



Grace Bible Fellowship
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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

- 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



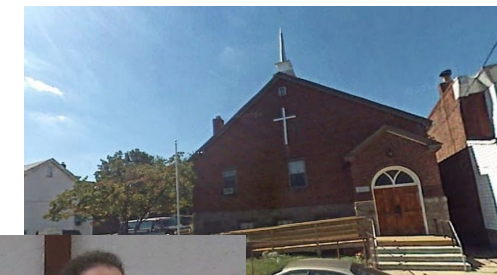
Grace News - May 2018

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Bible Fellowship Church, Wallingford, PA

Philly / NJ Regional BFC Churches



Maple Glen BFC
Maple Glenn, PA
Founded: 1903
Current Pastor:
Lou Pronnicki



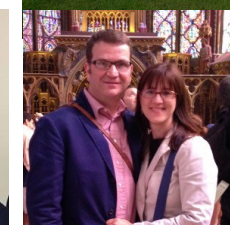
Wissinoming BFC
Philadelphia, PA
Founded: 1922 (church
plant of Maple Glenn)
Current Pastor:
Ralph Ritter



New Beginnings BFC
Woodbury Heights, NJ
Planted as BFC: 2008
(GBFC partner in planting)
Current Pastor:
Tim Nessler



Cape Community Church Cape May
Courthouse, NJ
Current Church Plant
Planting Pastor:
Brad Boyer



South Philly BFC Church Plant
at Snyder Ave. Congregational Church
Current Church Plant
Planting Pastor:
Joshua Dupiche



**BFC Church Extension
Turns 70!**
Read More and see all
current Church Planters on
Pages 10 and 11

Grace BFC

Founded in 1926
In Chester PA
Moved to Wallingford
In 1960

FEATURED

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Special Sundays

May 20

Child
Dedication

June 24

Church
Picnic

The Gospel Project

Children, Youth
and Adults study
the Same
Passages

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

Special Wednesdays

Last Wednesday

Meetings for the Spring

- Kids - May 16
- Youth - May 23

SUNDAY 9AM

GRACEBFC
WALLINGFORD

KNOWING and FOLLOWING JESUS

Coffee and Conversation—in the Gym after Worship
Sunday Bible Classes for all Ages—10:45am—Noon
Adult Classes: This We Believe, Gospel Project, Men's Class, Ladies Class, and Consider the Sermon

Date	Children	Youth and Adults
April 29	27.3 Jesus Forgives and Restores	9.9 The Risen King and the Doubter (Youth: on Retreat)
May 6	27.4 Jesus Gave Great Commission	9.10 The Risen King Forgives and Restores (Youth: Baptism Class)
May 13	27.5 Jesus Ascended to Heaven	9.11 The Risen King's Commission (Youth: Baptism Class)
May 20	Review Week	9.12 The Risen King Ascends
May 27	22.1 Parable of the Sower	8.1 The Sower and the Soils



Final Wacky Wednesday before Summer

Wednesday, May 16, 7pm



Youth Tailgate Party Wed. May 23 from 6-8:15 pm

Our annual end of the year tailgate party is quickly approaching! Teens and their entire family are welcome to join us for food and games as we celebrate all that God has done over the past school year. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided and we ask that you bring a side dish, dessert, or salty snack to share. Plus, we hope to premiere this year's feature film starring our very own high school cast!



Your BFC Church Planters: Front row – left to right – Josh Dupiche, John Hanner, James Reff, Ray Bertolet, Elliott Ramos, Richard Taylor, Barry Parsons, Juan Carlos Morales, Philip Ruiz, David Gundrum ; Back row – Stephen Diaz, Scott Wright, Tim Zuck, Brad Boyer, Carlos Rodriguez, Ben Triestman ; Screen – Jason Filbert

Why Life Matters

by Pastor Richard Taylor

Recently I was reading about cities of refuge (Numbers 35). They were a marvelous provision of the grace of God. People could go to them if they were responsible for the death of someone. They would be protected as long as they remained within walls of that city. This provision clearly foreshadows the ministry of our Savior who protects us and may give some meaning to the phrase, "in Christ."

While this is significant, I am thinking of another point. One of the scenarios considered is that of manslaughter. Murder and manslaughter both involve the death of a human being. In murder, that death was intentional. With manslaughter, the death was accidental or not intentional.

The unintentional manslayer was still required to flee to the nearest city of refuge where he had to remain until the death of the high priest. His life was disrupted by this accident. Somehow it seems unfair that he should have to flee for something that was an accident, something he did not intend. If you were in that position, you might plead, "But I did not mean it. It was a horrible accident. I am really sorry." Of course, that plea did not matter. You had to leave and not return. You had no time to pack your clothes or gather your favorite books. Your life would not be the same.

