



# GRACE

# HAPPENINGS

## **A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE:**

“Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve....”  
(Joshua 24:15)

Graduation is a rite of passage unlike any other. When graduating from high school, you move from being treated like a child to being counted an adult, both in society and in any academic setting you might enter. Colleges aren't even allowed to discuss your grades with your parents apart from your consent. Childhood is over. Adulthood beckons.

Graduation from college brings more adult decisions to be made. What do I do now? Do I relocate for better opportunities? Which job will best suit my interests and desires? But most importantly (and the only questions that should be asked), what would God have me to do and where would He have me to do it?

How should you respond to the blessing and challenge?

Above any response is this – seek to fulfill God's will for your life and to glorify Him! With that said, let me throw out a few reminders for along the journey.

The first is this - Own Your Faith.

If you come from a Christian home, you have benefited tremendously from a host of supportive circumstances (household rules, numerous protections, church life). Testing awaits as you enter the world. It won't be enough to ride the coat tails of your parents' faith. If you're not sure about Christianity, now is the time to settle the matter (Ecclesiastes 12:1). Christianity is a faith unlike any other because it's based on historical events that were verifiable to thousands of people in Christ's day (1 Corinthians 15:3–6, 12–14) — some of whom died for what they would have known to be false, had it been false. If you have doubts, ask away. The existence of God, the reliability of the Bible, the resurrection of Jesus, Jesus being the only way to God — there is a wealth of material which addresses these and other questions.

But do you want to base your life on Jesus Christ? You'll soon encounter new opportunities to misuse God's good gifts in ways that seem alluring — that seem to offer immediate pleasure. Will you believe the lie that God is a cosmic killjoy, out to rob you from experiencing the good things of life (Genesis 3:6)? Or will you trust that the One who made you knows best, that His rules are an expression of His love, and that His ways lead to your greatest happiness (Psalm 16:11)?

Next, you need to - Own Your Relationships.

The Christian faith is lived out in community. So you'll need to find a good church. Somewhere you can worship, learn, grow, and serve. Somewhere you can form friendships and where you can be a friend. Look at a few church websites before you leave home. Check out their beliefs, listen to their sermons, and be aware of their ministries. Make church attendance a priority early. It's a harder habit to form later.

At college and in later life, the easiest friendships aren't always the best. To become wise, you need to walk (or do life) with the wise (Proverbs 13:20). Look for others who share your commitment to the things of God and faithfully invest in them. Relational evangelism is worth pursuing, especially at college, but make sure you also nurture friendships that strengthen your faith (Proverbs 27:17). We're commanded to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13–16) — which presupposes we are salt and light. To make a difference in the world we must be different than the world. Holiness in lifestyle, combined with a gracious demeanor, provide a winsome alternative to the wasteland of hedonism and materialism that are rampant on college campuses and youth culture in general.

And finally - Own Your Decisions.

Assessing situations, weighing alternatives, and thinking critically are like using muscles. Flabbiness comes from disuse; strength comes through practice. The next few years are full of choices — which college (or trade) to pursue, what to study, how to pay for it, and more, which job to accept and

## **Worship**

JUNE 2018

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."

where to relocate to, if needed. It might be nice if God spoke with an audible voice at each crossroads, but that's not been my experience. We should pray (James 1:5). We should seek counsel from trustworthy people who know us (Proverbs 15:22). We should consider where we've been successful and what activities we enjoy, as these point to where, over time, we might be most useful in this world for the good of others and the glory of God.

Panicked that you'll miss God's will? God wants us to follow Him more than we do. His moral will is revealed in the Bible. His sovereign will is revealed as we live it. So make the best decisions you can based on sound judgment, accept the consequences, learn from any missteps, and trust God to shower you with mercy and goodness (Psalm 23:6). With God no path is without difficulty and no path is without blessing.

Congratulations on your graduation. Godspeed in the days ahead and grace be with you to the end.



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!

Graduate Recognition  
Sunday during Both  
Morning Services

June 3



*Ephraim Berthold Graduates from  
Dallastown High School*

My high school graduation is the end of a year which was full of new experiences and great people! Being involved in so many activities in my senior year here made my time fly as fast as never before. I ran cross country in the beginning of the year and managed the girls basketball team in the winter, which was by the way very successful this year. I helped the performing arts club with their play "The Diary of Anne Frank" and was involved in the musical "James and the Giant Peach" which won the Encore Award for the best vocals. In addition, I played the violin in the orchestra, and sang in the concert choir. Later in the year I joined the string and vocal ensembles. I really enjoyed getting to know so many amazing people - at school, at church and otherwise.

