

AMAZING GRACE

May Newsletter



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Gracious and heavenly Father, in this month we celebrate all the mothers who have cared for us, comforted us and nurtured us throughout our lives. We pray that you will bless them, as they have blessed us, with your love, grace, peace and joy.

Amen

Whats Happening Grace:

WEEKLY GRACE CHURCH SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6:30PM Defenders Bible Study	9:30 AM Greater Grace Bible Study	12:00 PM Al Anon	10:00 AM Grace LIFE Group	10:00 AM Disciple Bible Study I
	10:00 AM Hands on Prayer	4:00 PM Mosaic Prayer Squares	11:30AM Knit Purl Pray Group	1:00PM Chosen
	11:00 AM ACTS 2 Believers Bible Study	6:00 PM Disciple Bible Study I	5:30PM Endless Grace Dinner and Practice	
		7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal		

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

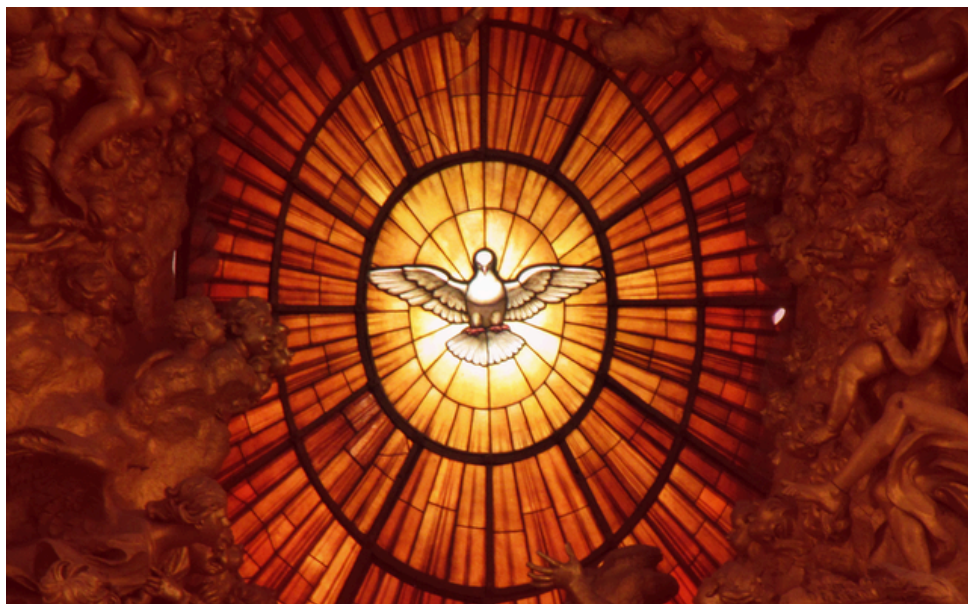
SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

7:45 A.M.	Traditional Service in the Sanctuary
8:00 A.M.	Donut and Coffee Hour in Multipurpose Room
9:00 A.M.	Anchorage Service -Modern worship Service lead by Endless Grace Worship Team
9:40 A.M.	Music ministry for the Cherub Choir and Teen Praise Band
10:00 A.M.	Sunday School
10:30 A.M.	Upper Room Class
11:00 A.M.	Traditional Service with Chancel Choir Anthem

- May 2- 7:30 am-Men's Fellowship
- May 3- 1 pm-VBS Lunch and Planning Meeting
- May 4-10 am-Sunshine Stitchers
- May 4- 6:30 pm-Matchless Class with Mark and Karen Coons (You had to preregister)
- May 5-6 pm-Serving with Grace
- May 8-630 pm- Serving Soles Meeting
- May 11-6:30 pm-Matchless Class with Mark and Karen Coons (You had to preregister)
- May 12-6 pm-Forged
- May 17-4pm-7 pm-Serving Soles "Shoe" raiser
- May 18-10am-Sunshine Stitchers
- May 18-6:30 pm-Matchless Class with Mark and Karen Coons (You had to preregister)
- May 19-630 pm-Ad Council
- May 22- 9:30 am-Grace Preschool Graduation
- May 25-6:30 pm-Matchless Class with Mark and Karen Coons (You had to preregister)
- May 26-6 pm-Forged (final before Summer Break)

From the Pastors Desk:

Pentecost: The Fire of God and the Witness of the Church



Pentecost is not merely a date on the Christian calendar; it is the celebration of God's promise fulfilled. In Acts 2, the disciples are gathered in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit descends upon them with the sound of a rushing wind and tongues as of fire. The frightened followers of Jesus become bold witnesses. The scattered nations hear the mighty works of God in their own languages. Peter, once ashamed and afraid, stands to preach Christ crucified and risen. That day, about three thousand people are added to the Church.

