from the dining hall and swimming pool. The last swing golf scramble fund raiser is set for September 10th. Grace always has a team participating but wouldn't it be great to show support with two or maybe three teams? If you are looking for a faith-encouraging vacation that fits into your shrinking budget, consider Wesley Woods.



Life Center The Mission Committee wanted to pass along a HUGE THANK YOU to many of you that participated in the recent Life Center fund raiser. Such a little thing like donating pocket change can make a big difference to an organization like the Life Center when it is supported by many.

TV Ministry

We apologize for the continuing outage of local Comcast Channel 22. The StreamTV studio has been successfully moved and is simply waiting for Comcast to turn the channel back on. We expect that the local cable channel should be live beginning during the first or second week in July. In the meantime, remember that we always stream our services live on our Worship Service Recordings page of the website... <https://www.graceoilcity.org/worship-service-recordings.html>.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving our TV Ministry as a graphics operator, director, or audio operator, please contact the church and share your interest. The learning curve with our new equipment is NOT steep and we would be thrilled to show you how easy it is to serve our ministry.

GRACE CHURCH MINISTRIES

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP

What's on your playlist?

▶ Goodness Of God

▶ Build My Life

▶ Way Maker

▶ Great Are You Lord

▶ Graves Into Gardens

▶ What A Beautiful Name

▶ Living Hope

▶ House Of The Lord

▶ King Of Kings

▶ Who You Say I Am

Most of us have a playlist of our favorite things. For some it is a list of our accomplishments, awards and accolades, for others it may be a constant loop of disappointments and failures. Some find their playlist consists of a list of grievances and wrongs they have suffered through the years, which have yet to be erased by a healthy dose of forgiveness.

I bet you thought I was going to talk about music. Well in a way I am since our thoughts direct our actions. Positive thoughts produce positive results while negative ones the adverse.

The cure for negative output is positive input. Keeping our minds filled with praise to God and meditating on His goodness and mercy is a good start to creating a new positive playlist.

*As a man thinketh
in his heart, so he is.*

Proverbs 23:7

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, **whatever is pure**, whatever is lovely, **whatever is admirable**-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things. **Philippians 4:8**

Outreach Event – Community Block Party

Our neighbors are invited to join us on **Tuesday, August 2nd from 6-8pm**. There will be Games, Clowns, Face Painting, Touch-a-truck, Hot Dogs, Sno-Cones and **MORE!!** But we still need **YOU** to come and be a part of this event.....

There is a sign-up sheet at the hospitality table where you can let us know how you would like to serve: Advertising/Promoting; Games/Activities Planning; Day of Event Setup @ 3pm; Day of Event Serving Food/Help with Activities from 6-8pm.

Let's make this a great time for everyone and get to know **OUR NEIGHBORS!**



Grace Financial Information and Update

Thank you for your continued financial support of Grace Church. Here is some quick information regarding your giving –

1. We will no longer fill out yearly pledge cards.
2. There are 4 categories on your giving envelope.
 - a. Local Ministry (aka Ministry/Operations) – covers items such as outreach programs, Sunday school, office and building supplies, church utilities, and salaries.
 - b. Mission – covers our apportionment payment to the United Methodist Conference and payments to various local, national and world missions.
 - c. Faith Promise – covers the same expenses as Mission giving.
 - d. Building – covers as-needed repairs to our church building.

Additionally, if you wish to donate to a specific item (TV Ministry, weekly flowers, a specific missionary, etc.) you can note that on the “Other line” of the envelope.

3. Designating your giving is important. If you do not, your giving is automatically placed 75% into Local Ministry and 25% into Missions.
4. Thus far in 2022 our LOCAL MINISTRY EXPENSES HAVE EXCEEDED GIVING. Therefore, LOCAL MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.
5. In the first 6 months of 2022 Missions has successfully kept up with their UMC apportionment and mission payments.
6. TV Ministry has completed this stage of their equipment upgrade and is not in need of financial support at this time.
7. In 2023, as a cost saving measure, donors who typically give on a monthly basis will receive envelope packets with monthly giving envelopes. Donors who typically give on a weekly basis will continue to receive boxed weekly envelopes. If you would like to be added to our list of envelope recipients, or need more envelopes, please contact Eva in the church office.

If you have church-related financial questions, please call the church office and leave a message for Leeann McCullough our Financial Secretary. She works part time but will return your call promptly.

Do You Know Someone?

If you know someone that has a need for the following, please contact Judy Guyton at 814-677-9343.

- Shower chair
- Raised toilet seat
- Transfer bench
- Depends w/tabs size small/medium



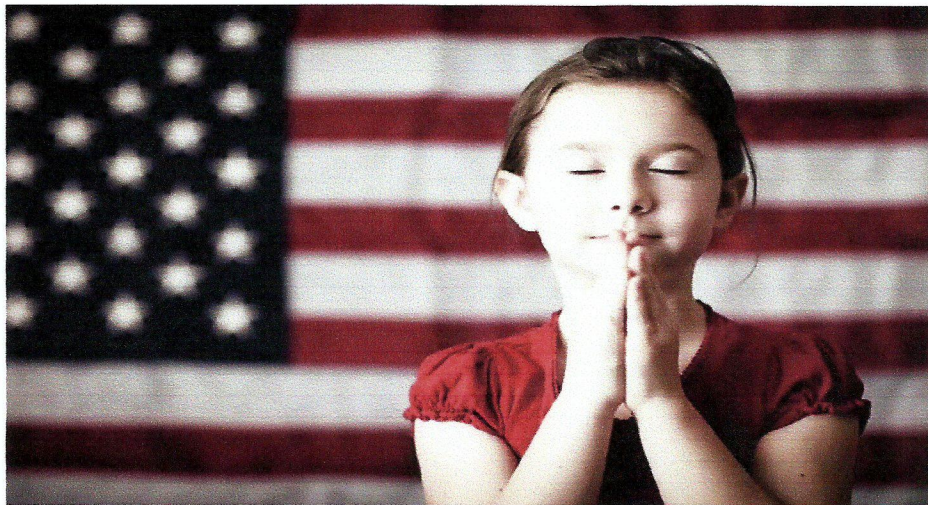
Our hearts are with Judy and family on their journey through the grief and loss of Jim. We pray the love of God enfolds them and provides them with thoughts of comfort.

Independence Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.



Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.

Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.

In your name, I pray.

Amen.