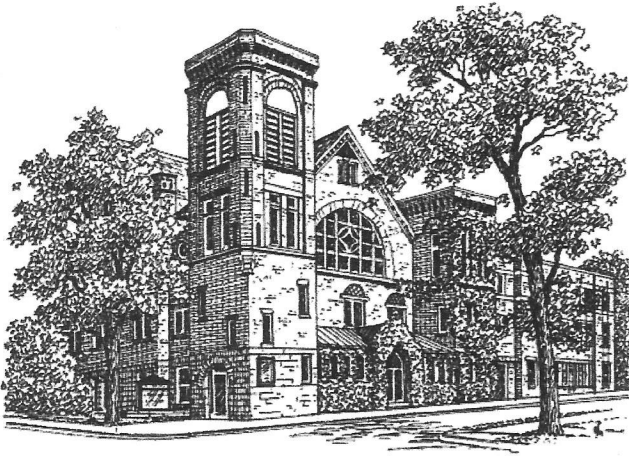


GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE
OIL CITY, PA 16301
(Address Service Requested)

11/21

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 302
Oil City, PA 16301



GRACE NOTES

November 2021

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 10:45AM,

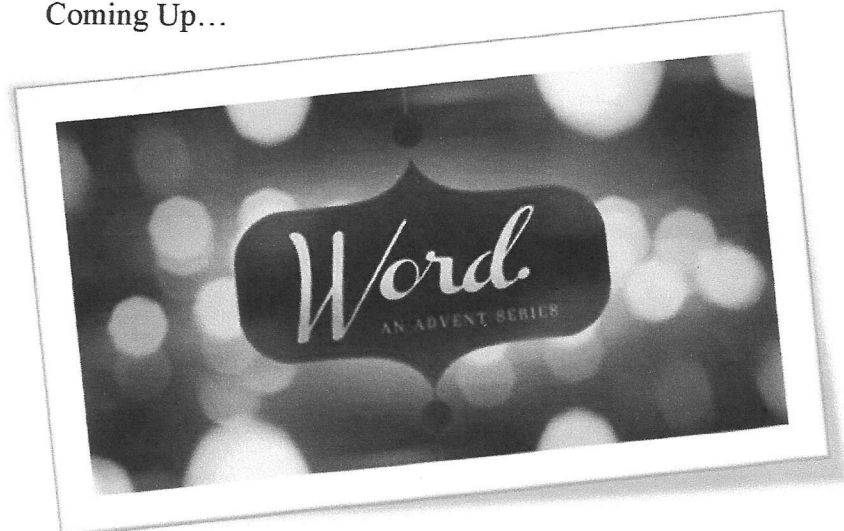
Rebroadcast 8:30 AM & 8:30PM

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

Sunday School: 9:30AM

Weekly Sunday Worship Service: 10:45AM

Coming Up...



November 2021

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES



United Methodist Church

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 Stephen/Cindy Kelley	2 Mike McKean Jill Montgomery	3 Cecil/Bonnie Cassatt	4 Megan Hale Robert Stark	5 Adam Mahle	6 Melissa Hayes-Gehrke Janille Lamberton
7 Wes Lauer	8 Christine Forbes Robert J. Reed Jr. Bonnie Rider Earl Stark Jr.	9 Michelle Mehlburger Mark/Rita Hale	10 Kathleen Lauer Richard/Georgia Strawbridge	11 Isabell Sorkin	12	13
14 Amy (Mitcham) Show Madeline Smith Ruth Woolcock	15 Rachel Deeter Joan Hull Matt Updegraff	16 Joseph Brogan IV Rhonda Montgomery	17 Mary Ann Garaven Butch Huey Jr. Ben Middleton	18 Gwen Berry Fred Moffett Bob Montgomery	19 Joe/Edna Boyer Larry/Marilyn Kirkwood	20 Dennis Alcorn Amy Dykins Cathy Fink
21 Sandy Barnes Don/Joan Hull	22 Kelly Alcorn Russell Gadley	23 Patty Shiley	24 Stanley Erwin John Vandenberg	25 Vic/Sally Bowser Thomas/Beth Simpson	26 Jerry Brosius Hilary Howard	27 Max Carothers Matthew Erion Karee Heffernan Adria Sterling Eugene/Kathryn Flockerzi
28 Donna Boocks Alana Montgomery Betty Stempin Amy Ziegler	29 Joyce Fleeger	30 Pamela Berlin				

**Grace Church will partner with God in
transforming people from
unbelievers into fully devoted disciples of
Jesus, to the glory of God.**



Grace Church family,

I'm a porch person! I love front porches and back porches. I have great memories of "porch life." When I was a kid, I would often visit my grandparents and sit with them on their front porch. We'd listen to the Pirate games, eat Grandma's snacks, and they'd talk to the neighbors. I think we've neglected porches these days.