Pentecost matters because it declares that the risen Jesus is reigning, the Spirit has been poured out, and the Church has been empowered for mission.

The apologetic strength of Pentecost begins with its setting. Acts places Pentecost in Jerusalem during a major Jewish festival, when Jews from many nations had gathered. This is not a private mystical claim hidden in obscurity. Luke presents Pentecost as a public event, connected to real geography, real people, and a recognizable festival. The proclamation of the Gospel begins not in some distant place where verification would be impossible, but in the very city where Jesus had been crucified.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

~Acts 1: 8



From the Pastor's Desk (Continued):



Suddenly, a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues^[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

~Acts: 2-4

Second, Pentecost helps explain the transformation of the apostles. Before the resurrection and the coming of the Spirit, the disciples are fearful, confused, and hidden. After Pentecost, they preach publicly, endure persecution, and bear witness even at great personal cost. Something must account for this change. The Christian claim is that they had encountered the risen Christ and had been filled with the Holy Spirit.

Third, Pentecost explains the birth and spread of the Church. A crucified Messiah was a scandalous claim, yet within a generation the Gospel spread throughout the Roman world. The Church was not launched by wealth, military power, political influence, or social status. It was born through preaching, prayer, holiness, signs of grace, and the Spirit's power. Pentecost gives the theological reason: the mission of the Church is not sustained by human strength alone, but by the presence of God.

For the Church today, Pentecost is both celebration and summons. It is a celebration because the Holy Spirit has been poured out upon the people of God. The presence of God is no longer confined to temple, altar, priesthood, or sacred geography. Through Jesus Christ, God has made His dwelling among His people by the Spirit. The Church is not merely an organization with a mission statement; it is a Spirit-filled people called to bear witness to the risen and reigning Christ.

But Pentecost is also a summons. It calls the Church to remember that no amount of programming, planning, strategy, technology, or institutional maintenance can substitute for the power of the Holy Spirit. These things may serve the mission, but they cannot create life. Only the Spirit can awaken the sleeping, convict the sinful, comfort the wounded, sanctify the believer, empower the witness, and breathe new life into dry bones.

This is why revival cannot be manufactured. It must be received. Pentecost teaches us that the Church does not begin in self-confidence, but in prayerful dependence. Before the disciples preached, they waited. Before they were sent, they were filled. Before the Church expanded outward, the Spirit came downward.

From the Pastor's Desk (Continued):

That pattern has appeared again and again in the life of the Church. There are moments that are not Pentecost itself, but they bear a Pentecostal quality—a fresh awakening of grace, truth, assurance, and mission.

Martin Luther's awakening to the righteousness of God was one such moment. The Gospel broke open before him not as a ladder by which the sinner climbs toward God, but as the gift by which God justifies the sinner through faith in Jesus Christ. That discovery did not remain private. It became proclamation. It became reform. It became fire in the bones of the Church.

John Wesley's Aldersgate experience was another such moment. As he listened to Luther's preface to Romans, Wesley famously felt his heart "strangely warmed." He received a fresh assurance that Christ had died for him, even for him, and had taken away his sins. That moment did not create a private spirituality disconnected from the world. It ignited a movement of preaching, holiness, mercy, evangelism, class meetings, and practical divinity.

These moments remind us that the Spirit's work is not locked in the past. The Holy Spirit still awakens the Church by bringing the Gospel from the page into the heart, from doctrine into assurance, from belief into holy love, and from worship into witness. Whenever Christ is made radiant again to His people, whenever fear gives way to boldness, whenever cold hearts are warmed, whenever weary churches are renewed for mission, we are seeing a small Pentecost—a fresh participation in the same Spirit who filled the upper room.

If we are seeking renewal in the local church, then Pentecost gives us the pattern. The Church gathers in prayer. The Spirit fills the people. The Word is proclaimed with boldness. Christ is lifted up. Sin is named. Grace is announced. People are invited to repent, believe, be baptized, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Fellowship deepens. Generosity increases. Worship becomes alive. The people of God become a visible sign of the kingdom of God.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

~Ezekiel 36: 26-27



From the Pastor's Desk (Continued):



Fire and wind,
come and do it again
Open up the gates,
let Heaven on in
Come rest on us
Come rest on us

Fire and wind,
come and do it again
Open up the gates,
let Heaven on in
Come rest on us
Come rest on us

~"Rest on Us" -Maverick
City

A great awakening will not come through nostalgia, fear, anger, entertainment, or institutional survival. It will come when the people of God are once again set aflame by the Spirit of God for the glory of Jesus Christ. The local church becomes the ordinary place where this extraordinary work begins: in sanctuaries, Sunday school rooms, small groups, prayer gatherings, mission teams, family tables, hospital visits, acts of mercy, and faithful proclamation.

