

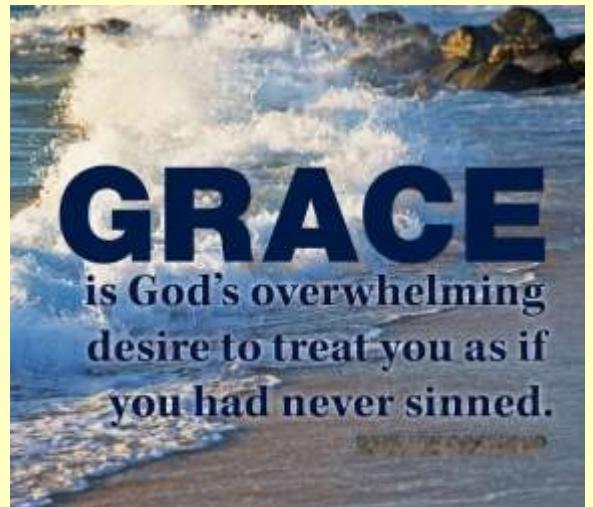


Greetings in the Name of our **LORD** !

Unexpected and Undeserved

John 1:14 *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

For the past five Sunday's it has been my distinct privilege to be preaching through the first Chapter of John's gospel. Early in the journey we defined vs. 14 as a key verse in the prologue as the only begotten is said to be full of grace and truth. Grace and Truth are a divine couplet with immense and profound implications for us. At one point in defining grace I chose a definition that grace is "**what God does in us, without us.**" There is also an older more familiar definition of grace which is an Acronym from the word G-R-A-C-E (God's riches at Christ's Expense). Grace is a key concept in our understanding every dimension of the gospel and only God offers grace perfectly and flawlessly. At times I have struggled with some of the un-graces I have witnessed and over the years encountered broadly within the church. I am not completely sure whether I have seen more grace or what I characterize as un-grace in church. I can most certainly say that in society at large—and increasingly so—there seems to be a boat load more un-grace than grace on display.



God has literally inspired the writing of the book on grace. What are some of the images of grace that should inspire God's people? Probably the most known is the thief on the cross next to Jesus—where Jesus said "**Today you will see me in paradise.**" The grace of God

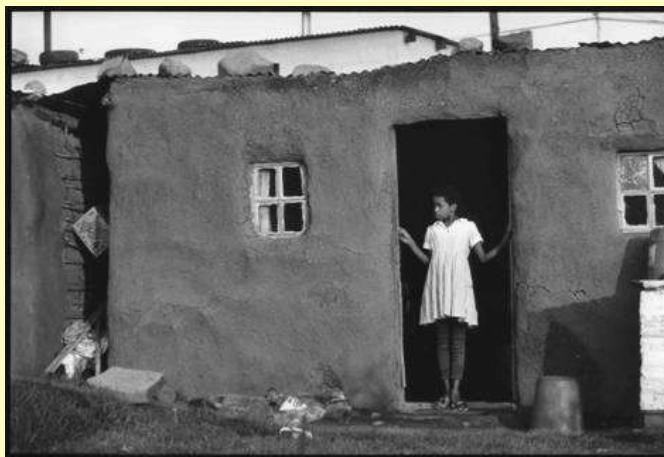
coaxed Adam and Eve out of the bushes, and murderous Moses out of the desert. God, who made a restorative place for David, though David made an immoral move on Bathsheba. God did not give up on Elijah, even though Elijah gave up on himself and God. All of these heard the voice of grace in one form or another.

And so did a **waffling** Peter hear grace after the rooster crowed,
And so did the **storm tossed** disciples hear grace after the wind ceased,
And so did the **adulterous** woman hear grace after the men with stones left,
And so did the **five time married** Samaritan woman hear grace at the well,
And so did the hard-hearted **persecutor** Saul hear grace after the blinding light struck,
And so did the **paralytic** who was lowered through the roof by his friends hear grace,
And so did the **blind man** when Jesus found him desperately living on the streets,
And so did the **disciples** hear from Jesus on the beach early one post resurrection morn.

If you want to discover grace in all its fullness, read the number one selling book in world history. Discover that History is so often about “His Story”—and that story is one of grace extended—a grace that is unexpected and undeserved. No wonder we call it **“Amazing Grace”** how else can it be rightly described. My friends, I, like you, stand in stark need of grace on a daily basis—and I hope that God will not be alone in extending it to me. I dream of pastoral ministry in a church where God’s people seek (though never fully achievable) to emulate the grace of our Lord to one another. What a wonderful and glorious ministry we have been given. A ministry full of grace and truth. Both are so very needed in life today. And both are found in the Word made Flesh.

He told me to tell you!

*Faithfully,
Pastor Robert Zimmerman*



But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness.”

2 Corinthians 12:9



ABW Ministries

Our next ABW meeting is
Thursday, April 1st at 1:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

Cook and Soothe Your Soul

Young Adult Women's Ministries Advisory Team hosts

YOUNG ADULT WOMEN'S MINISTRIES VIRTUAL COOK AND SOOTHE YOUR SOUL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021
8PMET/5PMPT

REGISTER AT WWW.ABWOMENSMINISTRIES.ORG/EVENTS
\$20 REGISTRATION FEE / SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

American Baptist Women's Ministries logo

pretty much any vegetable that you have at home. It is a great recipe to get children involved in the kitchen. Overall a wonderful dish that is comforting and nutritious.