Do you know there's a connection between porches and discipleship?

When the founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, described a person's growth as a follower of Jesus he used the images of a porch and a house.

"Our main doctrines, which include all the rest, are three, that of repentance, of faith, and of holiness. The first of these we account, as it were, the porch of religion; the next, the door; the third is religion itself." (John Wesley)

The porch can be a welcoming place. In salvation and discipleship, the porch is where people are welcomed; hospitality shown; introductions made. But for Wesley, the porch is also the place where people see their need for repentance. It's where confession of sins take place. The porch is the place of **prevenient grace**. God is calling us to the porch!

But in God's goodness, he doesn't leave people on the porch. He invited us all into his house. Moving into the house means taking a step over the threshold. It is an intentional movement from porch to house. Wesley compared this step over the threshold to **justifying grace**. You and I accept the invitation into the house, into God's home. Into life with God. Stepping over the threshold means confessing our sins, saying 'yes' to Jesus and, in that moment – knowing we've been forgiven, redeemed, justified, and adopted as children of God. Good news!

But there is so much more in the house. Wesley would say that being in God's house is a life of *sanctifying grace*. This is where most of our life with God is spent. Living in God's house is a life of discipleship in which we grow in holiness of heart and life. Living with God changes you and me. We become like Jesus.

We've been on a journey – *A Disciple's Path*. It won't be a one-time journey – it's our life with Jesus. Along this journey we've been discovering and practicing habits/disciplines which other Methodist Christians have been practicing for centuries. These habits (prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness) shape us to become more like Jesus. God invites us into his house and shapes us with these habits.

How has our *Path* been going for you? What are you learning? But more importantly, what are you practicing? Where have you seen God at work in your life and in the community of Grace Church? Are you getting comfortable in God's house? What's your next, right step?

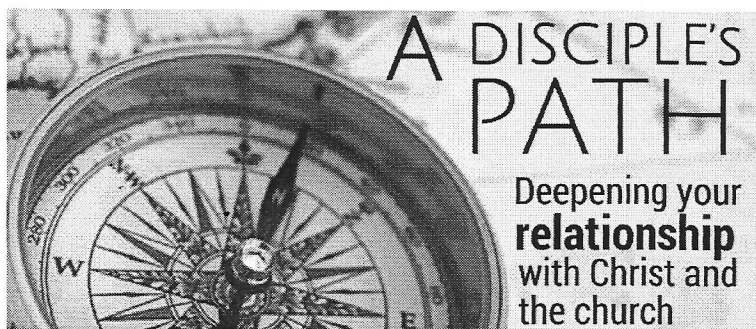
Living On Purpose,

Rev. Ron Geisler

A disciple is one who knows Jesus, is growing in Jesus, serving Jesus, and sharing Jesus.

A Disciple's Path guides us in our next right steps and invites us to become dynamic, engaged followers of Jesus. This campaign combines our Wesleyan understanding of growth in God's love and grace with the time-tested practices of the spiritual disciplines which bring transformation in our own lives, the lives of others, and the world.

Connect with your Grace Church family as we continue to explore the path of discipleship.



October 3 – November 14

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

November 7 – Communion Sunday

November 10 – Annual Church Conference will be held at Trinity UMC (Oil City) at 7pm. You're invited to come and celebrate what God is doing in our churches and plan for next year.

November 14 – Keep this date open for a Disciple's Path celebration luncheon. We're in the process of planning a church-wide meal and conclusion to our church-wide event.

November 28 – The first Sunday of Advent

PARISH REGISTER November 2021



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

Marge Conn, Marilyn Kirkwood, Betty Magness

If you are admitted to UPMC Northwest in Seneca, please remember to tell the admissions staff that you are a member of Grace UMC Church in Oil City.

Please keep these members in prayer:

The Siler family as they mourn the passing of Laura, Barb's granddaughter and Paul and Bruce's niece.

Our NOVEMBER Servants

Worship Leaders

Nov 7 – Natalie Arnink

Nov 14 & 21 – DeAnna Mahle

Nov 28 – Penny Lehnortt

Counting Team

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

Ushering Team: Captain – Jim Carner, Paul Myers, Steve Scheer, Ian Scheer, Bill Lamberton

