**Grace Lutheran Church** 

## **AUGUST Grace**

AUGUST 2024 VOL 25: ISSUE 7



Fellowship and Worship Youth Ministry special Events ermon Series







# Renew Your Faith

## **Pondering Along The Way**

#### The Devotion of a Disciple

There was once a church that as a community was totally and wholly sold out to God and one another. Among them there was such a unity and caring that even outsiders stood in awe and

respect. Those who were part of this community were devoted to God and to one another. Their devotion went so far that no one was needy among them. They saw to that by caring for each other as family. Their witness was so bold that

nothing intimidated them, for they knew that lives were at stake, eternally. There was once a church that despite incredible hardship among the people, this community grew faster than

anyone had ever witnessed. There was once a community that was filled with such power from God and such humbleness among the people that real change

happened. Lives were transformed. Relationships were healed and reconciled. A world was changed. There was once a church.

Why can't it exist today? It did once. It is recorded in the second chapter of Acts. Has God lost His passion for such a thing? Is God powerless to make it happen again? Do the lost no longer need to be saved?

I have no doubt that many in our midst believe this and want this. Yet, it does not come easily or naturally. There is so much in this world to attract and distract our hearts. But there was once a church! Why not us?

Building a church like this will require devotion and discipline. Is it any wonder that we read of the early church – Acts 2:42 - 47 *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to* 

*fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.* <sup>43</sup> *Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.* <sup>44</sup> *All the believers were together and had* 

everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the

favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

They knew that without His power and the fellowship of one another, they could never do it on their own.

Let us then, in this place and at this time, devote ourselves to the same. Why not us? Why not now? There once was a church!

Will you join me in entering into a covenant to build such a church among us and within each of us? Beginning with our gathering joyfully and faithfully on Sunday mornings. If you have been away for some time, please come back. We will leave the light on. :) You are always welcome. It is Jesus who said, "Anyone who comes to me, I will never cast out." John 6:37 He is the one who has put out the welcome mat.

Secondly, will you join us in a small group journey this Fall? We will meet in homes or in the church before worship to be in the Word together and share time of prayer and

fellowship with each other. A sign up list will be offered soon.

I look forward to this journey with you, as we grow deeper in our devotion as His Disciple. For the love of it and for the need of it, let us devote ourselves to Him in this journey as His people. I look forward to what God will do among us. There once was a church and even now, I see it emerging in our midst by His power and grace. There once was such a church – why not us?

#### **Continuing Sermon Series**

The Death that Brings Growth This 3:1-10
The Marks that Bring Community 3:9-14
The Peace of Christ 3:15-16
Go Joyfully to Your Work 3:17-4:1
Devoted to Prayer 4:1-6
Thank God for People 4:7-18

#### **Upcoming Worship/Preaching Schedule**

August 4<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry August 11<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry August 18<sup>th</sup> – Jim Roggenbaum August 25<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry September 1<sup>st</sup> – Pastor Willson September 8<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry September 15<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Eddie Scheler, Pastor Barry Leading Worship September 29<sup>th</sup> – Jim Roggenbaum

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October 6<sup>th</sup> – John Schubert, Pastor Barry Leading Worship
October 13<sup>th</sup> - ???
October 20<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry
October 27<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Barry
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Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. (Mark 12:30 NIV)



#### **Please remember our shut-ins:**

Pastor and the deacons try to ensure that each person gets visitation and Communion at least once a month. BUT, a card, a phone call or a brief visit brightens the day for our brothers and sisters who can no longer attend services regularly. Cards and a list of our shut-ins are available in the Social Hall.

**Marsha Denning** 354 Interstate Pkwy. Bradford, PA 16701 814-596-7250 814-596-3439 Judy Signor 28 Brookline Ct Bradford, PA 16701 814-779-1066 Sandy Reese Bradford Manor 50 Langmaid Ln. Bradford, PA 16701

**Debbie Kelly** The Pavilion at BRMC 200 Pleasant St. Bradford, PA

**Donna Lannen** The Pavilion 200 Pleasant St. Bradford, PA 16701 **Charlotte Reinhardt** 230 Rutherford Run Bradford, PA 16701

**Ray Eidson** 100 St. Francis Dr. Apt. 107 **Betty Jean Austin** 100 St. Francis Drive Bradford, PA 16701

**Rose Hager** 144 Davis St., Apt 2 Bradford, PA 16701

Page 5



**Grace Memorials / Altar Flowers** 

Prayerfully consider donating to the Grace Memorial fund when you wish to make a memorial donation. When you donate to the Memorial Fund, a card is sent to the family of the person that you are remembering. Also, you may sign up for Altar Flowers on the chart posted in the Social Hall. This can be in memory of a loved one or friend or to commemorate a special event.

To make a donation you may use one of the envelopes in the Welcome Center and place in the collection plate, the safe or call the Church Office at 362-3244.

#### FYI

For anyone wishing to rent the Social Hall or the Community Life Center for an event, your contact person is the Church Secretary: 362-3244.

**Council Meeting** 

Church Council meeting will be at 6:30pm <u>August 5th, 2024</u> in the Social Hall. Please remember that the Congregation is always welcome!

#### **Deacon's Meeting**

The next Deacon's meeting will be at 6:00pm August 7th, 2024 in the Social Hall.

**<u>RECYCLING</u>**: Keep saving your nickel cans and nickel plastic bottles! Please leave them in the Social Hall for pick-up. Thank you! Remember: "With God all things are possible." The total raised

for 2023 was **\$5,144.63**.



#### **Deadlines for Weekly Slides, Bulletin Items**

Just a reminder that the deadline to have items placed in the weekly bulletin is Wednesday morning and the deadline for slides is Thursday morning. Please write the information in the manner you would like church secretary to print it.

#### **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Directory**

## Thank you to all who contributed to the Anniversary Directory. If you desire a copy, there are 3 options

1)email copy to you – FREE

- 2) B&W copy for \$3.00
- 3) Color copy for \$6.00.

There will be a signup sheet if you desire a copy in the back of the sanctuary. You will need to pay for your copy before we print. The Directory will not be posted on the web.

#### If you have any questions, please ask: Lynda Krakat or Tricia Coppersmith, our secretary.



Page 6

## Month of August



### Canned Meat & Water

# Please place your donations in the red bin.

All proceeds to benefit 'Bradford Destinations'





Grace Lutheran Church

Interim Pastor Barry J. Keurulainen

79 Mechanic Street Bradford, PA 16701 (814) 362-3244 Fax ((814) 362-6085

Community Life Center (814) 362-1236 CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

<u>August 5th</u> Council Meeting 6:30pm

<u>August 7th</u> Deacon's Meeting 6pm

<u>August 28th</u> First Day of School!

glmoffice@agraceplace.org www.agraceplace.org

Join Us For Worship!

Sunday 10:00am Blended

9:00am Family Education



We're On The Web! www.agraceplace.org Like us on Facebook: Grace Lutheran Ministries (Live Streaming Sundays 10am) Growing with Grace Christian Preschool Summer Office Hours: Monday: 10am-2pm Wednesday: 10am-2pm Friday: 10am-2pm

The Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter is published monthly. <u>The deadline for submissions is the 15th of</u> <u>each month</u>. If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please e-mail them to: <u>glmoffice@agraceplace.org</u> or leave them in the church