



Grace Bible Fellowship
Church Office:
723 S Providence Road
Wallingford, PA 19086
(610) 876-8725
office@gracebfc.org

Web: Gracebfc.org
Twitter: @Gracebfc
Facebook: Grace Bible
Fellowship Church

Grace News
is normally published
the last Sunday of
each month.
Submit upcoming
events and articles to
Barb by the 15th of
the month before
publication. Send to:
office@gracebfc.org

Grace eNews
is an email reminder
of this week's events,
subscribe by emailing
Barb:
office@gracebfc.org

Questions? contact
Pastor Mark Bickel
mbickel@gracebfc.org

Web Version of Grace News

To protect people's privacy private phone numbers, addresses, birthdays and anniversaries have been removed from the online version of Grace News. If you need to contact the leader for any group feel free to contact the Church Office.

From time to time articles may be altered or removed due to the sensitive nature of the material.

A complete print version is available from the Church Office:
office@gracebfc.org

Upcoming Events

- Ap. 1 Easter Sunrise and Worship Services
- Ap. 10 Young at Heart Lunch
- Ap. 15 Communion
- Ap. 15 Grace Link Groups
- Ap. 27-29 Youth Spring Retreat
- May 6 Stewardship Saturday
- May 8 Young at Heart at Sight and Sound (see Joyce B.)
- Jun. 24 Church Picnic

Full Calendar at Gracebfc.org

Missionary Birthdays

April 15 - Ian Ort
April 24 - Jacob Ort
April 25 - Jerry Moyer
May 11 - Jenn Lindemuth

Stop by the Missions bulletin board or check the church directory for missionaries' addresses. Remember that it may take up to three weeks to deliver mail to other countries.

Ministry Partner Events

The Seventh Annual **Christ Centered Counseling Ministry Banquet** will be held on **Saturday April 21** at 5:30 pm at Faith Bible Fellowship Church, 151 Donerville Road, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
RSVP www.c-ccm.org by April 4. See Pastor Tim Cowen for details.

Delco Young Life Color Blast 5K. Join us on **Saturday May 19th**, for the best 5K Delco has to offer! Register online at delco.younglife.org



Grace News - April 2018

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Bible Fellowship Church, Wallingford, PA

SUNDAY 9AM



KNOWING and FOLLOWING
JESUS



Save The date!

Plan to fellowship
and pray with
other Christians
in the
community.

See Pastor Aaron
for Details

**Prayer & Praise
SUMMIT**

Churches Together Praying for Our Community

Friday, April 13th, 7:00pm



Drexel Hill Middle School
3001 State Road,
Drexel Hill Pa, 19026

**FAMILY
PRAYER and SONG
NIGHT**



THIRD SUNDAYS • 6:30 PM

Pinebrook Ladies Retreat
The Genesis of Woman
April 27-29
FELLOWSHIP~GAMES~FOOD
pinebrook.org

BFC Missions Rally
Ordinary People with
Extra Ordinary Hearts
May 5
Faith BFC, Lancaster, PA
bfbom.org

Quakertown Women's
Conference
Women at the Feet
of Jesus
May 18-19
Grace BFC
Quakertown, Pa.
alliancenet.org

Take Note

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Special Sundays

April 15
Grace Link
Groups

The Gospel Project

Children, Youth
and Adults study
the Same
Passages

More at
[Gracebfc.org/
Gospelproject](http://Gracebfc.org/Gospelproject)

Special Wednesdays

Last Meetings for the Spring

- Apologetics, DivorceCare, GriefShare - April 25
- Kids - May 16
- Youth - May 23

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Sundays 10:45 am

- Gospel Project - 206
- This We Believe - 205
- Ladies Class - 104
- Consider the Sermon - 103

Sunday Bible Classes

Date	Children	Youth and Adults
April 1 <i>Easter</i>	26.3 Jesus' Resurrection	9.6 The Savior is Raised
April 8	Kids Review Week	9.7 The Risen King on Emmaus Road
April 15	27.1 Jesus Appeared to Disciples	Grace Link Groups (Adults & Youth)
April 22	27.2 Jesus and the Doubter	9.8 The Risen King Sends His People
April 29	27.3 Jesus Forgives and Restores	9.9 The Risen King and the Doubter (also Youth Retreat weekend)



**Wednesday Family Night
7:00 - 8:15 pm**

- Apologetics
- Bible Training Center
- DivorceCare
- GriefShare
- Youth
- Wacky Wednesday

Grace News - April 2018

New Direction... Same Mission

The Dupiche Family

We are a family of 5, made up of twin girls and one international student we've "temporarily adopted" as our own. Juli and I have been married for 7 years now and live in the heart of Philadelphia. The city for us is full of life and opportunity to share our faith and make disciples. The past few years we have worked together with Church Extensions to plant a BFC church in the heart of the city. God willing we will see this and many other things accomplished.