My high school graduation in the US isn't the end of my high school career. When I return to Germany, I will have two more years of high school before I graduate a second time.

I want to use the opportunity to say THANK YOU! to Brenda and Roger and to all my host sisters and host brother-in-laws -

Jennifer, Julianne, Jenise, Travis, Eric and Tim - for welcoming me into their family. I had a great time in the US and they all are one of the biggest reasons why.

I also want to say thanks to everybody at church. I felt very welcomed and encouraged!

*Ryan McCaffery Graduates from Central York School District*



Overall I think that I had a pretty good high school experience full of stress, laughter, and learning. Out of my entire high school career, I have not participated in a single extracurricular activity, but was able to maintain distinguished honor roll all four years. I mainly just worked a lot and I still do which takes up a lot of time.

After my junior year I had the privilege to go on my first missions trip to Honduras which was a great experience for me. I have had the opportunity in school to talk to some of my non-Christian friends about God and the Gospel and they were not interested. However, I do have a few Christian friends in school that I talk with about the Bible sometimes.

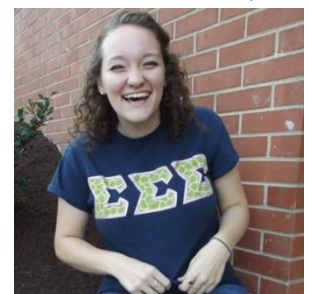
In my free time I enjoy hanging out with friends and playing video games.

I have been praying to God about my future and where He wants me and I am leaning towards an electrician's apprenticeship through a company called IEC which stands for Independent Electrical Contractors. I plan to stay local and after I finish my apprenticeship, I plan to go to college or take classes to get a higher position. That is the plan for now unless God guides me in a different direction.

*Cameron Rumsey Graduates from Christian School of York*

*Abbi Riordan Graduated from Lock Haven University*

The past four and a half years was a whirlwind and I am so thankful that I had the chance to go away to Lock Haven University and finish with a Physics degree and a concentration in Nanotechnology. Through my years and experience up there I had the opportunities to go to



Syracuse, NY, and New Orleans, LA, where I was able to attend the physics conferences, as well as give a talk on my research and recent findings. I had met people from all over the world in which I had to break culture and language barriers as well as religious ones. When it came to religion and physics, I was the minority in which my faith was speculated and tested almost every day. When debating my faith with my

closest colleagues it was knowing that science can prove and support my Christian faith instead of the disproof that which was the most popular belief. Outside of school work I had joined the National Social Sorority of Sigma Sigma Sigma. Through the sorority we have done a lot of volunteer work and outreach with local churches and organizations, as well as hold study hours to keep our focus on school work. There I had also met a group of girls that would become my life-long friends and who would be my support system through many times. They taught me my now favorite quote "let your faith be bigger than your fear". As of right now I am working at Shiloh Veterinary Hospital in York as a receptionist and will be learning the analysis part of the business with the business manager. I am again so thankful for the opportunities that I have had and owe all of the glory to God.

*Lydia Stayer earned her Master's Degree*



Lydia Stayer graduated in December with a Master's degree in Special Education-Autism from Slippery Rock University. She is currently a learning support teacher at York Haven Elementary School in the Northeastern School District. She also serves as the PTO Teacher Representative which has enabled her to assist with planning many fun events for the school body. God has truly blessed Lydia with inspiring colleagues who have helped to mentor and to encourage her over the years, including a small teacher prayer group held each Friday morning at York Haven. When not at school, Lydia enjoys serving at Grace Baptist, spending time with family, reading, and experimenting with recipes. No matter what the future may hold for her, Lydia prays Proverbs 138:8a (ESV): "The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me."

*Samantha Gehly earned her Master's Degree in Special Education from Elizabethtown College*

**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  
Gerry Gladfelter  
Rita Brewer

Carol Sarver  
Russ Hearton  
Wanda Buttrey

**MANDATORY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TRAINING**

Sunday, June 3  
5:15 p.m.

All Teachers, Helpers, Subs who work with Children, Youth, or Adults are Required to Attend

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

"Train up a child in the way he should go—but be sure you go that way yourself."—Charles Spurgeon

**SPECIAL DAY TO CELEBRATE OUR FATHERS**

Sunday, June 17  
No Evening Service/Activities to give you more time to spend with your FATHER

"A man ought to live so that everybody knows he is a Christian ... and most of all, his family ought to know."—Dwight L. Moody

My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.



Answers VBS

# TIME LAB

Discovering Jesus from Eternity  
Past to Eternity Future

June 18-22  
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Age 3 to Grade 8

Online Registration is Now Open  
Or complete a Registration Sheet

Keep watching the sound booth wall for **snack items needed.**

## MONTHLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Sunday, June 24  
During Both Morning Services—8:15 and 10:45

# SHANNON BUNCH

## A GOSPEL EXPERIENCE



Shannon Bunch in Concert  
Sunday, June 24  
6:30 p.m.

