



GRACE HAPPENINGS

A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE:

This month I want to share a blog post I read from Tim Challies. It is a simple read bringing to the forefront a subject we need to embrace – the messiness of ministry.

“It’s is God’s grace to you if your church is messy. I heard those words come out of my mouth yesterday as I was guest-preaching at a church close to home. I said them, and I believe them. At least, I believe them most of the time.

I love my church. I love the people I gather with week-by-week. They are fun and safe and easy to be with. But who said church should be safe and easy?

Yesterday, when I was at that church, I preached on the parable of The Lost Sheep, which is actually a parable about a kind and loving shepherd (see Luke 15). Like so many of Jesus’ parables, this one was told in the presence of two groups of people—people who were convinced of their own badness and people who were convinced of their own goodness. And in this case Jesus was speaking primarily to those good and religious people.

The parable is simple: A sheep has wandered off and the shepherd will not rest until he has found it and restored it to himself. And I thought about that sheep, wandering lost and alone in the wilderness, and that shepherd who went looking for it. There are so many different ways that shepherd could have reacted when he finally found it.

- He finds his sheep and rebukes it: “You stupid, ignorant sheep. How dare you wander off from me?” No. He doesn’t rebuke it.
- He finds his sheep and punishes it: “You dumb, disobedient sheep. I’ll teach you to wander off!” No, he doesn’t punish it.
- He finds his sheep and is disgusted by it: “You are filthy and smelly! What on earth did you get into? You go clean yourself up right now and I’ll come back later.” No, he doesn’t make it clean itself up.

- He finds his sheep and sells it: “I can’t have a sheep like you polluting my flock. Do you know how you made me look in front of everyone else?” No, he doesn’t get rid of it.



The text says, “And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.” When that shepherd finds his sheep, he

cares for it. He hoists that big, heavy, dirty sheep onto his shoulders and carries it home, rejoicing all the way. He carries it home and calls his friends and throws a party to celebrate.

The point of the parable is that God loves to save the lost. He loves to save sinners. He doesn’t save those who are righteous and whose lives are all put together, he saves those who are just plain bad.

If God is in the business of saving sinners, we need to expect that church will be full of sinners—those who are still wandering and those who have only just been found. If our churches reflect God’s heart for the lost, they will be full of people with problems, full of people showing the consequences of a lifetime of wandering. And this means that church may not be a safe and easy place. It may not be a place full of people who have it all together. It may be messy. It should be messy. Thank God if it is messy.”

**When you feel DOWN
Look above
GOD is there**

FEBRUARY 2018

Worship

John 4:23 - "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Pray for our shut-ins, send a card, make a phone call, pay a visit (call first), pick up groceries / medicines. Addresses and phone numbers are in the church directory

Wilma Davidson
Julie Lindsey
Russ Hearton
Roland Brooks

Carol Sarver
John Gay
Gerry Gladfelter
Wanda Buttrey

REMEMBER TO ORDER YOUR SANDWICHES/SUBS TO SUPPORT MISSION TRIPS/PROJECTS



Enjoy a Stuffed Sub or
Pretzel Sandwich for
only \$4.50—a variety of
meats and cheeses
available

Orders Due: Sunday,
February 11

Pick Up: Wednesday,
February 21

Order forms are in your Mailbox
Extra Forms available at Usher Stands

Baptism and Communion



Sunday, February 18

6:30-p.m.

Contact Pastor Steve to be baptized

Grace Baptist Church
3920 East Prospect Road
York, PA 17406
(717) 755-0091

gracebaptistyork@comcast.net
www.gracebaptistyork.com

Sunday: 8:15 Contemporary Worship
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Traditional Worship
6:30 Against the Flow Youth
6:30 Evening Worship Service
Wednesday: 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer for Adults /
Pioneer Clubs / Against the Flow Youth

Rev. Steve Warner
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jon Barrett
Assistant Pastor



Wednesday nights at Against the Flow youth group we just completed a series called, "Deceived," which zeroes in on various world-views and examines how they compare to Biblical Christianity. It is clear that no world-view even comes close to the validity and reality of Biblical Christianity. We saw that all other world-views center around man and works while, Biblical Christianity centers on God, and His grace and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

Starting Wednesday, January 24, we moved into a groundbreaking 8 week series called "Life," where we will illustrate that only Biblical Christianity provides solid, concrete answers to life's 4 biggest questions on Origin, Meaning, Morality, and Destiny. Where do I come from? Why do I have significance? How do I differentiate between right and wrong? And what happens after death? We are very excited to start "Life," and are praying for a big impact with the teens.