Register Now!

[Click here](#) to register. \$20 Registration fee.

Join women from across the country for a virtual gathering that will engage and move your soul through worship and cooking. All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Beautifully Fed Food will lead us on a 90-minute cooking class making Stuffed Squash. Stuffed squash is a wonderful recipe that is fun and easy to make. The best part is that it can be stuffed with



Love Gift

Love Gift is a financial contribution over and above our regular giving. It is given out of a sense of love, faith, and gratitude to God for all of His blessings and in recognition of our need to share these blessings with others. One way to express our faith is by giving.

Love Gift Tomorrow

Love Gift has great potential to empower American Baptist mission in this new century. The story of Love Gift remains unfinished. By giving to Love Gift, American Baptists play a vital role in the continuing work of American Baptist Churches at home and abroad. And the best is yet to come!

In 2020, the congregation and friends of Westgate gave over \$245 to ABW Love Gift. Please know that your gifts are a rich blessing to the ministry of ABC locally, in our ABCOPAD region, nationally to ABC-USA and to International and Home mission.

Thank you, Marie A. Mohn, Love Gift Coordinator



Birthdays & Anniversaries for February



2/1	Susan Ferris
2/9	Harold Turner
	Daniel Chure
2/10	Htee Bwe
2/11	Rich Schramm
2/13	John Whitehead
	Ruth Hessen
2/17	Ansaar Jones
2/19	Tamara Joseph
2/20	Angela Booker-White
2/21	Ty Zappa Ferris
2/25	Ray Weaver



2/17/1973	Gary & Cora Stump
2/19/2011	Phillip & Sandra Eby



Special Dinner February 20th

Sharon and Joe Goodman have extended another hospitality/dinner offer for us. Feel free to request a Pasta Entre/ Salad/ Desert dinner to be picked up on Saturday, February 20th at noon. Sharon has emphasized that the dinner could be for yourself, or for someone you know, who would appreciate a home cooked meal. Please let the Goodmans know how many meals you would like by Tuesday, February 16th by calling and leaving a message 717 898 7124. You may pick up your meals at the Goodman's front door, 970 Mill Mar Road, Lancaster on the 20th at noon. Special thanks for this gesture of hospitality and outreach. Donations for the church's **Watch Care** fund may be placed in a box at Goodman's door, but donations not required.



Treasurer's Report-

Month Total	To January 31
Budget Income	\$11,203.00
Non-budget income	\$1,228.00



Martha L. Herdwig

Martha L. Herdwig, 93, formerly of East Petersburg, PA, passed away on Wednesday afternoon, January 13, 2021 at The Gardens at Stevens. Born in McEwensville, she was the daughter of the late George and Hazel Fritz Fry. She was the wife of the late John P. Herdwig, Sr.

Martha was a member of Westgate Baptist Church in Lancaster. Prior to her retirement, she was employed for 20 years by Pleasant View Retirement Community as a Certified Nurse's Assistant. In her younger years, she held jobs in various factories. Martha treasured her friends and remained in close contact with them.

She is survived by two sons, John P., Jr., husband of Jena Becker Herdwig, of East Petersburg, and James R. Herdwig of East Petersburg; two grandsons Ross W. Herdwig of Lancaster and Matthew B., husband of Loretta Roschel, of Shippensburg; three great granddaughters; a great great granddaughter; and a sister Margaret Vognetz of Watsontown. She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Susan L. Kipp; and three siblings, Dorothy Koch, Thelma Allen, and George Fry.

If desired, contributions may be made to Westgate Baptist Church, 2235 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601. To express a condolence with the family or for additional information, visit www.spencefuneralservices.com.



COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will continue to celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of the month.
You will be given the elements (uniquely packaged) along with the bulletin when you arrive
Sunday morning.

Valentine sweet from Jesus:



Baptist Potpourri

On December 29, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit central Croatia, just south of the capital Zagreb. Their prime minister said one local town was entirely uninhabitable. Larry Stanton, IM global servant, has joined Pastor Zoltán from Serbian and Hungarian Baptist Aid members to take relief to earthquake victims in neighboring Croatia. Many houses have been condemned; Larry and the team will be working with a local Baptist church to repair the houses that are salvageable.

Please pray for Larry, Zoltan, the team, and, of course, the people whose lives have been upended by the earthquake. Thank you again for your prayers and financial support! Your ongoing pledge of financial support keeps us in the field.

Remember to follow our ministry on our Facebook page, Stanton Global Servants.