Pentecost assures us that God still desires to use ordinary believers for holy purposes. The Spirit does not come only upon the eloquent, the educated, the ordained, or the influential. Sons and daughters prophesy. Young and old see visions and dream dreams. Servants are filled with the Spirit. The whole people of God are drawn into the mission of God.

Therefore, the Church today does not need to live timidly. We do not bear witness alone. We do not pursue holiness in our own strength. We do not seek revival merely as a desperate attempt to preserve an institution. We seek revival because Christ is worthy, because the world is aching, because the Gospel is true, and because the Spirit has been given. Pentecost tells the Church that the fire has not gone out. The wind still blows. The risen Christ still pours out His Spirit. And when the people of God are humbled, filled, sanctified, and sent, the local church can once again become the seedbed of awakening.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. A. H.", positioned below the word "Blessings".

GRACE

MISSIONS

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with Ruth's Harvest and PAL.

We welcome anyone who would like to help. In case you are not familiar with these two programs, Ruth's Harvest is the packing of bags with food for the school children to take home to have food over the weekend.

Provide a Lunch (PAL) is a meal served every day at the Council of Churches to anyone who wants to walk in and get a meal.



Ruth's Harvest Dates:

May 14

After this date please hold on donations, as there is nowhere to hold inventory over the summer, We will begin accepting donations again the end of August

Provide A Lunch (PAL):

Fridays:

May 29

July 10

August 21

October 2

November 13

December 24

Saturdays:

May 30

August 29

October 31








If you are interested in helping, please call Mae Woodard at 717-632-0124.

GRACE MISSIONS



Hanover Area Council of Churches *Needs for 2nd Quarter 2026*

Ministry	Special Needs this Month
 <p>PROVIDE-A-LUNCH¹⁹⁸³ <i>daily lunch from 11:30a-12:30p</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -White or Wheat Bread Loaves -Hot dog/Hamburger Rolls -Coffee Creamer -Splenda or Sweetener <p>*Please no expired food donations</p>
 <p>RUTH'S HARVEST²⁰¹³ <i>weekend food for children</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Small Canned Vegetables -Single serve Fruit Cups -Single serve Cereal -Single serve Mac & Cheese -Individual non-perishable food items
 <p>CLOTHING BANK¹⁹⁶⁸ <i>FREE clothing for those in need</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NEW Bra's & Underwear (Men & Women) -Dryer Sheets -Plastic Hangers -Men's Clothing (all sizes) -Children's Clothing 5T and up -Bedding
 <p>MEALS-ON-WHEELS¹⁹⁷⁰ <i>Food delivery for homebound</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adult Hygiene Wipes -Dried Fruit Snacks (no nuts due to allergies) -Pudding Cups, Fruit Cups or Applesauce -Snack Size crackers, granola bars, soft chew snack items
 <p>CHANGING LIVES SHELTER²⁰⁰⁷ <i>Only Emergency Shelter in Hanover</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Personal Hygiene Items -Feminine Hygiene Products and Deodorant -Shampoo, Conditioner and Body Wash -Men's Boxer Underwear & Colored T-shirts (Med, Lg & X-Lg) -Women's Underwear (Sm, Med & Lg) -Hairbrushes -Toilet Paper

GRACE

MISSIONS



SERVING SOLES

WITH GRACE ESTD 2025



SERVING SOLES
WITH GRACE

Grace Church's Shoe Ministry, serving families of Hanover and the surrounding area

"SHOE" RAISER

Admission to the Picnic event is a new pair of athletic shoes, "Sneakers." (for school aged children), or a monetary donation

All are Invited

QUESTIONS:
EMAIL AUTUMN:
OFFICE@MYGRACECHURCH.ORG

17 MAY 2026
4 PM - 6 PM
GRACE CHURCH OF HANOVER
55 ALBRIGHT DRIVE
HANOVER, PA 17331
717-637-3100

Our 2026 "shoe" raiser, a shoe fundraiser, is an evening of food and fellowship, where the admission price is a NEW pair of sneakers for school-aged youth, or a monetary donation for the Serving Soles ministry. Since the beginning of this ministry, just last year, we have had 3 distributions, with the third happening on April 18, giving out well over 130 pairs of shoes, The support of Grace church and the community is how we continue to share Jesus's love to hanover one pair of shoes at a time. Please mark the date in your calendars and come join us for Serving Soles "Shoe" Raiser 2026.

Our event will have typical summer Bar B Que menu: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, salads, beans, and so much more. And dont forget dessert!!!