Things we hope to accomplish this year:

- Grow Thursday Bible Study to 15 or more people
- Start regular discipleship with men in the community
- Summer Gospel Festival in Mifflin Park
- Organize several BFC work groups



Prayer and Praise:

- Praise God I've been able to shift into full time church planting
- Pray that our financial support would come in since raising my support this year
- Pray that the relationship with SACC continues to flourish and church is planted



Hima. Scarlett. Juli. Josh. Selah.

Juli and I moved into Germantown about five years ago with the intention of planting a church in the area. We toiled and worked the ground, sharing the gospel and eventually starting a small Bible Study in our home. Our purpose was clear – find a space, make disciples, and plant a church. As much as I want to tell you that it worked out wonderfully; it didn't. The group struggled as place after place refused us rental during which my work schedule changed resulting in constant exhaustion. We eventually found one place only to be kicked out a couple of months later for no apparent reason. The Bible study dwindled as some people moved out of town and others took up new jobs that conflicted with our schedule study time. It was hard on us.

I had more questions than answers and giving up at the time seemed appropriate. Instead, encouraged by Church Extensions and other brothers in the faith, I started looking again at a place to really connect and grow a body. I tried different sections of the city but couldn't quite get a foot hold. However, during this process of looking and praying I made what appeared to be the most unlikely of connections.

I came across a Pastor whose church has 6 congregations meeting regularly on Sunday, all of which are different ethnicities. His church, Snyder Ave Congregational Church (SACC), is made up mostly of Congolese refugees escaping wars and danger in Africa, worshiped in English and Swahili. The other churches are Laotian, Karen (pronounced like Cah-rin), Nepali, Chin, and Spanish. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. The South Philadelphia community was made up of all these groups besides the usual Americans. They all lived next door to each other and here they were worshiping in the same space. I didn't have to go to the nations. They were all right here the whole time.

Since then, I've partnered with this church with intentions to plant in South Philadelphia. I'm providing much needed support for their ministry to the refugees and in return they are opening doorways into the heart of this community. We regular go out together to provide food boxes, visit families, and hold events that display the variety of cultures and emphasizes our unity in Christ. I am constantly praying that God allows me to win the trust of these groups and others that live in South Philly for the purpose of serving them and sharing the Gospel.

Since this partnership I've scaled back my airport job, leaving behind my career to spend more time on building relationships in the community, sharing the gospel, and launching a church full of believers in love with God. I feel refreshed and excited about the future outcome of this new focus. I see God working in the Bible Study we have on Thursday nights. I see the kids asking questions about God and Jesus each week at Kids Club and Teen Club. I see people listening intently to the Gospel message as I preach. I'm looking forward to what God will do in the near future!

- Juli and Josh Dupiche

Summer Missionaries and Missions Teams

Paige Lawton - Peru

May 12 - June 1

Paige will be serving with Experience Peru, a ministry of Coalition for Christian Outreach. They will be in Peru from May 12—June 1. Paige is looking forward to learning how to serve others in a different culture.

Financial Need: \$3,750

Prayer Requests:

- Put her faith in God through all of this
- Building relationships with the other people on the team (she has not met any of them)
- She will go straight from Peru to Big Sky Bible Camp to serve on staff for the rest of the summer - pray against homesickness
- Strength to focus on God

Emily Bronkema - Honduras

May 15-June 14

Emily will be serving with Reliant Mission out of a church she was a part of in Cincinnati. She will be serving in Choluteca, Honduras for one month beginning May 15. They will be partnering with a local church to help at an orphanage, to volunteer at local medical clinics, and to teach ESL. She will also be receiving leadership training.

