



# Good News from Grace

August 2023

## *Our Purpose*

*The purpose of our church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith.*

## **Summer Journeys**

Our lives are filled with journeys. In fact, we often hear that Life is a journey! Many of us are traveling this summer—some are returning to favorite vacation spots to be with family and friends—others are traveling to see unique vistas and wildlife. Wherever your travels take you, may they be safe.

Our recent trip to El Paso, Texas, to visit our son and daughter-in-law was filled with sightseeing in extremely hot temperatures. Our son roused us from bed in the wee hours of the morning so that we could be on the road by 5:30 am to see some wondrous sights of the region. One visit was to White Sands National Park, one of the world's great natural wonders in the heart of the Tularosa Basin. Great wave-like dunes of gypsum sand engulf 275 square miles of desert, creating the world's largest gypsum dune field. The Park preserves a major portion of this unique dune field, along with the plants and animals that live there. We wanted to stumble upon an ocean, but that is not in this landscape! It was breathtaking to see.

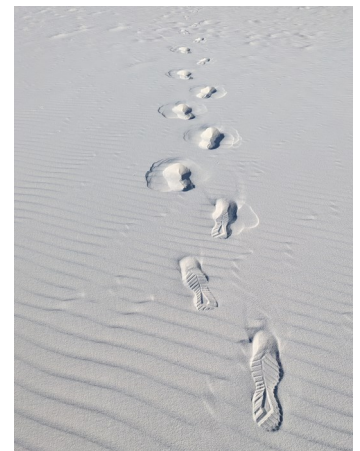
The barrenness of this white sand landscape reminds me of the miles of sand, sparse vegetation, mountains, and water ways that the ancient patriarchs of the Old Testament traveled in obedience to God's covenant. This summer, we are traveling with Father Abraham and his offspring, Isaac, Jacob and Esau, and Joseph to learn about the trials and tribulations of barren wombs, dysfunctional family dynamics, and the steadfast mercy and love of our God of abundant grace.

Such journeys teach us that God provides for us, especially in our times of great distress (story of Hagar and Ishmael), that God fulfills the covenant made with Abram by making barren wombs fertile, that God shapes us from our inward focused selves to outward focused servants who are obedient to God's call (Jacob — later known as Israel), and that what humans intend for evil, God turns into good (Joseph forgives his brothers).

The Jacob and Esau story followed by the Joseph story, are two literary masterpieces of the Bible. Begin your reading with Genesis 12 when God calls Abram and Sarai to leave their homeland in Ur of the Chaldeans (today about 200 miles southeast of Baghdad in lower Mesopotamia) to travel to Canaan; continue through the end of Genesis, to chapter 50. Yes this seems like a lot of reading, but spending time with these chapters will fill the gaps of the lectionary readings each week.

Journeys, whether physical and/or spiritual, allow us to set aside time to reflect, refresh and to renew our spiritual lives, cleansing clutter and baggage that weigh us down. Life is a journey. Let's embrace this journey and give thanks for the steadfast mercy and love of our God of abundant grace, who never abandons us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Lois



**Join us for Worship!****Saturdays at 5:00PM****Sundays at 9:30AM**

or

**via Live Stream****Outdoor Worship****Sunday, August 27****Sunday School****Sundays at 10:45am****September to May****Senior Helpers**

Contact the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon at

717-737-0439 or

email [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net) for a list of members who are available to help you get where you need to go.

If you'd like to be added to the Senior Helper list to take member places contact the church office.

**Lost & Found**

Don't forget to check the Lost & Found tub & coat rack in the Library if you are missing items.

Grace will hold the items for one month. If they are not claimed by then the items will be donated.

**This Month at Grace...**

The Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship for **August** is given by Nancy Whitcomb in memory of Paul and Greg.

The Special Benevolence Offering for **August** is **New Hope Ministries**. To contribute please list the dollar amount next to Special Offering Ministry and list New Hope Ministries under comments.

**2023 Sponsorship Opportunities**

[CLICK HERE](#) to see available dates 2023.

If you are interested in sponsoring one of these weeks you can either sign up on the bulletin board across from the elevator or contact Diane in the church office at 717-737-0439 x15 or [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com).

*Note: Other Altar Flower dates are available for sponsorship at special request by contacting the church office two weeks date you wish to sponsor.*

**If you sponsor a week, but do not plan to take the flowers home please let the church office know prior to that week. We have a member who will deliver flowers to Grace's homebound members.**

**LET'S WORSHIP TOGETHER**

**Saturday 8/26 at 5:00pm in-person  
in Barkley Chapel**

**Sunday 8/27 at 9:30am Outdoor Worship in  
parking lot**

Prayer



### Prayer List Additions

Everyone appreciates prayer but not everyone wishes to be added to the “out loud” prayers.

