



Amazing

Grace

Newsletter



AUGUST 2025

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Cruisin' With Grace –



To the faithful of Grace Church: A Global Methodist Community, My co-laborers in the work of advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the life of the world— from whom is the source of all our hope, promise, joy, and security— The grace and peace of the Lord our God be with you:

So far, we have learned at length the necessary act of evangelism for the Christian mission. Paul tells us:

“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? ... As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’” (Romans 10:14–15)

Evangelism is not optional for the Christian. Jesus commands His Church:

“Go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19–20)

Christians are called to evangelize with intentionality. While these verses emphasize sharing the Gospel with our words, we are also called to proclaim it with our deeds.

They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

In the Upper Room, Jesus tells His disciples:

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35)

This “love” isn’t a feeling—it’s observable action. James, the brother of Jesus, echoes this when he says:

“Faith without works is meaningless.” (James 2:17)

And in Matthew 25, under the shadow of the Temple, Jesus tells the parable of the sheep and the goats. The sheep—those doing God’s will—are the ones who bring mercy and compassion to the most vulnerable.

“Our works must affirm what our mouths proclaim.”

A Sermon in Shoes

I remember a song I learned in Vacation Bible School as a child:

"Sermon in Shoes."

"Do you know, O Christian, you're a sermon in shoes? So: walk it and talk it, know it and show it, live it and give it, teach it and preach it—a sermon in shoes."

That simple song captures the rich theology of evangelism: not only taught, but lived.

Sadly, in the modern church, many Christians have grown silent—not because they don't care, but because they feel uncomfortable. So, we've allowed a substitute gospel: one that is more palatable, less demanding. But Jesus never lowered the standard.

The Bible is clear: It is not "either/or"—it is both/and.

We proclaim the Good News and we embody it in our love, mercy, and service.

Losing Our Heart for Service

God asks plainly:

"What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

But today, American Christians are serving less than ever before.

The 2020 Census revealed that formal volunteering fell to a historic low—only 23.2% of Americans served through organizations between 2020–2021. And Christians were no different from non-Christians. Even in 2023, despite a slight rebound, the number remains just over 28%.

"It is hard to be a church engaged in evangelism when we have lost our heart for service."

A Witness in Work Clothes

This past year, I've been blessed to lead adult workdays and a youth mission trip. Each time, I was struck by the humility and grace present in those moments.

Yes, service makes us feel good. But that's not why we do it.

We serve because Christ served us. Our acts of mercy are not transactional—they are a response to grace.

We serve not to earn, but to reflect.

We give not to receive, but to testify.

We love not to impress, but to witness.

Evangelism in Word and Deed

Acts of service and mercy are the Gospel in action. They are our Christian ethos.

This is evangelism with flesh and bone.

“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.” (Colossians 3:17)

Let us not be content with a silent faith. Let us renew our heart for serving intentionally, loving sacrificially, and witnessing boldly—in both what we say and what we do.

Because when the Church serves in humility, it preaches the Gospel powerfully.

And that kind of sermon cannot be ignored.

Blessings In Christ,



Rev. Todd Christine

Grace Church of Hanover | Senior Pastor



Birthday Month

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Dana Capece	2 Caralee O'Brien Yazmin Rangel -Rivera
3 Ashley Parker Dixie Schaefer Jim Ward	4	5	6	7 Preston Hunt	8 Maureen Downey Benjamin Grudziecki	9 Riley Abel Alex Pecher
10 Allen Foster	11	12 Rex Daniel June Kline Erik Z. Danny & Derek Ziegler	13 Christina Dubbs Pam Rabenstine	14 Jessica Abel	15 Mary Dehoff Warren Kellenbenz Dennis Mitzel Pam Reed	16
17 Todd Christine Sydney Griffiths	18 Chad Cruys Eric Leonard	19 Crystal Miller	20 Janice Garrett	21 Vallie Hinkle	22	23 Christ Forrest Bev. Hoffman Tom Howard
24 Brian Jenkins	25 Vance Adkins Kerrie Grudziecki Lance Reed	26 Wendi Myers	27 Tristan Christine Kim Miller	28	29 Ron Duff	30
31						



Happy August, Grace Church! We are definitely in the depths of summer, and as I write this piece for the newsletter, the heat index is triple digits. I hope that you are keeping cool in these dog days of summer.