While it seems harsh to suffer for something you did not intend, this demand points out how God values human life. Even though the death came as an unintended accident, a human being died and God will not simply allow that to just pass without a response. The death of any human being is a significant matter to our God and no response is not an option.

The value of human life is rooted in the fact that all human beings are created in the image of God. According to the psalmist, we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." We tend to think of human beings as having greater or lesser value. Adults over children. Our race over another race. The educated over the non-educated. The fully functioning over the limited handicapped. The born over the unborn. The native over the immigrant. And I could go on but perhaps you get the picture.

We often divide the saved from the unsaved and think that the needs and hurts of the unsaved don't matter. Recall that even an accidental death mattered to God. All lives matter. The flight of the manslayer was not so much a punishment as it was a statement that the life that was lost was not insignificant to the God who makes every human being in His image.



**Church Extension
Ministries**
of the Bible Fellowship Church

2018 - 70 Years of Church Planting in the Bible Fellowship Church

Church Extension Ministries is celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2018. Prior to 1948, the Bible Fellowship Church, then known as the Mennonite Brethren in Christ, had been starting churches. But, a subtle change happened.

The Bible Fellowship Church began in 1858 with a group of men who felt frustrated by their church's unwillingness to preach the gospel, to evangelize. Evangelism would put them in touch with the world and bring new people and new ways into their church. The leaders of that church believed people needed to know Jesus but they felt threatened by new people and new ways.

This group of men left their church to become a society for evangelism. They saw their task as evangelism, to preach the gospel. They began evangelistic meetings in the towns and villages nearby. As a result of their meetings, people were coming to believe in Jesus. When the meetings ended, they were ready to move on to other places. But what was to be done with those who were now believers? You could not just leave them. So, they were gathered together in assemblies or churches. But, new churches were not the goal but the by-product of evangelism.

In the 1940s, a shift began to occur and our denomination began to talk about starting new churches as the goal of evangelism. In other words, churches were no longer a by-product but the intentional design of our ministry.

In 1948, this shift took place. The Home Mission Board was formed which was later re-named Church Extension Ministries. The first leader of this new board had a local connection. C. E. Kirkwood, a Chester boy who met Christ through the ministry of Grace MBC of Chester, now Grace BFC of Wallingford, was appointed the first director.

The Bible Fellowship Church is committed to evangelism with a goal of planting churches. God has called us not simply to make converts but to make disciples. Churches are where the gospel is preached and believers are gathered who grow to become mature disciples through the ministry of that church. Our denomination's vision now says that it "seeks to become an expanding fellowship of churches united to make disciples of Jesus Christ."

You can read more in the spring "BFC One Voice" Magazine, available in the lobby. You can see pictures from the past, read additional history and see current news on the facebook page for BFCchurchplanting

**Sunday
Men's
Class**



**Begins
April 29
Room 204**



WORK DAY

Saturday May 5, 8am—Noon

Besides the usual mulching that we do every spring, there will be a number of projects that require a tool box and some muscle. The list of projects are:

Assembling the wheelchair ramp under the awning, Repairing holes in the asphalt at each of the entrances on Providence Road, Mounting white boards in classrooms, Power washing the front of the church building, Painting curbs and parking spaces for handicap access

The hours are 8am to noon. Come for the whole morning or just come for an hour. We'll find something for you to do!

Save The Date!
Sunday June 24

**Annual Church Picnic
with Outdoor Baptism**

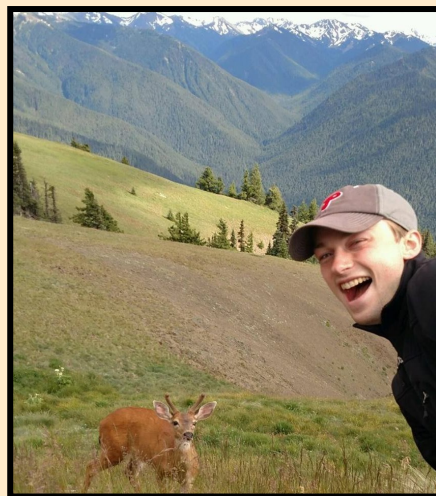


Kids of Grace

WELCOME our New Director of Children's Ministry

We recently announced the appointment of Dan (Fuzzy) Phillips as our new children's director. You may have witnessed him leading worship or playing crazy games with our middle school students, but we wanted to find out what led to his decision to pursue *this* role and what kind of vision he has for the children of Grace BFC.