If you are aware of a member of Grace who could benefit from being added to the prayers, please let one of the pastors know. They will contact the individual to find out whether they wish to be added to the “out loud” prayers, ongoing prayers or prayed for “quietly” by the Community Prayer Group.

### ***We hold in prayer especially this week...***

Jonathan Friedman, Bill Magruder, Betty Bennett, Evan Houck, Carolyn Houck, Ed & Kim Yoffee, Lynn Royal, Pat Ensminger, Shirley Davis, Dale Swenson, Bob, Marcie, Luke & Wesley Beam, Shana Funk, Tom Boyer, Diane Brokenshire, and Dean Jury.

### ***We hold in ongoing prayer...***

Dr. Robert Little, Justin Minnich, Louise Follett, Steven Fry, Michelle Hillegas, Sue Gasswint, Darlene M., Eileen McCann, and Mike Lutz.

### ***We also hold our homebound in prayer:***

Gladys Cline, Yvonne Gettys, Joan Harman, John Hench, Frank Hills, Sis Hoffman, Shirley Hughes, Howard Lauver, Lou Lore, Patti Reed, Bob & Ruth Rhodes, Mary Louise Shetter, Dorothy Shreffler, John Shuey, and Sandy Yetter.

### **Praying for our Homebound Members**

The pastoral staff wishes to lift up this special group of members on a regular basis during the prayers. Each week, a group of homebound members will be included in the out loud prayers.

*...sometimes we forget to tell others that someone has healed...*

Let's be good stewards of our prayer list. If someone has healed, or if someone has moved on to eternal life, please let the church office know. Names will automatically be moved to the ongoing prayers after a month on the weekly prayers, which are read out loud during worship. They will then be removed from the ongoing prayers after another month unless you let us know to keep praying.

### **For Pastoral Assistance or At Home Communion**

Pastor Lois, Interim Pastor  
717-579-1875  
prvo2005@gmail.com

No matter how dark and hopeless a situation might seem, never stop praying.” – Billy Graham



## Thanks to ALL of the Hands and Feet for "Outdoor turned Indoor" Worship on July 16

We tried, but the weather would not cooperate for an outdoor worship service on Sunday, July 16. With an 8:00am shower, and high humidity, but lower than expected temperatures, we moved indoors. For all of you who arrived early to set up - thank you so very much. Many hands made light work!

A "shout out" to Chris and Beth Jury and Kristopher Harman who arranged the tables, chairs, the communion ware and the sound equipment before Sunday - having everything staged to go! What a time saver.

High fives to Abundant Grace for their spiritually moving music and for leading us in song.

A special thank you to Marti Bert and Mike Ryder for grilling the burgers and hotdogs. They were grilled to perfection.

And more thanks to everyone who pitched in to set up the tables and chairs and buffet line in the Library. We enjoyed a great time of fellowship over a delicious meal.

The next outdoor worship service is planned for Sunday August 27, 9:30 am. Let's pray for comfortable weather!

With appreciation,  
Pastor Lois

## The Community Meal at Grace



2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

## Community Meal at Grace

Join us for the Community Meal on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month from

5:30 - 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

More information at <https://www.gracecamphill.org/service>

August's Community Meals will be on:  
Wednesday, August 9  
and  
Wednesday, August 23

View menu [here](#)

## The problem (and power) of money

*[Jesus told the rich man] “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ... [Jesus taught the disciples,] “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” –Mark 10:21b-22, 25*

At a Bible study, a man of means asked, “Why does Jesus hate money so much?” His family saw their money as a good thing, and he earnestly wanted to understand why Jesus seems to speak negatively of wealth again and again.

In fact, Jesus talks about money more than nearly anything else. Interestingly, for all his talk about money, he never asks for it. And he never condemns it. Instead, Jesus warns us about the corrupting influence of money.

Wealth poses spiritual risks. Jesus teaches that money has the power to turn us inward – away from loving God with all our heart and loving our neighbor as ourselves. It confuses our values and direction.

All of us want full lives brimming with security, relationship, joy, peace and love – but money can ensure us none of those things. They are the fruits of loving God with ALL our strength and of loving our neighbor as ourselves. Wealth can get in the way.

That was the issue with the rich man in Mark 10:17-27. Deeply religious, he nonetheless worries about eternal life. The “one thing” he lacks, Jesus tells him, can be satisfied by selling what he has and giving to the poor. Generous giving would break the bond that money has over him and help re-center him on loving God and loving neighbor.

Generosity is the spiritual prescription Jesus gives the rich man, and it’s the one for us, too.

The primary goal of our church’s financial stewardship should not be to fund the church, but rather to break the chains that money may have on our hearts and souls. But giving generously we can help the church, our neighbor *and* ourselves. We can learn what it is to be free to love God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves.

--Rob Blezard

[Click here](#) for a complete and up-to-date bio for Pastor Blezard.