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES AT GRACE



Serving with Grace

5 | 6:00 PM
MAY | Dinner begins

*Dinner and
Ministry Fair*

Grace Church , You are invited:



*Dinner and
Ministry Fair*

Serving with Grace

5 | 6:00 PM
MAY | Dinner begins

Come out to Grace Church for a night of fellowship, food, and a look at what Grace Church has to offer for discipleship, community, and ministry. Dinner will begin at 6 pm, with a short presentation introducing everyone to the opportunities available here at Grace to grow in your faith, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Hanover Area. Followed will be a time where you can gather more information on the areas that you feel drawn to.

*Please RSVP,
by signing up
on the events
board, or
contacting
Autumn in the
office.*

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES AT GRACE



HOLY
SPIRIT
COME!

PENTECOST
SUNDAY

SUNDAY
MAY 24, 2026

WEAR RED

GRACE CHURCH

On Pentecost Sunday, please plan to attend service in red and encounter the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the birthday of the Church, as well as the coming of the Holy Spirit. After each service, there will be a time of community and a treat, because it is a celebration!!!

The Deacons Page-A Time with Pastor Matt

Theology Matters: The Means of Grace

As I write this month's issue, I am sitting at my desk in my office here at Grace Church. So far this week, I have been in the comfortable space of Grace on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. On Monday night, I had the joy of filling in for Pastor Todd to teach his Defenders Class. On Tuesday night, I enjoyed the warmth of Grace Church around the table for dinner and in the classroom as I taught the adult Forged class. Tonight, I'm working in my office while I wait for Isaac to finish with our Endless Grace Praise Team and their rehearsal.

These examples are only a fraction of the activities that are life at Grace Church. Every day, our church hosts study groups, meals, meetings, outreach, education, spiritual development, and ministry which bring the Kingdom of God to earth. We are not a chapel which is only open on Sunday morning. We are a family that does life together in myriad ways.

It is my hope and prayer that all of you will look for opportunities to be with your church family in some way outside of our normal Sunday morning gatherings. Whether you'd like to be a part of a study group, a mission outreach, volunteer with our preschool, or dream up some other mission opportunity which we've not even considered yet, there are so many ways to find Christ within the activity that happens here.

These things that I have listed out here are all examples of the way that the grace of God becomes a part of our lives in a real way. They are what we call, "Means of Grace," with the word "means" defined as the method, instrument, or agency used to achieve a result. In this case, we're talking about the method, instrument, or agency used to bring grace into our lives. John Wesley expressed it this way in his sermon, "The Means of Grace," "Christ had ordained certain outward means, for conveying his grace into the souls of men."

The Deacons Page-A Time with Pastor Matt

Theology Matters: The Means of Grace Continued

We, as Methodists, believe that we are saved by God's grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. God shows us grace before we ever know him in what we call Prevenient Grace. Then, when he finally gets our attention, he draws us with his Convicting Grace, which brings us to the moment of surrender and salvation in Justifying Grace. Then we begin our lives of holiness as he perfects us through Sanctifying Grace. Finally, as we meet him face to face, we receive his Glorifying Grace.

As we move through these, how does that grace actually come to us? How is it applied to our lives? Working with our definition, what method, instrument, or agency is used to achieve our salvation? What are the means of grace? John Wesley says it this way, "By 'means of grace' I understand outward signs, words, or actions, ordained of God, and appointed for this end, to be the ordinary channels whereby he might convey to men, [prevenient], justifying, or sanctifying grace."

From the beginning of the church, we have understood that there are certain ways that God gets our attention, certain things that we do through which God can convey his saving power to us. They are almost like television or radio stations, where when you tune yourself to the right station, God's love and forgiveness come through to you with a perfectly clear and distinct signal. These means of grace are those things which Jesus has commanded and given to us for this specific purpose. Wesley taught that they were chiefly these: communal and private prayer, Bible study, Communion, Fasting, and Christian fellowship and discipleship.

These things, Wesley taught, bring no special merit in and of themselves, that is, the actions do not have any power to save us (we are not saved by action but by faith). However, they are the things through which God communicates his salvation to us in a way that transforms. For Wesley, the point is not simply doing the action because God commanded it, as important as that is. Doing the action is the way that God works within us to transform us into the people we were always meant to be. For Methodists, salvation is as much an eternal destination as it is God's transformation of people into those over whom sin no longer reigns. God wants people who love him and others perfectly. We get to perfect love only by God's grace, and God's grace comes to us through the means which he has given.