TV Ministry

Directors: Brad Arnink, Dick Baker

Graphics: Rodney Campbell Jr., John McCullough

Camera Operators/Audio

Nov 7 – John Mahle, DeAnna Mahle/Jim Whaley

Nov 14 – Rob Ziegler, Libby Arnink/Tom Eberle

Nov 21 – Charlie Motter, Trish Baker/Frank Fultz

Nov 28 – DeAnna Mahle, John Mahle/Jon Sterling

Children's Chapel

Nov 7 & 21 – Heather Motter, Cyndee Clayton

Nov 14 & 28 – TBD

Coffee Bar

Nov 7 - Open Door Class, Group Breakfast

Nov 14 - Disciple's Class

Nov 21 - The Net Class, Donuts

Nov 28 - Beth Rood & Rhonda Cubbon

Record of our Faithfulness	2020	2021
38 Weeks	Sept	Sept
Avg Sunday School Attendance	CLOSED COVID	42
Average Worship Attendance	CLOSED COVID	89
Ministry/Operations Offering received	\$13,214	\$11,184
Ministry/Operations Expenses paid	\$14,019	\$13,965
Mission Offering received	\$3,433	\$3,860
Mission Expenses paid	\$2,588	\$1,843

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Wednesday November 10 – 7:00 PM
@ Trinity UMC, 1 Center St. Oil City

Annual Church Conference will be held at Trinity UMC (Oil City) at 7pm. You're invited to come and celebrate what God is doing in our churches and plan for next year.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet with our District Superintendent, Rev. Jodie Smith at 6:30 p.m. and the Church Conference will begin at 7:00 p.m.

GRACE CHURCH CONTACTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM

WORSHIP SERVICES

10:45 AM

Contact Us

Email:

church@graceoilcity.org

secretary@graceoilcity.org

financialsec@graceoilcity.org

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 10:45AM

-Service rebroadcast at 8:30PM each Sunday

Web Broadcast:

www.graceoilcity.org – or –

streammedia.tv

-Sundays at 10:45AM

-Replay Sundays at 8PM

All weekly services are
available online at:

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

***November 14** – Keep this date open for a Disciple's Path celebration luncheon. We're in the process of planning a church-wide meal and conclusion to our church-wide event.

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.

Nov 1 – Crafter Get-together, 10am (see Women of Grace article)

Nov 2 – Office Hours 9am-12pm (closed 12-2pm)

Nov 2 – ELECTION DAY

Nov 4 – Movie & a Sub, Super Seniors 12noon

Nov 6 – Secret Prayer Partner Reveal, 9:30am
Grace Hall

Nov 7 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

Nov 7 – Communion Sunday

Nov 10 – Charge Conference, 7pm Trinity UMC
(Dist. Superintendent meets with SPRC at 6:30pm)

Nov 11 – Trustees Meeting, 7pm

Nov 14 – *Disciple's Path* Celebration (see below*)

Nov 15-18 – Office Hrs 9am-12pm (closed 12-2pm)

Nov 17 – Grace Notes Submission Deadline

Nov 18 – Administrative Council, 7pm Asbury Hall

Nov 28 – First Sunday in Advent

Nov 29 – Grace Notes Mailing Day

Sunday School Classes & Teachers

Nursery: Wendi Ziegler 3 Yrs.- 4 Yrs. Old

Primary: Kim French K - 1st Grades

Cyndee Clayton 2nd - 4th Grades

Middle School: Kim Scheer 5th - 6th Grades

High School: Sarah McDonald 7th - 12th Grades

Adults

Open Door: Penny Lehnortt

Disciples: Barb Hayes, MJ Eckert & Cindy Fultz

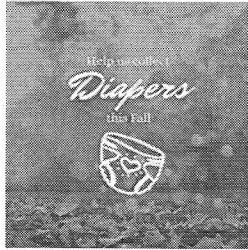
Explorers: Donna Boocks

Net: Interim Teacher - Pastor Ron Geisler

As we've journeyed along *A Disciple's Path* you may be sensing a call to a deeper commitment to Jesus and his Church. We will be setting aside time on **Sunday November 14** to receive persons into the membership of Grace Church. You may join by transferring from another church or by first time baptism and profession of faith. Please reach out to the church office (814-677-3013) with your request by **November 7**.

GRACE CHURCH MINISTRIES

Missions



One of the missions we support through our church is the ABC Life Center in Franklin.

The center is there to help women who are pregnant and choose to keep their baby. Some of these women will decide to put the child out for adoption, others make the choice to keep it.

The staff provides Educating, Equipping, Empowering, and Engaging in positive parenting skills. During this time of COVID they have offered classes on-line.

Each year our church supports their fundraiser by handing out baby bottles to collect donations. We have been very generous in filling those bottles with money and returning them. This money helps buy supplies the new mothers need.

Currently they need diapers. If you wish to donate a pkg of disposable diapers in the month of November, please put them in the pink laundry basket that will be placed in the hall where we give food.

I will personally deliver them.