## Ways to Give

Offering Envelopes can be found in the narthex in both Barkley Chapel and the main Sanctuary. If you would like envelopes mailed to you contact the church office at 717-737-0439 Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon. You can also give by using the QR code or online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YV1S/home>



Give Online Now

## Can You Imagine?

Having children home for the summer and not having enough for the extra meals? Living your senior years with empty cupboards? Working full time and still having trouble affording food? Dealing with an illness that leaves your family struggling financially?

Now imagine that you CAN help! Bring one canned good to worship July through August. The Giving Pantry can especially use canned chicken, tuna, and fruit. Drop items in The Giving Pantry box by the parking lot hall way.

The Giving Pantry helps 20 to 30 families per week! Thank you Grace for all your support! Questions? Contact Susan Ryder [ryder.susan@comcast.net](mailto:ryder.susan@comcast.net)



**CAN you Imagine?**

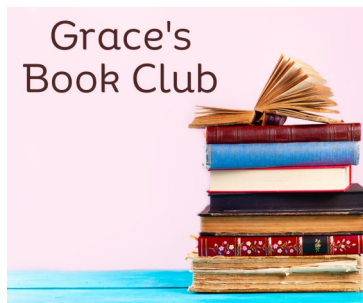
Empty cupboards at your home?  
**You CAN help keep families fed this summer**  
Bring one canned good, for The Giving Pantry, to worship each Sunday in July & August.



## Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour will resume **Sunday, September 10**. If you are interested in joining the Coffee Hour Crew rotation and provide treats Sunday mornings please contact Diane at [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com) by **August 4, 2023**.

## Grace's Book Club

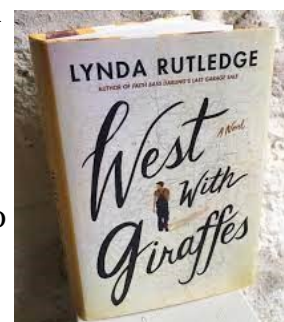


## Grace's Book Club

For August Grace's Book Club will be reading "West with Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge.

"Few true friends have I know and two were giraffes..." Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave. It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes. Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, West with Giraffes explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it's too late."

Join the book club on **Tuesday, August 22 at 7pm via Zoom** for to discuss "West with Giraffes" [CLICK HERE](#) for login information.





## Opening Team or Sound Team

We have already discussed needing volunteers for the Night Security team as well as the Parking Lot Greeter team. Yet, two more ways to serve at Grace is to be part of an Opening Team or the Sound Team. Below is some information about both teams to help you determine if it is something you may be interested in.

### Opening Team

This is a group of 4-5 members who are responsible for opening/closing the church on Sunday mornings (and Christmas Eve), acting as ushers, and as the greeter at the main sanctuary doors. We currently have six teams and the schedule is set up on a rotational

basis. If you have any questions or want to sign up as a part of an Opening Team please contact Diane at [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com) or 717-737-0439 x15.

### Sound Team

The people on this team take care of the sound system for Sunday worship. Training is provided for anyone interested in joining the Sound Team. If you have questions and would like more information or sign up for training contact Kristopher Hartman at

[k.e.hartman11@gmail.com](mailto:k.e.hartman11@gmail.com).



## Back to School Daze Craze

Every year New Hope Centers set aside a day for their guests and their children to visit the Center and receive school supplies for the upcoming year, along with tons of fun activities, food, and games for the whole family. It's a wonderful event.

### Back to School Event Dates

Dillsburg Center	August 14
Dover Center	August 4
Enola Center	August 11
Mechanicsburg Center	August 9
Red Land Center	August 11
West Shore (Lemoyne) Center	August 10

For directions to the different centers go to

<https://nhm-pa.org/contact/>



## Grace Assets

The Grace Assets team was established as part of the Strategic Plan to assess the properties of Grace (the church, Kentland and the 1604 rental). Improvements to Kentland and the Church have been recommended. To help offset the renovation costs, Council approved a designated account, "Grace Assets" to receive donations from the congregation. You can contribute to this fund online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YV1S/home> or by using your offering envelope. Enter amount next to Other and add Grace Assets under Comments. Questions regarding Grace Assets can be directed to Mike Ryder at [michael.e1.ryder@gmail.com](mailto:michael.e1.ryder@gmail.com).



## Let's Celebrate Some Monumental Birthdays!

On **August 1** *Richard Hoff* turns 92 years old.

Take a moment to wish them a happy birthday with a telephone call or mail a card to:

*Richard Hoff*

142 Okatie Center Blvd N #102

Okatie, SC 29909

Let him know you are thinking of him on this very special occasion.