The Deacons Page-A Time with Pastor Matt

Theology Matters: The Means of Grace Continued

So, we need to be in constant contact with those means of grace. We need to spend time in communal and private prayer. We need to be involved in Bible study on our own and with others. We need to be in church on Sunday morning to receive the Lord's Supper and to worship Jesus with his family. We need to pair fasting with our prayer, and finally, we need to be involved in groups that strengthen our walk toward holiness, such as Bands, Class Meetings, and Covenant Discipleship groups. It is in these things that we can be sure that God will get our attention, draw us closer to his side, and transform us into the people he wants us to be.

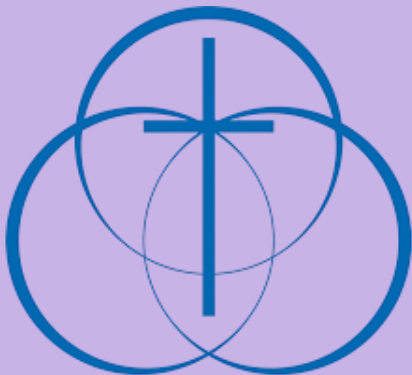
What is your plan to make these means of God's grace a part of your life? Salvation is so much more than where we might spend eternity. It is all about bringing us into right relationship and closer communion with God right now, and we do that, as John Wesley instructs his Methodists, by attending to the means of grace.

I hope to see you around the halls of Grace Church more and more as you allow God's transformational grace to invade your lives.

Love to you all in Christ's Name,



-Rev. Matt



THE GRACE OF GIVING: SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF GOD



Giving is never merely about money. In the life of the Church, giving is an act of worship, a practice of trust, and a participation in the mission of God. When we give, we are not simply helping an institution meet a budget. We are offering ourselves to God, acknowledging that everything we have first came from His hand.

Scripture teaches us that God is not interested in reluctant offerings or empty religious habits. God desires hearts that are awake to His grace, responsive to His goodness, and willing to be used for His purposes. Giving, then, is not primarily a transaction. It is a spiritual formation. It trains our hearts to say, “Lord, all that I have is Yours.”

What Does Giving Mean to God?

To God, giving is an expression of love, trust, and surrender. It is one of the ways His people declare that He is first.

Proverbs teaches, “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops” (Proverbs 3:9). The language of “firstfruits” matters. God’s people were not called to give God what was left over after everything else had been satisfied. They were called to give first, because giving first reveals priority.

This is where the warning of the prophets helps us. In Zechariah, God challenges His people to examine the true direction of their devotion. Their religious practices had continued, but God asks whether what they were doing was truly for Him or ultimately for themselves: “Was it really for me that you fasted?” (Zechariah 7:5).

That question reaches beyond fasting. It reaches into every part of our lives: our time, our worship, our resources, our priorities.

Are we building our lives around God, or are we asking God to fit into the life we have already built?

This warning is not meant to shame us. It is meant to awaken us. God lovingly invites His people to examine what their habits reveal about their hearts. Giving helps us do that. It asks us, again and again: What do I treasure? What do I trust? What kingdom am I investing in?

THE GRACE OF GIVING: SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF GOD

CONTINUED

What Does Giving Mean for Us?

For us, giving is an act of freedom.

So much of life teaches us to cling tightly—to protect, preserve, accumulate, and control. But the Gospel teaches us to live open-handedly because we belong to a generous God. Giving loosens the grip of fear. It breaks the illusion that our security rests only in what we possess. It reminds us that our lives are sustained not by scarcity, but by the provision of God.

Jesus says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). Notice the order. Our treasure does not merely reveal where our heart already is; it also helps lead our heart there. What we invest in shapes what we love.

When we give to the work of the Church, we are allowing our hearts to be drawn more deeply into the things of God. We are saying, “I want my life to be connected to what Christ is doing. I want my resources to serve something eternal. I want my giving to become a witness to my faith.”

Paul writes, “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7). Christian giving is not meant to be coerced. It is meant to be joyful. It is a grace-filled response to the grace we have already received.

What Can We Expect from God?

When we give, Scripture does not promise that God becomes a vending machine for our desires. Christian giving is not a way to purchase blessing or manipulate heaven. But Scripture does promise that God is faithful.

Paul says, “God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8). That promise is beautiful. God provides not simply so we can possess more, but so that we can participate more fully in every good work.

We can expect God to form us.

We can expect God to teach us trust.

We can expect God to use what we offer.

We can expect God to multiply faithfulness in ways we may never fully see.

Sometimes the fruit of giving is visible: a ministry continues, a child is disciplined, a family is helped, a missionary is supported, a worship service is made possible, a grieving person is visited, a new believer is baptized. Other times, the fruit is hidden. But nothing offered to God in faith is wasted.