What led you to become the children's ministry director? I was blessed to have grown up with parents who love God and consistently pointed me towards Him. When I was six years old, I had the opportunity to respond to an altar call which was a defining moment when I chose to follow Jesus, making Him Lord over my life. Since that time, my life has been a journey of growing closer to Christ, being changed by the Spirit, and following where God seems to be leading. I am continuously baffled as to why God would choose a broken and sinful person like me to serve in His house.



After graduating from Eastern University with a bachelor's degree in education, I began working as a substitute teacher and continued serving in both youth group (Grace MS) and Young Life (Ridley HS). Though my time has not been regularly spent with toddlers or elementary aged children, I have often contemplated the role of children within the church and how to best point young hearts and minds towards a life of humble service for God. After conversations with a few of the key leaders in my life and a whole lot of prayer, I decided to pursue the position. I never foresaw this in my future, but in retrospect, I can see how God orchestrated every open and closed door to lead me here.

Give us a glimpse of your philosophy of children's ministry. The delicate balance of children's ministry is ensuring age appropriate opportunities for learning and spiritual growth without fully isolating children from the life of the church at large. Children are a vital part of the body of Christ. Though they may have a great need for learning and maturing, they often bring an indispensable excitement, passion, and simplicity that should be admired and celebrated. If the children have been effectively spurred on to love God and love others well, there is no telling just how much God will use them to impact our church, our community, and our world, even at a young age.

What is your first order of business? My first order of business is to observe, read, and meet with as many parents, leaders, and volunteers as possible. I am all ears to any ideas, thoughts, or suggestions!

So, what's up with the nickname? Fuzzy is a nickname that was given to me at birth. All of my friends and family have called me Fuzzy my entire life... it's my name. If using that name makes you uncomfortable, feel free to call me Dan. (After a lifetime of awkward introductions, I completely understand.) Quite frankly, with a name like Fuzzy, I feel like I was destined for this role!

You can contact Fuzzy at dphillips@gracebfc.org

Ministry Partner Events



Delco Young Life Color Run -
Details on Missions Board or see Fuzzy Phillips

Ordinary People with Extra

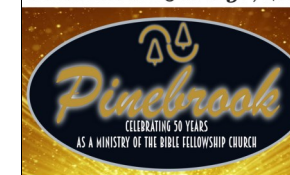
Ordinary Hearts

BFC Missions Rally
Saturday, May 5, 2018
9:00am—1:30pm
Faith BFC, Lancaster, PA

Call or email the Board of Missions **by April 30**
for information and reservations
610-398-8776 or office@bfcbo.org

Nursery provided
Grades 1st-5th Super Rally
Teen Event!
An offering will be taken

Celebration June 30, 2018



SPECIAL DAY
JUST FOR YOU

Happy
50 YEARS!!

Drop by for the day or for a few hours
celebrating Pinebrook's 50 years as a
BFC ministry!!

WWW.PINEBROOK.ORG
OR CALL 800-806-5501



June 30th Celebration Schedule

1-4:30pm Pool Open
3pm Snackshop Open
3pm Volleyball Tournament
\$30 donation enters your team
to compete for the
Pinebrook 50th Celebration
Cup!
4pm "Straight Street"
4-5pm Games for all ages
4-6pm Free Pony Rides & Hayrides
5:30pm Dinner
7:15pm "The King's Army" Concert
9:00pm Fireworks

Give-away Drawings!
\$20 or more donation enters
you into the drawings

Pinebrook Bible Conference & Retreat Center
5339 Pinebrook Rd
E Stroudsburg, PA 18301
800-806-5501
www.pinebrook.org

MAY 4, 2018 HYMN SING
Pinebrook Bible Conference & Retreat Center

then Sings my soul...

9:30 Coffee & Pastries | 10:00 Program
11:00 Coffee Break | 11:15 Program | 12:00 Lunch

Bruce Heffner

\$10- Sing & Lunch
\$30 Overnight Stay- Friday Breakfast,
Sing & Lunch (based on double
occupancy room)
Hymn Sings in Fellowship Hall

5339 Pinebrook Road,
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(800) 806-5501
www.pinebrook.org

Please call at least 1 day prior to event date for reservations

JUNE 1, 2018 HYMN SING
Pinebrook Bible Conference & Retreat Center

then Sings my soul...

9:30 Coffee & Pastries | 10:00 Program
11:00 Coffee Break | 11:15 Program | 12:00 Lunch

The New Fellowship Trio

\$10- Sing & Lunch
\$30 Overnight Stay- Friday Breakfast,
Sing & Lunch (based on double
occupancy room)
Hymn Sings in Fellowship Hall

5339 Pinebrook Road,
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(800) 806-5501
www.pinebrook.org

Please call at least 1 day prior to event date for reservations





Operation Christmas Child

For the month of 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 shoe-boxes.