8/1	Kinsey Hall Richard Hoff Connor Robbins	8/15	Beth Helman Edward Hurst Lester Richards
8/2	Jean Gross Garri Ann Hearn Patti Savastio	8/17	MaKenzie Seeger
8/3	Karen Osswald Scott Thomas	8/18	Katherine Wolf
8/5	Alyssa Rowland	8/19	Howard Bernstein Patricia Good
8/6	Judi Fenicle Karen Galle Lloyd Hench Debra Taylor	8/20	Jenny Castillo Cato
8/7	Wendy Evans Lehman Aldine Hausler	8/21	Gene Bozart Stewart Brouse
8/8	Lucy Russel	8/22	Jesse Fry
8/9	Robert Bozart	8/23	Susan Atwood Henry Sheaffer
8/10	Brandon Kauffman Lesly Richards	8/24	Taylor Douty Chris Graf George Ringer Joel Ryder
8/11	Michael Mazan Dawn Sweeney David Taylor Lori Weber	8/25	Marguerite Buchanan Rev. Molly Haggerty Jill Robbins
8/12	Jennifer Wright	8/26	Joshua Lebo Benjamin Smith
8/13	Gregory Hartman Jason Pringle Liliana Vogel song	8/27	Jordan Glenn Matthew Little
8/14	Griffin Artz Raelyn Flook Daniel Glenn	8/28	Yvonne Gettys
		8/30	Scott Brickell





## Sunday School

Sundays at 10:45am

Sunday School is on *hiatus for the summer* and will resume on Sunday, September 17, 2023. Mark your calendars and watch for more information regarding Rally Day on September 10, 2023!

## Lisburn Festival

August 9 - 12

The Lisburn Community Fire Community invites you to celebrate their 70th Festival this year. Please come and support us during this festival. Stop by the fire tent and say hello or buy one of their new shirts.

### Rides & Games & Entertainment

- ◆ Wednesday Ride Night \$20 wrist band
- ◆ Tickets for Rides Thurs - Sat
- ◆ Games for All Ages, Hay Rides, Bingo & Tractor Parade
- ◆ Silent Auction & Book Sale
- ◆ Vendors selling arts, crafts & more
- ◆ Music & Bands



### Great Food

BBQ Chicken, Hotdogs, Burgers, Sausage, Turkey, Roast Beef, Pulled Pork, Soup, French Fries, Funnel Cake, Hershey's Ice Cream and so much more!

CC accepted in Small & Large Pavilion, Sausage & Fire Tent

## Dauphin County Parks & Recreation Sunset Movie Series

Pack a picnic, bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of family fun at Fort Hunter Park, 5300 North Front Street, Harrisburg. The movies start at 8:30pm and are all FREE to everyone to attend. The Friends of Fort Hunter will sell popcorn, candy and beverages to benefit Fort Hunter Park starting at 7:00pm. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the movies schedule.

## Youth Food Cards

Karns, Weis and Giant grocery cards in the dollar amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available at the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon.

If paying with cash please have exact change. Checks should be made to GELC.

# Goodbye Summer!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Harrisburg Opera Association Presents: Opera in the Park - Make 'Em Laugh!**

**Sunday, August 13 | 4:00pm - 6:00pm | Italian Lake Park (2960 N 3rd Street Harrisburg)**

Join Harrisburg Opera Association for Opera in the Park - Make 'Em Laugh drizzle or shine. This year's theme has comedy taking center stage with multiple forms of music from opera to country, geared towards pure amusement. This FREE educational outreach concert is kid friendly and geared towards music lovers of all ages - so bring your family, friends and especially your funny bone.

### **Leadership Training | Saturday, September 16 | 1:00 - 4:00pm | Grace Conference Room**

God calls us to serve in various ways and often, God chooses those who we least expect - remember the story of the prophet Samuel anointing David (1 Samuel 16)?

Pastor Lois will be leading training for those in leadership positions at the church AND for those who would like to discern their gifts for leadership. We'll talk about adaptive leadership and serving as resilient leaders in a world of tension and change. Please sign up now through this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4DADA922AAFCC70-leadership1>

## **Save the Date...**

### **Tuesday Bible Study**

**Tuesday, September 19 | 1:00 - 2:00pm**

Tuesday Bible Study will resume in September. Watch the Grace Notes and the September Good News from Grace for more information.

### **Braver Angels Workshop**

**Saturday, October 28, 2023 | 9:00 am - 12:00 noon**

In response to Grace's Strategic Plan, a Braver Angels workshop will be held at Grace on Saturday, October 28. The "Depolarizing Within Workshop" was developed on the premise that each individual needs to recognize their "inner polarizer." Too often, we stereotype, dismiss, or ridicule our fellow citizens who support another political party, its leaders, and its policies. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for registration information.

**Good News from Grace** articles are due by **12 noon on the 15th of the month** for the next month's newsletter. Grace Notes information is due by **12 noon on Tuesdays**.  
Email to [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com)

## **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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[www.gracecamphill.org](http://www.gracecamphill.org)