

# GRACE NOTES



**Grace Baptist Church of Blue Bell**  
Skippack Pike & Lewis Lane, P.O. Box 122 Blue Bell, PA 19422  
Volume XXXI, Number 6 June 2012 Newsletter

*Grace Baptist  
Church of Blue  
Bell is a  
Christ-centered  
community  
sharing God's  
love with the  
world.*

#### Sunday Schedule

9:30am Small Groups/  
Sunday School  
10:45am Worship  
Summer Schedule begins  
June 17—9:30am worship

#### Summer Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday  
9:00am-12:00pm  
Closed on Mondays

#### Church Staff

**George M. Hawthorne**  
Minister  
ghawthorne@gbcb.org

**Casey Stauffer**  
Director of Children & Family  
Ministries  
cstauffer@gbcb.org

**Barbara Green**  
Director of Music/Organist

**Trish Simpson**  
Administrative Assistant  
staff@gbcb.org

## **CHILDREN'S DAY/TEACHER'S RECOGNITION Sunday, June 10**

The Board of Christian Education is coordinating a celebration of our Grace Baptist children during the 10:45 A.M. worship service on Sunday, June 10. The children will provide the special music and participate in other aspects of the service. Cookies and lemonade will be served following the service.

During the service we will also thank our dedicated 2011-2012 teachers and childcare helpers listed below. Without them, our programs for children, youth and adults would not happen.

**Adult Sunday School Superintendent**—Irene Philips  
**Small Groups/Sunday School Teaching Staff**—9:30 A.M.  
**Nursery**—Diane Schwartz  
**Toddlers**—Gene Stremme  
**Pre-K-5 years**—Amy Hawthorne, Noémi Ayuso  
**K-2nd grade**—Leigh Foyle, Gwen Mandel  
**3rd-5th grades**—Joan Frizzell, Nancy Burns, Steve Lloyd  
**Junior High**—Oneida Ortiz  
**Senior High**—Kristin Paluszka  
**Crusader Class**—Doug Hargis  
**Explorer Class**—Irene Philips

#### **Graceland Second Hour**

Noémi Ayuso, Kathy Gallagher, Jeanne Hanna, Beth Hargis, Debra Sharpe, Casey Stauffer

#### **Childcare helpers during the worship hour**

Patrice Erik, Erica Fitzgerald, Beth Hargis, Betty Helpa, Linda Lin, Barbara Longenberger, Oneida Ortiz, Kristin Paluszka, Jill Rhea, Diane Schwartz, Debra Sharpe, Casey Stauffer

#### **Student Ministries Leadership Team**

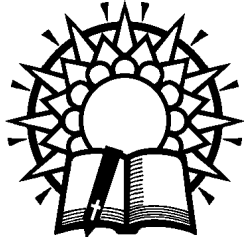
**Sunday Evening Youth Group**—Kristin Paluszka, Steve Lloyd  
**Special Events**—Steve Longenberger, Ed Paluszka, Allison Ledbetter  
**“Super Saturday”**—Leigh Foyle, Gwen Mandel, Debra Sharpe



#### **GBCBB SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS on June 17!**

9:30 A.M. Service of Worship No Sunday School until fall  
Pre-school child care provided—Graceland Second Hour for K-2nd grade

# June Worship



**June 3—Graduate Recognition Sunday**  
*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering received*  
“Investment Tips for Growing Family Relationships”  
1 Peter 3: 7

**June 10—Children’s Day/Teacher Recognition**  
“Like Little Children” - Mark 9: 30-32

*9:30 Summer Worship Schedule begins on June 17.*

**June 17—Father’s Day**  
“Is God Like Daddy?” - Luke 15: 11-32

**June 24**  
“Hurting People Hurt People” - Luke 6: 27-38

*Pastor Hawthorne will preach each Sunday in June.*

## The Crusaders Complete Spring Study



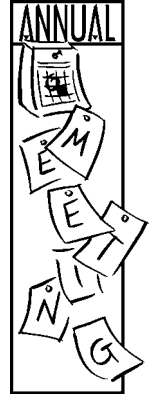
During the month of June, the Crusaders Class will complete their study of “God’s Creative Word” as found in John’s Gospel. The final class for the year is Sunday, June 10.

On June 3, Ken Green will lead the class’s study of Jesus as “the Way, the Truth and the Life” and the comfort He brings with these words of reassurance.

On June 10, Doug Hargis will use this final class before the summer break to conclude the study by tying up loose ends with discussion of class member concerns. Bring your questions or issues that were generated throughout the quarter.

All are welcome to join the class at 9:30 A.M. as we continue our crusade in the Christian life.

## New Officers & Board Members Elected at Annual Meeting, May 20



**Moderator - *Bob Allmond***  
**Treasurer - *Jennifer Neaves***  
**Church Clerk - *Don Helpa***  
**Financial Secretary - *Don Hogeland***  
**Assistant Financial Secretary - *Barbara Longenberger***  
**Sunday School Superintendent - *Irene Philips***

### Board of Christian Education

Noémi Ayuso *Jill Rhea*  
Amy Bocklet *Debra Sharpe*  
Barbara Green *Gene Stremme*  
Beth Hargis

### Diaconate

*Donna Sue Froman* Linda Lin  
*Natalie Glantz* Walter Neaves  
*Doug Hargis* *Ed Paluszka*  
*Jean Kim* Butch Swanson

### Board of Missions

Ken Green Brandon Naroznowski  
Linda Haughton Tamra Phillips  
*Sue Jenkins* Marjorie Scharpf

### Board of Trustees

*Mike Froman* *Jeff Ledbetter*  
*Kathy Gallagher* Steve Lloyd  
*Harry Jenkins* Harold Mathues

*New board members and officers are in italics.*

**Happy Father’s Day to all our dads on Sunday, June 17!**



**Honor your father**  
Exodus 20:12

*Sharing brings Joy  
to us, to others, to God  
Sharing resources—Changing lives*



Dear Friends,

**One Great Hour of Sharing** continues to focus on the ways “Sharing Brings Joy”, this year specifically on how “Sharing Brings Joy to Others”. Much of the time, our gifts bring joy to others in tangible ways:

- ♦ A family displaced by natural disaster or political unrest is grateful to receive food, shelter, and the comfort of a safe place to begin to rebuild their lives.
- ♦ A woman who has had to walk miles to carry potable water for her family smiles as she draws water from a clean well near her home.
- ♦ A child excitedly arrives for the first day of class at her village’s new school.