Thank you,
Donna

You can learn more about what they do at their website www.abclifecenter.com

Super Seniors

November's outing will be **"Movie & a Sub" on November 4th at 12noon, Grace Hall.**

Along with the sub sandwiches there will be chips, dip, cookies and a drink. Please call Donna Boocks (814-676-4423), Judy Hards (814-671-0101) or the church office (814-677-3013) to make a reservation.

Are you 55 years young? Come join us for the **Super Senior Christmas party.** It will be on **Tuesday, December 7th, at noon.**

Lunch will be catered – ham loaf and all the fixin's! Please bring a wrapped gift (no name) that equals \$5.

Reservations must be in by Tuesday, November 30th. Call Carla Wheeler at 814-677-8865. No reservations will be taken after the 30th.

Secret Prayer Partner Reveal

Saturday November 6th at 9:30AM in Grace Hall

If you have been in the Secret Prayer Partner group, the day has been set when you learn who your secret prayer partner has been over the past year! Come and enjoy the fellowship as your prayer partner is revealed.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Judy Hards at 814-671-0101 or 814-676-2512. Her email is jhards@comcast.net.

GRACE CHURCH MINISTRIES

Women of Grace

Looking for creative minds...and hands!

We have a lot of donated Christmas items from the Jumble Sale that need some TLC to refurbish and get ready for the Victorian Christmas Bazaar. The proceeds from the sale of these items will benefit projects within the church. Can we pull together a group to meet on **November 1 at 10am** and get this accomplished?

Contact the church office 814-677-3013 if you are willing to help with this project.

Victorian Christmas Bazaar Too

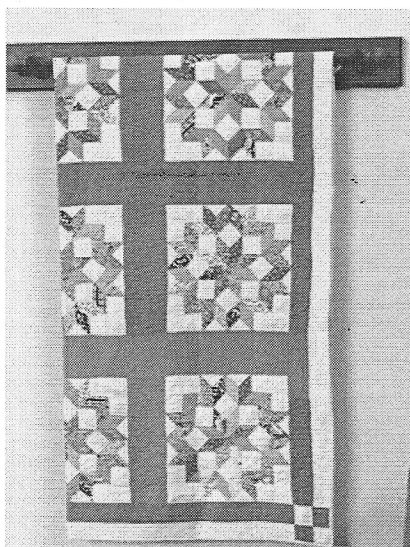
Saturday, December 4

Breakfast served from 8:00am – 10:00am, Shop with vendors 10:00am – 4:00pm

Victorian Breakfast Menu: French Toast or Cheese and Egg Casserole, Assorted Sweet Breads, Fruit, and Coffee or Tea – Donation: \$5 Breakfast to benefit Grace UM Missions.

Handmade items needed for *Victorian Christmas Bazaar Too*

Grace Church is once again hosting the *Victorian Christmas Bazaar Too* event on **December 4th**. The church will have a table setup to sell handcrafted items that day along with the other vendors. Help make this event a huge success! Proceeds will benefit church outreach. See Lea Brosius for details 814-676-0375.



The quilt pictured and which is hanging at the front of the sanctuary has a Carpenter Star quilt top that was likely hand pieced during the 1940's. It was hand quilted by the Merry Quilters of Grace UMC and completed this year.

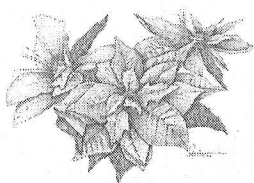
Bids are being taken until the *Victorian Christmas Bazaar* and proceeds will benefit Grace UMC Mission budget. Highest bid currently is \$400. Help us promote this – take a picture and share with your friends!

To place a bid, see Cindy Fultz 814-676-6345, Rita Hale 814-432-7437, or Eva Palmer 814-758-0158.

Congratulations

to Amy Mitcham and Charlie Show and best wishes in their marriage! Amy and Charlie were married in a small ceremony on October 20th in Grace Church by Pastor Geisler. Amy has been a member of Grace Church for 37 years.

DEADLINE TO ORDER POINSETTIAS IS DECEMBER 7th



Deadline for Discretionary Assistance Fund donations to be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin is December 19th.

All names received by the deadlines will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

If at all possible, please leave your poinsettias on the altar until the conclusion of the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Thank you.

Please check one --

_____ I would like my poinsettia displayed in the sanctuary. I will pick it up at the conclusion of the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Price is \$5 each; Deadline is December 7th.

_____ Instead of purchasing a poinsettia, please place a donation in the Discretionary Assistance Fund. I understand my name and my loved one's name will appear in the Christmas Eve Memorial bulletin. Discretionary Assistance Fund donation enclosed \$ _____. Deadline is December 19th.

Please circle whether this will be 'in Memory' or 'in Honor'

In Memory / Honor of: _____

Presented by: _____

In Memory / Honor of: _____

Presented by: _____

In Memory / Honor of: _____

Presented by: _____