Sunday nights are dedicated to Against the Flow small groups. We take the lesson from Wednesday and go a step deeper in a small group setting. Thorough and challenging questions are asked, and great discussion occurs between leaders and teens, which allows us to get practical, personal, and go deeper with Christ.

Upcoming events:

Winter Retreat at High Point Camp
February 23-25

Pastor Jon

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER THE CHILDREN/TEENS WHO ARE EARNING POINTS TO ATTEND HIGH POINT CAMP THIS SUMMER

Junior camp for grades 3-7 is July 16 - 20

Teen camp for grades 7-12 is July 23 - 28

Early registration is **now until March 30**—register **Tier 3**

Register your child on line at: hpcamp.org

Print an extra copy of the registration and amount paid and put in Julie Shaeffer's mailbox

Reminder: GBC reimburses parents based on the early registration fee

GUEST SPEAKER

Chaplain Dave Hildebrand
Good News Jail and Prison
Ministry
Sunday, February 4, at 6:30 p.m.



GOD'S VALENTINE NEVER ENDS

Look up these scriptures and see God's Valentine's to mankind.

- V - Voice - Mark 9:7
- A - Acknowledge - Proverbs 3:6
- L - Love - John 13:34 & John 3:16
- E - Earth - Genesis 1:1 & Matthew 5:5
- N - Name - Acts 4:12
- T - Tears - Luke 7:38
- I - Immanuel - Matthew 1:23
- N - Naomi - Ruth 1: 16 - 18
- E - Everlasting - Psalm 90:2

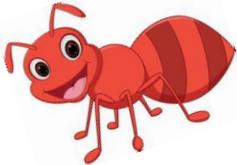
You can read His Valentine 24/7/365
Go For It!



**Special Business Meeting to
Discuss Proposed Budget Change**

PIONEER CLUBS MID-WINTER'S NIGHT PICNIC

Saturday, February 17
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



Open to all club members
including Skippers and Scooters
and your families

Bring a picnic supper for your family, dessert or drink to share, blanket to sit on, a sense of humor and a willingness to participate in silly activities. Wear dark colored old clothes—they will get messy!

RSVP to George Rumsey or Kathy Wagaman by February 7

DELTA PIONEERS NEWS

At the beginning of January, 40+ Delta Pioneer Clubbers received awards for completing "Showing God's Love to Others", "Chef Skill" and "Playing Together". Eight members were recognized for their special efforts in memorizing the Books of the Bible: Hikers - Alexia Beck, Lincoln Porta, Paige Read, Kaden Wagaman; Adventurers - Ethan Lindsey, Eliza Noll, Logan Patterson and Navigators - Emma Porta.

We are presently in the middle of "Accepting God's Love", "Let's Communicate", and "International Games". Many thanks to all the adults who are helping out with these activities.

Memory verses for Unit 3 are Romans 8:38 - 39 and John 10:27.

And we still need old, holey, mate-less white socks for a game!!

6TH ANNUAL MEN'S RESURRECTION BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 3
9:00 a.m.

New Menu for Buffet Breakfast

Time of Worship and Praise

Loir McDaniel, Guest Speaker



Loir evangelizes, preaches the Gospel and teaches the Bible to the people of Sandtown-Winchester and the surrounding communities. He and his wife founded and continue to lead a successful Sidewalk Sunday School program for at-risk, under-served children in the Eastern and Western Districts of Baltimore City. Loir has been actively involved in evangelism for several years. He has participated in several short-term missions trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Loir is also a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Maryland. Loir has a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Florida.

Free Will Offering Will Be Taken

Sign-up Sheets Coming Soon

Ladies: Keep watching the bulletin for food donations and servers needed.

**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE LIST OF ADULT
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR THE SPRING
QUARTER (STARTING IN MARCH)**

Sign up by February 11 so you get the class you want to take
and to receive a book if one is offered for that class

Classes available include:

1. ABC Class
2. Women's Class – Becoming a Woman of Simplicity by
Cynthia Heald
3. I, II and III John
4. Men's Class - "How God Makes Men," by Patrick Morley
5. Connect Class (Discovering Church Membership)