THE GRACE OF GIVING: SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF GOD

CONTINUED

In Philippians, Paul thanks the church for their financial partnership in ministry. He does not treat their gift as a mere donation. He calls it “a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God” (Philippians 4:18). Their giving supported Paul’s ministry, but more than that, it became worship before God.

That is what faithful giving can be: worship that moves through the Church into the world.

How Does Giving to the General Fund Advance the Kingdom?

Sometimes people think kingdom work only happens through visible outreach projects, special offerings, or mission trips. Those are certainly important. But the regular, ordinary giving that supports the General Fund is also deeply missional.

The lights matter.

The HVAC matters.

The staff matters.

The building, the classrooms, the sanctuary, the office, the printed materials, the technology, the nursery, the utilities, the insurance, the administrative systems—all of these may seem ordinary, but they create the space and structure where ministry can happen.

When the lights are on, people can gather for worship.

When the heat is working, children can learn the Gospel in a safe classroom.

When staff are supported, pastors can preach, visit, teach, counsel, plan, pray, organize, and equip the saints for ministry.

When the building is cared for, the church has a place to welcome the grieving, disciple the young, encourage the weary, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

The General Fund is not separate from mission. It is one of the main ways mission is sustained.

A church does not only advance the kingdom when it sends people out; it also advances the kingdom by faithfully maintaining the ministry home from which people are formed, equipped, and sent.

In Acts 2, the early Church devoted itself to “the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42). That kind of shared life required generosity. Believers gave so that needs could be met, community could be strengthened, and witness could continue. Their giving was woven into the life of worship, discipleship, fellowship, and mission.

The same is true today.

Every Bible study, every worship service, every pastoral visit, every children’s lesson, every outreach event, every communion table prepared, every prayer gathering, every act of mercy that flows through the church is supported by the quiet faithfulness of God’s people giving together.



THE GRACE OF GIVING: SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF GOD

CONTINUED

How Do Ministry and Mission Take Place?

Ministry and mission take place when God's people offer themselves to God.

Money alone does not create ministry. Buildings alone do not create mission.

Programs alone do not make disciples. But when the Holy Spirit fills a people with love for Christ and love for neighbor, their time, talents, prayers, presence, service, and gifts become instruments of grace.

Giving is one part of a larger life of offering.

Paul writes in Romans 12:1, "Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship." That is the heart of Christian stewardship. We do not merely give God a portion of our income while withholding the rest of ourselves. We offer our whole lives to Him.

And yet, because our finances are such a real part of our lives, they are also a real part of our discipleship. Our giving joins our daily labor to God's eternal work. The paycheck earned through ordinary work becomes, in part, an offering for extraordinary grace.

Through giving, ministry becomes shared. Mission becomes communal. The work of the Church is no longer "what they do" but "what we do together in Christ."

A Promise-Filled Invitation

The invitation to give is not an invitation into loss, but into deeper life with God.

Jesus teaches us, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). Seeking first the kingdom does not mean we will never face hardship or uncertainty. It means our lives become rightly ordered around the faithfulness of God. We learn to trust the Father who knows what we need.

Giving helps us seek first.

It helps us resist the fear that says there will not be enough.

It helps us resist the pride that says everything belongs to us.

It helps us resist the distraction that causes the urgent to crowd out the eternal.

It helps us become people of gratitude, generosity, and faith.

And perhaps most importantly, giving allows us to imitate the heart of God.



THE GRACE OF GIVING: SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF GOD

CONTINUED

The Gift Before Our Giving

All Christian giving begins here:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son” (John 3:16).

Before we ever give to God, God has given Himself to us.

The Gospel is the story of divine generosity. God did not give from a distance. He gave His Son. He gave grace. He gave mercy. He gave forgiveness. He gave life. In Jesus Christ, God gave the greatest gift heaven could give.

So we do not give in order to earn God’s love. We give because we have already received it.

We give because God first gave to us.

We give because Christ gave Himself for us.

We give because the Spirit is forming generosity within us.

We give because the Church is the body of Christ, and through it, God is still reaching the world with grace.

When we give to the Church, we are not merely funding expenses. We are participating in worship, discipleship, mission, and hope. We are helping create a place where the Gospel is proclaimed, where people are formed, where the hurting are welcomed, where the young are taught, where the saints are equipped, and where the love of Jesus Christ is made known.

Giving is an invitation to trust God more deeply, love Christ more fully, and join the Spirit’s work more freely.

And when God’s people give with joyful and surrendered hearts, the Church becomes not merely a place we attend, but a living witness to the generosity of God.



Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Operation Christmas Child Collection

Help share Jesus Love to Kids around the world!!