My family is also in the midst of two weeks of time at Rawlinsville Camp Meeting, which is a traditional Methodist camp meeting in every respect. It was founded in 1886, and my family has been in attendance there since nearly that time. It is a fantastic opportunity to get close to Jesus. Each night there are evangelistic worship services, and every morning there is Bible study. There are opportunities for prayer throughout the day and there are programs for every age. It runs until August 10, and if you have an opportunity to come out and visit, I can promise you that you will encounter the Holy Spirit. It's a short jaunt across the Susquehanna River in Holtwood, PA. We're in Cottage 22, and we would be happy to welcome you!

www.rawlinsvillecamp.com

What do we believe about evil, Part 2?

Last month we began a series on good and evil, and this month, I want to complete the discussion on what evil looks like in the world. For some things, evil is very obvious; for example, you've done something that you know to be wrong. You see someone who is being abusive to someone else, etc. In these situations, evil is very easy to pick out. However, evil is more than just simple bad acts or actors.

As we saw last month, evil is the result of sin, and we understand that all of it is a disfiguring of the good creation that God had intended. Once that disfigurement happens, it doesn't stop. It begins to corrupt everything it gets into contact with. James completes the thought this way, "Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death" (Jas. 1:14-15, NLT). Death is the ultimate outcome evil seeks. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23, NASB).

But it goes beyond our own personal death. Evil and its Author are intent on destroying everything that God has intended creation to be. The sins of individuals compound to create chains of evil, which then become oppressive to the individual, and the cycle perpetuates. In addition, because we humans are God's stewards over all creation, humanity's fall has affected the entirety of that creation. Paul writes, "For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it" (Rom. 8:20, NIV). Humanity has brought calamity on the realm over which they had been appointed as king and queen.

The best example of this kind of thing in Scripture is the timeframe described in Genesis 3 through Genesis 10. This section of the Bible describes what happens to humanity when it is fully allowed expand into the evil that is possible for it. Here we see the first couple who eat the forbidden fruit and get expelled from the paradise of Eden. Then we hear of the first murder of Cain killing his brother Abel. Then their action moves wider, and it's captured in a verse from Genesis 6, "The Lord saw that the wickedness of humanity was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually," (Gen. 6:5). In this evil condition, we get the story of Noah and the ark, but we learn that even destroying all people but Noah does not stop evil. Indeed, this section of Genesis ends with the evil of the Tower of Babel

What does this mean? It means that the world is a hopelessly broken place if left to its own devices. But the good news is that it has not been left to its own devices! God is not an absentee Landlord! Genesis 11 picks up the story again with a man named Abram that God sought out and befriended. In this choosing of Abram, God begins the great rescue plan to restore and rebuild a world that humanity (and the devil) subjected to evil. In Abram (who becomes Abraham) and his descendants will come a nation called Israel, and out of that nation, a Man named Jesus of Nazareth, and He will destroy evil forever.

That is the good news of the gospel. That's why we worship and praise. God has saved us from all evil in Jesus Christ.

Love to you all in his Name,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew S. Sichef". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" being the most prominent part.

-Rev. Matt



Distribution Event!

August 23, 2025

9AM-12PM

NEW SHOE EVENT

*****MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND-
ONLY FOR SCHOOL AGED
CHILDREN**

****Requirements for Recieving new Shoes:**

- Child **must** be in School (Pre school through High School)
- Each child **must** be registered individually.
- Children **must** be present the day of event, and must try on the shoes on site.

**Every child, who is
school aged, who
registers, will be
given a new pair of
sneakers !!!**

*Register
Here!*



1PM-2PM

**USED SHOE GIVEAWAY-SHOES
OF ALL SIZES FOR ALL AGES
FREE-NO REGISTRATION NEEDED**

Serving Soles with Grace is a shoe ministry of Grace Church of Hanover. It's sole purpose is to share the love of Jesus by providing shoes to the people of Hanover and its neighbors

GRACE PRESCHOOL

BACK 2
SCHOOL
Night

AUGUST 27TH

@ 6PM

SEPTEMBER 2ND
1ST DAY OF SCHOOL

Blessing of the **BACKPACKS!!!!**

Sunday August 17th

9am & 11am

**All students are encouraged
to bring their backpacks.**

**Anyone who works within the
schools will have a chance to
be blessed as well.**

 **Grace**
Church



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Northeast



Lead by PATH Youth

What we are collecting and when:

WOW items: EVERY MONTH!!!
(ex. soccer ball with pump, stuffed animal)

**August: School Supplies, Personal Care items,
clothing and accessories**

September: Crafts and Activities; toys

October: Donations for Shipping

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE NEW

PLEASE JOIN US



**Please look for the Collection in the
main lobby.**

**Questions?? Contact Amber or
Darren Myers
aquance@mygracechurch.org**



Music Ministry

The first practice of the fall season for the *Grace Chancel Choir* will take place on Wednesday, August 27. Everyone who loves to sing praises to the Lord is welcome to join the choir.

We hope to see you there!



55 Albright Dr. Hanover PA 17331



3PM

Live Music
Main Food Provided
Water Slide
Toddler Bounce
House
Craft Activities
Bring a dish

55 Albright
Dr.

Bring
Your
Lawn
Chair

RSVP on Events
Board





GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH



Online

LAITY EQUIPPING
(L.E.T.) TEAM

COURSES

Basic Bible Training

TUESDAYS FROM 6-9 PM



SEPTEMBER 16TH, 23RD, 30TH

OCTOBER 7TH, 14TH, 21TH

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUG. 4TH,
CLOSES SEPT. 1ST**



Contact person: brendarroof@gmail.com

Global Methodist History, Polity,
Theology

MONDAYS FROM 6-9 PM



SEPTEMBER 15TH, 22ND, 30TH

OCTOBER 6TH, 13TH, 20TH

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUG. 4TH,
CLOSES SEPT. 2ND**



Contact person: arlenedschmidt@gmail.com

6 Sessions
per Course

\$ Fee \$20

Open QR Code
for more
information



COME JOIN US FOR



SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 7
10:30AM

COMBINED WORSHIP
SERVICE WITH
FELLOWSHIP AFTER

**You're Invited to Back to Church Sunday!
Grace Church of Hanover
Sunday, September 7th at 10:30 AM**

We are having a special Combined Worship Service at Grace Church of Hanover as we come together for Back to Church Sunday

Whether you've been away for a while, are looking for a church home, or simply want to start the new season with renewed purpose, this is the perfect moment to gather with your church family and community. Experience uplifting worship, meaningful connection, and a time of fellowship immediately following the service.

Let this be your fresh start. Let this be your return.

We can't wait to welcome you back!

**BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY AT GRACE
A TIME TO RECONNECT, REFRESH, AND RETURN**

**"Your Family, Your Faith, Your Home"
GRACE CHURCH**



Let There Be Life

Grace and New Beginnings In Genesis

September 8th @6:30 PM

By. Rev. Todd Christine

Series Description:

“Let There Be Life” is a 20-week journey through the Book of Genesis that explores the origins of the universe, humanity, sin, and salvation through the lens of Wesleyan theology and Christian apologetics. With each chapter, we encounter the God who creates, calls, judges, redeems, and covenants—all pointing toward the fullness of grace in Jesus Christ.

Blending the warmth of Wesleyan teaching with the rigor of interdisciplinary apologetics, this study engages Scripture alongside theology, philosophy, anthropology, paleography, archaeology, astrophysics, and biology.

From Eden to Egypt, we will discover how God's prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying grace unfolds in the lives of His people, inviting us into holy love and purposeful living.

Whether you're a seeker wrestling with origins, a believer hungry for deeper understanding, or a church leader forming disciples, Let There Be Life offers a faithful, thoughtful guide to Genesis as the foundation of our faith and hope.



Fall 2025 Youth Schedule

Forged at Grace

Tuesday September 9

6:00pm-8:00pm-Dinner Included

FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21

FIRST DAY OF MUSIC MINISTRY

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28

Cruisin' with Grace

VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED



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

55 Albright Drive
Hanover, PA 17331

Food and Drinks for Sale

Concert by Endless Grace

Car Participant Details

Space is
limited

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 the church
office for an application

If you would like to volunteer
please contact Autumn Christine @
achristine@mygracechurch.org
or Kelly Parker @
kparker@mygracechurch.org