



# GRACE HAPPENINGS

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

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;" Colossians 4:2 (NASB)

F.B. Meyer, the author of the great little book, "The Secret of Guidance", said "The great tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but un-offered prayer."

Instead of it being something we do every day, like breathing, eating and walking and talking, it seems to have become like that little glass covered box on the wall that says, "break in case of emergency." It is true that so very often we associate prayer with crises in our life.

Prayer is, for the most part, an untapped resource, an unexplored continent where untold treasure remains to be unearthed. It is talked about more than anything else and practiced less than anything else. And yet, for the believer it remains one of the greatest gifts our Lord has given us outside of salvation.

Paul was someone who understood prayer and its power. Prayer was a part of Paul's life. You cannot really be a good Christian and not pray, just like you cannot have a good marriage if you don't talk to your wife. You can be a Christian and not pray, just like you can be married and not talk to your wife. But in both circumstances, you will be miserable. Prayer is the pipeline of communication between God and His people, between God and those who love Him.

### *Pray with persistence*

Paul begins by saying in v. 2, "Devote yourselves to prayer," (NASB) or "Continue earnestly in prayer," (NKJV). In the original language it says, "continue steadfastly in prayer."



The word translated, "continue steadfastly," is one word in the original language. It can be translated, "persist in, adhere firmly to, or remain devoted to or to give unremitting care to." It carries with it the idea of dedication.

Of the ten times it is used in the New Testament four of them have to do with being devoted to prayer. It is a very powerful word and in this verse is given as an imperative, or a command. In other words, persistence in prayer is not an option for the Christian; it is an order from the Lord Himself.

Two of the most instructive parables Jesus ever told on prayer, one in Luke 18 and the other in Luke 11, both have to do with being persistent and not giving up in prayer.

Luke 18:1 says, "Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart."

Luke 11:9 is where we find the promise that says, "ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you." Each of those verbs is in the present tense, active voice and could be translated, "keep on asking, keep on seeking, and keep on knocking." Jesus does not want us to give up in prayer, He instructs us to be persistent.

Now there is a difference between a persistent prayer and a long prayer. A person who is persistent in prayer does not necessarily have to pray for a long time. Persistence means not giving up.

Some people give up easily, they quit because they say they don't feel like praying, the joy is gone, the feeling is gone. But we are not to live by our feelings but to live by the commandments of our Lord who tells us to pray without ceasing.

## **Building Together**

MAY 2020

"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near."

Hebrews 10:24-25

George Muller, known as one of the greatest prayer warriors of all times had this to say about persistence in prayer: "It is a common temptation of Satan to make us give up the reading of the Word and prayer when our enjoyment is gone; as if it were of no use to read the scriptures when we do not enjoy them, and as if it were no use to pray when we have no spirit of prayer. The truth is that, in order to enjoy the Word, we ought to continue to read it, and the way to obtain a spirit of prayer is to continue praying. The less we read the Word of God, the less we desire to read it, and the less we pray, the less we desire to pray."

### REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Wilma Davidson  
Jack and Julie Lindsey  
Rita Brewer

Carol Sarver  
Russ Hearton  
John Klock



## Sunday, May 10

We will have our online services (Kids' Sunday School at 9:45 and worship at 10:45 AM). At 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Pastor Steve and our deacons and their families will be gathering at the GBC parking lot to welcome you to do a drive thru visit to have the opportunity to see and greet you. Also, we will have carnations for all the Moms. The parking lot will be marked for you to safely navigate your car around the parking lot and the deacons'/pastor's families will be stationed at different locations around the perimeter. Traffic will move in a one-way direction and access to the parking lot will be by the mission house only (Freysville Road). **Social distancing will be practiced, and we are asking each family stopping by to stay in your car so that we do not end up with in-person gatherings.**

## TENTATIVE SANDWICH SALE TO SUPPORT MISSION TRIPS/PROJECTS

Remember to order your Subs or Pretzel Sandwiches for only \$4.50—a variety of meats and cheeses available

Orders Due: Sunday, May 17  
Pick Up: Wednesday, May 27

Call Missy Henise or Barb Rumsey to place your order

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  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
6:30 Evening Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer for Adults  
Pioneer Clubs /  
Against the Flow Youth

Rev. Steve Warner

Pastor

## WOMEN OF GBC

While pondering 1 Peter 3:3-4 "Your adornment must not be merely external ..but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle spirit, which is precious in the sight of God." (NAS), a particular Sister in Christ at GBC, immediately came to mind. Within a few seconds other women, some Mothers, others not, married and unmarried, young and old entered my heart of thoughts.

We are even blessed with some teenage girls that show spiritual gifts and maturity; they provide hope for the future. Just as the women that went to the tomb where Christ was laid, all the females in His Church have a place of importance in His eternal plan.

Men, we are richly blessed to have such a spiritually mature group doing the work of the Lord at Grace Baptist Church.

We must always keep them in prayer and consistently thank God for them.

Someday the young women will be like the elder sisters: Proverbs 16:31 A gray head is a crown of glory: it is found in the way of righteousness." (NAS). So don't be too quick to color that gray ladies. God has a good reason for it.



## JUNE 2, 2020 NEW DATE FOR THE PA PRIMARY

On March 27, Governor Wolf signed Senate Bill 422, which rescheduled Pennsylvania's primary election from April 28 to **June 2** due to the COVID-19 emergency. Voters have the option to vote by mail-in ballot rather than going to their polling place on election day. **Mail-in ballot applications will be accepted through Tuesday, May 26, 2020.**

### What are mail ballots?

In Pennsylvania, you now have two options for mail ballots. You may either choose a mail-in ballot or an absentee ballot to request, complete, and return to your [county election office](#).

- **Absentee ballot** – If you plan to be out of the municipality on election day or if you have a disability or illness, you should request this ballot type, which still requires you to list a reason for your ballot.
- **Mail-in ballot** – Any qualified voter may apply for a mail-in ballot. You may simply request this ballot without a reason.

In order to request either ballot type, you must be registered to vote. Please visit [Check Your Registration Status](#) to review your registration information

Please note, if you plan to vote using an absentee or mail-in ballot in the 2020 GENERAL PRIMARY held on 6/2/2020, **your completed application must be received in the county office by 5:00 p.m. on 5/26/2020. The deadline to return your voted absentee or mail-in ballot is 8:00 p.m. on 6/2/2020.**

Apply Online at [VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot](https://VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot).

### Or complete a paper mail-in ballot application:

- download and print at [VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot](https://VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot)

### Or have a paper application mailed to you:

- You can contact your **county election office** directly to request a paper application.
- Or you can contact the Department of State to request an application by emailing [ra-voterreg@pa.gov](mailto:ra-voterreg@pa.gov) or calling **1-877-VOTESPA**.

### Step 2: Mail your application:

Send your mail-in ballot application to the [county election office](#). The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot is one week before the election.

"In a world that might say one vote doesn't matter. . .it does matter because each person is of infinite worth and value to God. . .Your vote is a declaration of importance as a person and a citizen."  
Billy Graham