For the next 6 months, we will be collecting items for our Operation Christmas Child packing event. Each month will be a different category of item, ensuring we have many different items for our boxes.

Remember: All items must fit in a Shoebox!!

At that event, all of our collected items will be put out for us to pack those boxes together as a church family, write cards, and pray over together. It's a wonderful time of community building and outreach as we work together to share Jesus love.

Questions see Amber or Darren Myers



May

WOW Items

- Deflated balls with pumps
- Stuffed Animals
- Dolls
- Larger Toys
- Musical Instruments

DO NOT INCLUDE

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication or vitamins
- Money
- Breakable items (eg snow globes, glass containers)
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knife, saw, or razor blades

Place all items in collection bin in Lobby

Questions see Amber or Darren Myers

Grace Preschool

GRACE PRESCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP

WE NEED SUBSTITUTES OR
VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN THE
PRESCHOOL
(MUST BE ABLE TO PASS ALL CLEARANCES)

Monday-Friday 8:30-12:30
as needed

Contact Jennifer Freeman
717-632-3140
jfreeman@mygracechurch.org

GRACE PRESCHOOL INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR GRADUATION PROGRAMS

MAY 22ND

PROGRAM TIMES
9:30 3'S CLASS
11:00 PRE-K CLASS
GRACE CHURCH SANCTUARY



GROWING & GOING

Youth Ministries Updates and Info!!



Grace Church of Hanover

Grace
Preschool



GRACE ROOTS

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 13-JULY 17

DINNER: 5:30PM-6 PM

PROGRAM: 6 PM-8 PM



DINNER IS OPTIONAL,
HOWEVER IT IS OPEN
TO EVERYONE WHO
ATTENDS.



QUESTIONS,
EMAIL DARREN @
DWMYERS9@MYGRACECHURCH.ORG



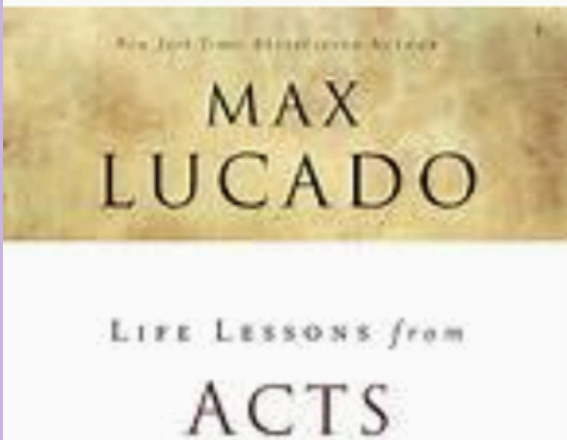
**GRACE CHURCH OF
HANOVER
55 ALBRIGHT DRIVE
HANOVER, PA 17331**

Acts 2 Believers Bible Study

Tuesdays at 11am in the Resource Room

Start Date: Tuesday May 5th

See Sheila Carter for
Questions.



The Acts 2 Believers bible study will be starting Max Lucado's "Life Lessons from Acts" Bible Study on Tuesday, May 5th. All are invited to join us for this study.



The 2026 National Day of Prayer theme is "Glorify God Among the Nations - Seeking Him in All Generations," based on 1 Chronicles 16:24, which says: "Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples".



Tell of His glory
among the
nations, His
wonderful
deeds among all
the peoples.

1 Chronicles 16:24 NASB

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT

DISTRICT

AWAKENING




GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

NORTHEAST
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

MARYLAND CENTRAL DISTRICT MARYLAND

"Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed." Romans 13:11

 **Fairview Methodist Church**
13916 Jarrettsville Pike, Jacksonville, MD
WWW.FAIRVIEWMETHODISTCHURCH.ORG

 **MAY 30, 2026 1-4pm**
MAY 31: WORSHIP AT 9:30AM
BRANDENBURG METHODIST CHURCH
FEATURING: CONF. SUPT. REV. STEVEN TAYLOR



NORTHEAST
CONFERENCE
SPOTLIGHT

**PASSING
IT ON**
**GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH**
2026 NORTHEAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Held June 11-13th in Williamsport PA. It's a time of prayer, worship, and community, as we celebrate what the holy spirit has done within our conference this year, and prepare for the next year. If interested please see Autumn Christine or Jess Sichel, both members of the Sessions team, the team that plans and executes our Annual Conference.

Please pray for our annual conference. Pray that the Spirit prepares the way and hearts of all who will be attending. Pray that the Spirit makes his presence known and moves and works in awesome and powerful ways while there.