Financial Need: \$3,900 (\$2,000 by April 3)

Prayer Requests:

- Unity with the group, especially since she is not able to train with them ahead of time
- That God would provide the needed support

Grace BFC Summer Missions Teams

Camp Promise in Montana - June 24 - July 7

Handi-Camp in Canada - July 28 - August 4

It is not too late to join one of our two summer missions teams! If you have any interest, now is the time to let us know so all the proper applications can be submitted and plane tickets purchased. Please contact Debbie Wilt.

Grace BFC Local Work Team / Outreach Team

Cape May Courthouse and Philadelphia - Late July - Early August

We will once again be taking on a few local work projects toward the end of the summer. Individuals and families can join us for one day or several days. This year we hope to work with our church plants in Cape May Courthouse, NJ and Philadelphia, PA doing a number of repair, painting and outdoor projects for adults and kids of all skill levels. We are also considering helping with some outreach events in Philly. Details coming soon. Contact Pastor Mark if you have an interest.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

To support any of the individuals going out this summer, or any of our teams as a whole, simply place a check made out to Grace BFC or cash into any envelope, include a note as to who you would like your support to help, and mark the envelope "Short Term Missions" then place in any offering plate or give to Sam Shiels. (note: please do not write individual's names on the check)

Grace Link Groups

Each of our Elders has a group of people in the congregation that they regularly pray for and seek to encourage. If you have been coming to Grace but have not yet been connected to an Elder Grace Link Group, we would love to connect with you.

Contact Scott Simmons scott.simmons@henkel.com

Each of our Elders is paired with a Deacon to help with practical needs. **Our Elder and Deacon pairings are:**

Scott Simmons & Nate Biermaas / Clayton Wilt

Bob Evans & Dick McIntyre / Dan McLean

Mike Norquist / Steve Bach

Chip Harper & Rich Hartzell / Joe Worrell

Chuck Biermaas / David Lawton

Mike Plourde / Mike Wiegand

Mark Kessler / Vince Urbano

Property and Maintenance Update

What has the Property & Maintenance Committee been working on lately? Thanks for asking! There have been a number of typical repairs and installations performed since January 1, including:

- Repairs to one of the HVAC units in the Nursery
- Cleaning the carpets in the Nursery and the Fireplace Room
- Installing a white board in one of the SS classrooms
- Repairs to the lights on the sanctuary platform
- Equipment repairs in several of the restrooms
- Routine maintenance on the chair lift
- Installing outside lights around the Susek's house
- Replacement of classroom light fixtures with energy efficient units

Future 2018 projects include:

- Installation of a wheelchair ramp under the outside awning
- Establishing all handicap parking near the gym
- Several new windows and a new refrigerator for the Cowens
- Signage in the parking lot to direct the flow of traffic

If you are aware of repairs that need to be made around the church, or if you have an interest in joining the Committee, please see Mike Norquist.

By the way, mark your calendars for the next Stewardship Saturday which is to be held on the morning of May 5!



Operation Christmas Child

For the months of **April and May** we will be focusing on items for the **youngest age group, 2 to 4 year olds**. Coloring books, dolls, balls, cars, small stuffed animals, etc. Don't forget to check after Easter sales in your favorite stores. You can find a lot of good bargains for the shoeboxes.

Your donations can be placed in the orange bin in the coat room by the sanctuary. We are still accepting donations for hygiene items as well. **Please see the chart on the Missions Board for the items needed.**

Operation Christmas Child Collection Schedule:

- February & March - Hygiene items
- April & May - Toys for 2-4 year olds
- June & July - Fun items for 5-14 age group
- August & September - School supplies
- October & November - Misc. Items

Contact: Sue Yavor or Janet Letsche

GRACE FAMILY

God's Blessing of a New Child

Erik and Justine Bellandi welcomed Logan Russell into this world on March 11! He weighed 8lbs 2oz and was 20.5 in long!

Thanks

I want to thank everyone who has prayed, sent good wishes and provided encouragement to us during my husband's (David) recent medical issues. He is home now and having in-home rehabilitation. We are hoping to transition to out patient rehab next week. His progress is very good, but there is still a lot of work to do. Thanks again, Jo Ann Ruark

I have not seen you for a while

by Pastor Richard Taylor

"I have not seen you for a while." I get that comment from some Grace folks. Fortunately, as far as I know, they are not suggesting that I have fallen into a backslidden condition where some sort of action needs to be taken. The answer is, I travel on Sunday mornings. I am often around on Wednesday nights and sometimes help at the Friday night NA childcare. I have coffee with the staff on Friday morning because they still put up with me.