Gratefully, Rebecca Stanton



American Baptist Home Mission Societies
SINCE 1824

AB Home Mission Society articles on current events

- In America today, a radicalized minority, poses a risk to the republic. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., “Where do we go from here?”
<https://christiancitizen.us/where-do-we-go-from-here-a-response-to-the-attack-on-the-capitol/>
- Strive For Accountability After Insurrection
https://ministrelife.org/posts/392?fbclid=IwARosBQoJo_UNWNPpdYmbchqcboDGFPRfcs-5hE5nhxij1vjRXZR9BfqzUcA

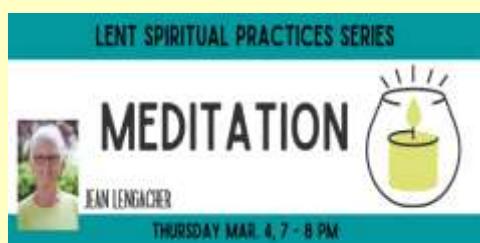
- Help ABHMS to help those in need through your contributions to the [America for Christ Offering 2021](#). Based on Ephesians 4:11-13, the theme of the campaign is “For the Purpose of Equipping Saints.”
- Read about a New York church that expanded its summer lunch program despite the pandemic. It used food deliveries to equip children with materials necessary for vacation Bible school.

Home page link <https://abhms.org/>



Parish Resource Center classes & workshops

Feeling too connected to your screens lately? Has quarantine left your family uninspired on activities you can do in your home? Join CHI St. Joseph Children's Health's Family Wellness Coaching Program for our Unplugged Activity Workshop. Our virtual workshop will provide screen time education regarding the impacts screens can have on our physical and emotional wellbeing, as well as demonstrating healthy alternative activities that will help us to unplug. A list of common household items recommended for the activities will be provided with your online virtual class link.



This workshop will be a live webinar through Zoom. A Zoom link will be included in an email sent to you after registration. Not able to attend on this date? Ask us how you can access a recording of the webinar.

Feeling disconnected, distracted or discouraged? Mindful engagement teaches us how to be fully awake and engaged in the present moment. Learn to increase your awareness and loving kindness. Jean will draw from her knowledge of the Buddhist perspective of mindfulness to enrich your current prayer practices. The workshop will involve a time of teaching, practice, and reflection.

Power structures are deeply embedded in society. How do you listen, relate, and learn with those who are experiencing the world very differently than you? For spiritual directors, pastors, and others providing spiritual care, hear from experts from our local community. This panel conversation will address how to listen sacredly to another's experiences across large differences



Healthy Church Structures

- Session 1:
Healthy Church Governance
Session 2:
Life-Giving Committees

Led by Edgar Stoesz & Richard Frey



In this two-part interactive series, attendees will find ways that the business of church can be more life-giving and appealing. Intentionally addressing the hidden structure of the church frees up the congregation to more enthusiastically engage in their mission. People might never tell you that they're coming for your good church governance, but bad church governance will quickly chase people away. The result is dissatisfaction, wasted effort, conflict, quashed initiatives, and half-empty sanctuaries

Session 1: Healthy Church Governance April 13, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Session 2: Life-Giving Committees April 20, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Introduction to Microsoft Word

March 1, 7:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.

Word has become ubiquitous, but many people were never taught the basics to create and edit documents. Learn to use the basic functions of Microsoft Word to present yourself, your ideas, and your abilities in the best light.

Participants will learn to:

- Create and edit documents, including fonts, colors, styles, etc.
- Find and adapt free templates
- Utilize basic tables
- Use the header and footer sections for letterhead, page numbers, and more
- Add images
- Save and export documents

Knowing how to navigate the basics in technology and software make our personal and professional lives better. These stand-alone courses will patiently walk participants through the basic controls and functions of various popular softwares, explain the strengths and weaknesses, and help you to work more efficiently. Word is not necessary to join the webinar; you will watch Rhoda work through a project. Use the recorded version of the webinar later to work through it on your own. Appreciate the powerful technology available at your fingertips!

For more classes and information.
Link for the calendar and website:

<https://parishresourcecenter.org/events-workshops/>

We are a PRC Member, class fees will be free or reduced.

Coping with Covid

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all with uncertainty, loss and change. It's common to feel uneasy, stressed out, anxious and fearful.

What can I do if I'm feeling stressed or anxious?

- **Plan ahead.** Make sure you have adequate supplies at home and plans for childcare and working from home, if that is what you are doing.
- **Establish routines and schedules.** Do you have kids who are home from school? Consider drawing up and posting a daily schedule, with times for learning, play, exercise, chores and other items.
- **Practice mindfulness** by focusing on things within your control, such as your daily routine, and things in your life that are positive, such as family or friends.
- **Exercise.** Take walks and get fresh air. Build this into your daily schedule at regular intervals.
- **Incorporate joy into your schedule**, too! Play with your kids or a pet. Listen to music. Watch a funny movie.
- **Eat a healthy diet.**
- **Limit media exposure** and stay informed with trusted sources.
- **Get adequate sleep** and limit screen time before bed.
- **Nurture your environment.** Whether you clean or redecorate, making your living areas more comfortable will channel your energy, create a sense of accomplishment and a personal oasis rather than a place of confinement.
- Remember **it's normal to feel anxious during stressful times**. Be kind to yourself. It's important to take care of yourself first.

From Wellspan's "Staying Well" publication

Upcoming Mission: March

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2021
For the Purpose of Equipping Saints

EPHESIANS 4:11-13 (NIV)