MUSIC MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

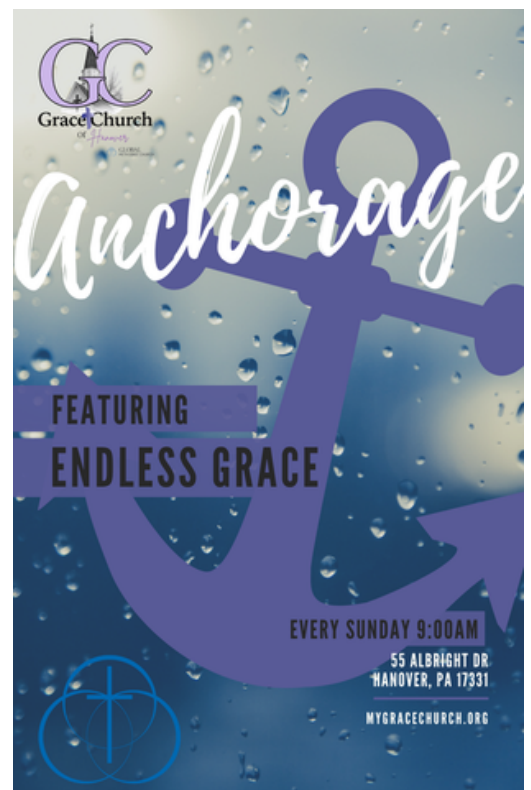


We got an Opportunity for YOU!!!

The Music Ministry is looking for members to provide Special Music at the 7:45 and 11:00 services over the summer months while the Chancel Choir is on break. Some Sundays are taken, but several Sundays remain available. Please see Larry Kuntz if you would like to sing or play an instrument for Special Music this summer.

“I LOVE THAT SONG”

Is there a Contemporary WORSHIP song you love that you want to share with the others of Grace Church? We are asking you to share your favorite contemporary worship songs with us. Please take a sheet, fill it in and turn it into the office. We will take your songs, and create a list to share. You may also hear a few of these favorites on Sunday Morning at the Anchorage Service.



COMING

Soon!!!



WALK BY FAITH
Color Walk

SATURDAY
JUNE 6TH, 2025

STARTING @
9:30AM



SAVE THE DATES!!

Strawberry Social

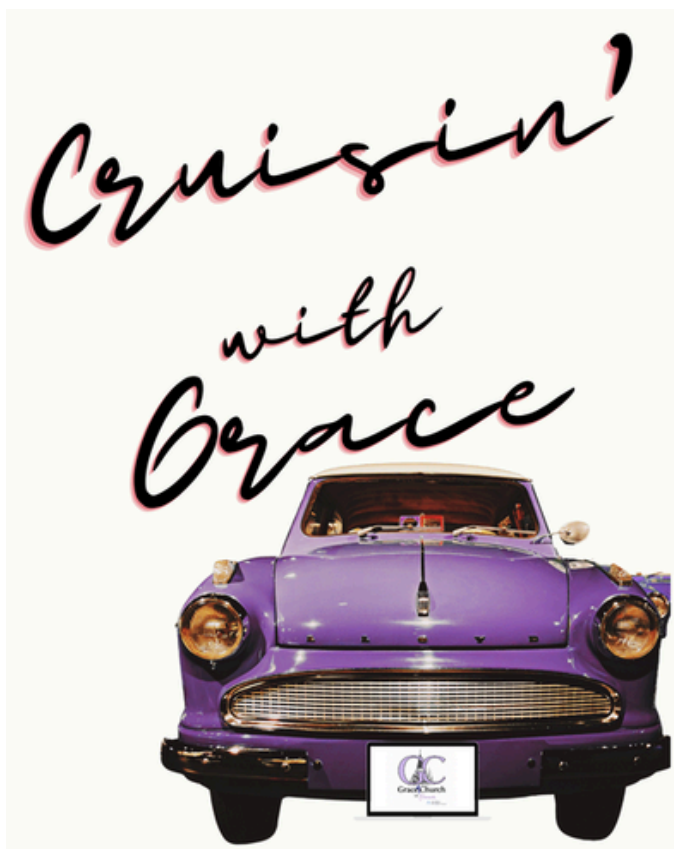
More Info to Come!!




Wed. June 3rd or June 10th
Starting @ 6:00pm

Free will offering No tickets required

† Sponsored by Grace Men's Fellowship †



Cruisin' with Grace



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 20th
9:30a.m.-12:00

55 Albright Drive
Hanover, PA 17331

Space is limited

Car Participant Details

Pre-register \$5.00 per car

\$10.00 day of the event

Dash Plaque for first 50 cars

Awards for top 3 favorites with kids pick and pastors pick. Awards at 12:00pm.

Contact Grace Church for a registration form
Office@mygracechurch.org