So, where are you? you ask. On the first Sunday of the month I alternate visits at our mission churches in Cape May Court House and Gettysburg. The other Sundays you can find me at Faith Bible Fellowship Church in Spring City where I am preaching and helping them work through the process of calling a new pastor.

While I miss seeing all my friends at Grace, I enjoy what I do and pray that it may be helpful to these churches I am serving.

Let me give you some updates. In Cape May, the leadership team has been restructured to allow it to refocus on their mission. I meet with Pastor Brad Boyer one on one and with the Transitional Leadership Team once per month. They have been seeing some encouraging developments with new people and new opportunities. By the way, if you are in Cape May on a Sunday, do stop by. The folks there would love to have you.

In Gettysburg, the congregation continues to reach out to the community. Pastor John Hanner has settled into his role as pastor. In addition to the bi-monthly Sunday morning visits, I spend time with Pastor John and attend their leadership meetings. Just in case you are wondering, I have not wandered down to the battlefield even once though I admit it is tempting.

The Spring City congregation had dwindled some but my sense is that they are eager to press on and their search for a pastor will soon move to the interview stage. I served there for 9 years a long time ago and am amazed at how much the community has changed. They have great opportunities for ministry there.

Let me take you back to my Church Extension Ministries work and point out the larger picture. CEM now has 15 churches in some stage of formation and 4 potential additions. That means there are demands on the leadership and coordination of what is happening. In the meantime, CEM is celebrating 70 years since its formal organization. I have been putting together the materials that we are using for the celebration. The 70th anniversary doings will climax at our conference at the end of April.

So, when you think of me, I would gladly appreciate your prayer on my behalf. Pray for safety as I spend a good bit of time driving. Pray that God may continue to use me to support church planting in the BFC and specifically at Cape May and Gettysburg. Pray that the Spring City congregation will discern who God will call as their next pastor.

Thanks. And, if you see me, be sure to say, Hello.



Summer is Coming!

Here are just a few of the things coming for kids this summer:

- Backyard Bible Clubs:** Several families have already committed to host a 5-day club in their homes this summer. To find out how you can host a club for your neighbors see Sam Shiels (we partner with CEF to provide the leadership and teaching for the clubs, so all a host needs to do is open their homes and invite local children, but we can only host a limited number of clubs, so contact Sam soon if interested)
- Kid's Community Carnival:** We plan to host a kids carnival again this year on Wednesday night August 22, plan now to join us!
- Summer Classes:** We will once again take the month of July off from Sunday Bible Classes. We would also like to give our normal teachers and helpers off in August, so we are looking for subs. Let Jaye Norquist know if you would be willing to sub this summer.

New Children's Director

The Search Committee and the Elders have been in discussion with a final candidate for the part-time position of Director of Children's Ministry. Watch for an announcement in early April.

Temporary Children's Ministry Contact:

Pastor Mark mbickel@gracebfc.org



Upcoming Youth Events

High School Laser Tag Event on Saturday April 7 from 6:30pm - 9:00pm.

Spring Retreat for middle school and high school students on April 27-29. Don't miss out on this monumental weekend where teens build real relationships and God works on hearts. (cost is \$110, deposit due by April 18)

See Youth Ministry page on church website, Contact: gbfcyouth1@gmail.com

Spring Retreat
100

APRIL 27 - 29

SUMMER CAMPS

CHILDREN'S CAMP



Our BFC Camp at Victory Valley offers a number of Children's Camps throughout the summer where kids can enjoy time in God's Creation while hearing about their Creator. Brochures available in the Information Hallway or go online to: victoryvalleycamp.org

FAMILY CAMP



Pinebrook Bible Conference celebrates its 50th year as a BFC camp this year. They offer 4 weeks of BFC family conferences each summer, including special guest speakers each day, and lots of free time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends. Brochures available in the Information Hallway or go online to: pinebrook.org

SUMMER STAFF

Both Victory Valley and Pinebrook have opportunities for teens, college students and adults to serve on summer staff. You can be a counselor with the kids, or serve in the kitchen or on the maintenance staff. Volunteer for a week or apply to serve on the staff team for the entire summer! Some from Grace also serve on staff at Big Sky Bible Camp in Montana.

See Pastor Mark for more about camps and other opportunities.