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

BFC NEWS

NEW Bible Fellowship Church Website



BFC.ORG

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

UNITY

EPHESIANS 4:3
MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY
OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE.

MAY 3, 2018

#PRAY4UNITY
NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG



Local Prayer Meeting: at Media Courthouse from Noon - 1pm

Local Gathering, with speakers: at Rose Tree Park from 11:30am - 1:30pm



Upcoming Youth Events

May 6,13	Baptism Class
May 20	HS Reading Terminal
May 23	Tailgate Party
June 24	Church Picnic

Baptism Class - for Teens and Their Parents May 6 and 13 from 11 am-noon

Recently our Pastors and Elders have been discussing the Biblical role of baptism, especially as it relates to teenagers in the church. As we talked with the Youth Leaders they decided to create a 2 week class on baptism for all the middle school and high school youth that would be taught by Pastor Aaron. In addition to the teens, the class is also open to all parents of youth. The class will be on Sunday May 6 and 13 beginning at 10:45am in room 201. See Pastor Aaron with questions.

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

Victory Valley Camp - Dining Hall Update

During our last Missions Conference we took a special offering that went, in part, toward building a new Dining Hall at Victory Valley. Here is an update on that project:

Thank you to everyone who has helped fund the new Dining Hall and Kitchen Project. With your faithful financial contributions, over \$693,000 has been raised so far towards the goal of \$1,300,000. Praise the Lord! Construction started in October 2017 and is on schedule to be completed in time for summer camps this year!

May God bless you for your kindness and generosity in keeping Victory Valley Camp a place where young lives are changed forever through coming to know and grow in Jesus Christ in a Christian camp environment. Please pray for God's continued blessing and safety for the construction workers and staff.

"But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.." I Cor. 15:57



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 it's 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.

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)

The Wiegand Word

June 2004- we had just moved into our new home, had an 11 month old baby and flew out to Montana to be a part of Grace's first team to Camp Promise, a camp for special needs people. We had no idea the impact that ministry would have in our lives. Fourteen years and eight trips later, it has become part of who the Wiegand family is and what we do. In August of 2017, we were asked by Jeff and Emmy Ort, the BCM missionaries who run Camp Promise, to move out to Montana and join them in ministry. Having just stepped down from almost fourteen years of ministry with the youth and children at Grace, we were seeking the Lord as to what my next step would be in ministry. I was excited about this possibility and we took a month or so to pray and seek God's will. Our hesitation was to leave family both biological and church, but God is faithful and has helped us feel peace in the process. So what will we be doing? Our chief job will be to support the ministry to Special Needs people that Jeff and Emmy spearhead in the upper, northwest corner of Montana. Of course we will be at camp and working in that ministry but we will also be working with the year round ministry God has given them. Locally in Kalispell, the whole family will be involved in the Friday Night Out Program. FNO is a time when special needs people come to hang out at church and their caretakers and parents get a break or a chance to connect with other family. I will also be doing some one on one discipleship and helping to grow the faith and knowledge of Christ in some of the campers. The plan is also to go to other areas and take FNO on the road to pockets of campers in other cities. That will involve travelling up to 4-5 hours one way to have a FNO program. Long term at the Big Sky Bible

Praise & Prayer Requests

Praises:

1. Renovations complete and we have the house on the market. (For safety while renovating and the funds to do so)
2. Mike was offered and accepted a job in Kalispell doing homecare.
3. Continued support of family and friends.

Prayer Requests:

1. God would sell the house. We have an open house on April 22nd.
** UPDATE: There is a buyer interested in the house **
2. We would have peace in His timing.
3. Working out the logistics of the move to Montana.
4. Finding someone to travel out with us and help with driving.
5. Peace for all of us as we say good-bye and as we make new friends in Montana.
6. We fly out to Montana May 16-20 to participate in a conference for the BCM missionaries out there. We will try to pack in a some meetings with the realtor and with Mike's new employer too.



Mike, Beth, Emma and Caleb



Camp we are hoping to build facilities and grow the Camp Promise program to more weeks in the summer. That goal will allow for more campers to come and here about Jesus, but will also require more staff and development of the program. Lord willing, we hope to pack up the moving truck and head west in mid/late June. Mike already has a job in Kalispell as a Homecare Occupational Therapist that starts in early July and the kids are looking forward to

getting plugged into camp, church and a new school. Please keep us in your prayers. We have many things to do in the next couple of months and know that God is our ever present help and guide.