Enjoy an “Experience”  
You Will Long Remember  
Free-will Offering will be  
Taken

“I was born January 1974  
in Barbourville, KY; the  
foothills of the

Appalachian Mountains & the Cumberland Gap. In 2005  
moved to Nashville, TN where my family and I resided for 10  
years. Then we packed up the wagons and went west now  
living in Dallas, TX.

I started this journey in 1996 pursuing full time music  
evangelism. From the beginnings in a small, rural town of  
Barbourville, KY, music and the church have always been a  
part of who I am. I was singing at the age of 3 and playing the  
piano at 4, but at 14 I realized that a lifelong “church goer”  
wouldn’t make you a “Heaven goer”! That is where I began  
my walk with the Lord.

Sometimes it’s a challenge to walk in the path that God has  
before us. Why, because life happens. We are real people

living in a real world with real problems. I know what it’s like  
to be a teenager and diagnosed with bipolar disorder and  
wrestle with depression, anxiety, fear, and hopelessness.  
However, I always knew God had a plan, but I questioned  
where He was. I was exhausted by other’s comments “...God  
knows what’s going on...God’s going to take care of this...”  
at which I would then mentally process a reply, “If God really  
knew what was going on then why hasn’t he done something!”

Mary and Martha felt the same way after they sent for Jesus to  
come and heal their brother Lazarus. It appeared Jesus was 4  
days late. Lazarus had died. But, when you have the  
Resurrection in your presence “it’s all good”! You may think  
Jesus is late but His watch is not broken. And I suppose you  
can say He showed up right on time for me, too!

A final thought for those of you who may struggle with this  
and similar disorders; in addition to seeking God, please seek  
out professional counseling and medical treatment. I did both!

On another note, I married a TEXAN! That’s not a big deal  
unless you are from Texas! In 2005 Melissa and I signed the  
line “for better or worse, in sickness and health”. You know  
the phrases. It’s when life happens words must become  
actions. Case in point during 2008, with Melissa about 5  
months pregnant, we were told our little girl would be born  
with Down’s syndrome. While all children, regardless of how  
they are “packaged”, are a gift from God, the roller coaster of  
emotions was set into motion. We opted for a second opinion  
and the test indicated the “markers” or indicators for Down’s  
syndrome had more than tripled. Take note that one of the  
markers for Down’s syndrome are excessive folds of skin on  
the back of the neck. We saw all the markers with our own  
eyes but asked for one last option, an amniocentesis. At this  
time we were asked if the test came back positive if we were  
considering terminating the pregnancy.

Over our adult lives we had been critical and perhaps  
judgmental of those who had chosen to end pregnancies for  
whatever reason. This was not an option for us. But, let me tell  
you the anguish of processing those moments was difficult.  
Our Faith was in test but not in question.

After the third test and a two week wait, the results were in. It  
was “all good”! The doctors thought they made a mistake but  
we know God intervened!

Now remember those excessive folds of skin on the back of  
the neck? When Emme Blu was born, two weeks early, she  
weighed 9 lbs. 13oz. The excessive folds were FAT! Praise  
the Lord for FAT!

Within days of that big delivery, I felt something wasn’t right  
with her cranium and parental instincts kicked in pretty fast  
for this first time dad. At 4 days old we brought that to the  
attention of her pediatrician. Instantly, we were referred to a  
plastics and neurosurgeon. She had Metopic Craniosynostosis.  
In simpler terms she did not have a “soft spot” in the middle  
suture that goes from the forehead to the crown. It had already  
closed and calcified, therefore surgery was necessary. At 5 1/2  
months old Emme had a craniofacial reconstruction.

The first morning post-op when I walked into the hospital room I did not recognize Emme. Her head had swollen twice its normal size and my heart was torn out of my chest. But after nine days at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, we brought home a healthy happy baby girl. She is now 5 years old and you can see from the picture above, she's beautiful.

I know this is a bit lengthy but I want you to see not what we've been through, but what God has done! There is no pity where there is praise! There is no helplessness when there is Hope! And there is no fear where there is faith!

My final thought is simple. The will of God will not lead you where the grace of God can't keep you."  
<http://www.shannonbunch.com/>



Be in prayer for this youth outreach ministry  
June 29

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

All teens are invited to attend this ministry outreach  
and bring along your friends!

## Thanks to Pastor Steve, Jayne and their Helpers for a Wonderful Singles' Appreciation Dinner