Of course, when we “sow bountifully” by giving to others, we reap bountifully by sharing in the joy that our gifts bring to those whose basic needs are met through the important work of all our partners in service.

**Dwight Bolick, serving in Chile, reports, “Seeing you all are collecting the OGHS offering, we want to thank the church for their support in this way. All that we were able to do in earthquake/tsunami recovery in the last two years was due to OGHS. Our current rainwater collection project and the stimulus it is creating for our other ministries in the Mapuche communities are also made possible by OGHS funds. Your generosity makes possible many good things not only here but in all the world.”** (See the complete report from the Bolicks on the next page.)

At Grace Baptist, we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on June 3 and throughout the month of June. **As you share your tithes and offerings with One Great Hour of Sharing, remember all the ways your gifts bring joy to others.** Sow bountifully and share abundantly, knowing that you are not only helping change the statistics, you are also helping change lives. May we all give cheerfully and multiply the joy!

In Christian love and service,

The Board of Missions

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## ***News from the Bolick Family*** **International Ministries** **ABC-USA Missionaries in Chile** **May 2012**

March came in like a lion for us. Not the weather, because it's Autumn here. I mean it came bearing great tidings more like Aslan, the lion of Narnia. It came in with clear signs that God is knitting people, places, and resources into another "good work he has gotten ready for us to do," (Eph. 2:10, The Message), part of God's dream of shalom.

For over a year, we felt God prodding us to pray about a site in Curihue and its use for church and community development projects. It had a building, extensive land for gardens or more buildings, and a greenhouse structure. It used to be a rural health clinic but its services were suspended ten years ago. Apart from a short-lived garden project, the site has been abandoned for several years. Every time I passed it, I imagined lots of "what-if" scenarios, until finally I realized God was inviting us to ask for access to the site.

The next thing we know, we are developing a partnership with the three indigenous communities and the municipality to develop the site. It turns out the women's development group at the church was praying about the site also. Now we can use the building to set up the rainwater collection demonstration system. We are partnering with the municipality to renovate the building and bring back rural medical services. Then we will build a community center in partnership with the women's group, where we can continue classes and training in development with the Instituto Berea.



As far as we know, the Rainwater Collection Project is the only one of its type in Chile, where annual summer droughts dry up wells and springs, forcing thousands of Mapuche families to carry in water for household use. Potable water and water for gardens is scarce in summer months. The vision is to develop a rainwater collection system that might serve as a prototype for a more massive implementation.

The provident Lion of March also brought us visitors who contributed to this project (good work) in important ways. First came Fred and Barbara Worley from Austin, TX. Over 17 years ago they took us under their wing on trips to the Mexican border to partner with a Mexican doctor/missionary. They were our first mentors in missions. Fred is an architect and he drew us a site plan and will design the community development center. What a magnificent reunion this was with our old friends.

For another week in March three men from Crossroads Church in Denver came and helped us clear the site, cutting trees, grass, and blackberry briar patches. Arriving just as we were finishing the honey harvest, they even helped us extract honey! Barb's sister, Phyllis, visited us in March, also, and we enjoyed showing her all that we love so much here.



Truly God has great plans, good works for all of us to discover. May we have the courage always to ask and to follow.

**Dwight and Barbara Bolick**  
[dbbolick95@yahoo.com](mailto:dbbolick95@yahoo.com)

*You are invited to join the Missionary Partnership Network of individuals and churches who partner with the Bolicks. To receive a pledge card, receive their e-mail journals, or learn more, please contact the Coordinator,, Betty Helpa at [betty.helpa@gmail.com](mailto:betty.helpa@gmail.com)*

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, June 3, 10:45 A.M.

Congratulations and best wishes to the following Grace Baptist graduates:

### High School

- ♦ Megan Bamberger—North Penn High School
- ♦ Nicole Bamberger—North Penn High School
- ♦ Shannon Benner—North Penn High School
- ♦ Tymere Davis—Upper Dublin High School
- ♦ Michael Erik—North Penn High School
- ♦ William B. Lehman—Wissahickon High School, attending Montgomery Co. Community College in the fall
- ♦ Emil Ortiz—Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, attending Arizona State University in the fall
- ♦ Reena Philips—North Penn High School
- ♦ Supriya Philips—North Penn High School
- ♦ Amie Valencia—Wissahickon High School, will attend John Jay College of Criminal Justice in NYC majoring in Forensic Science
- ♦ Annie Valencia—Wissahickon High School, headed to Eastern University, majoring in Spanish Education, plans to be an ESL teacher

### College

- ♦ Heather Glantz—University of Pittsburgh, B.S.N, employed as a nurse at Paoli Hospital
- ♦ Allison Ledbetter—Eastern University, B.A. in Psychology, employed with Keystone Autism Services

Our GBC graduates will be recognized and presented with a small gift during the worship service on June 3.

*(If you are a 2012 graduate and we don't have you listed, please contact the church office with your information.)*



## Congratulations Graduates!

### *A Note from Abbie Huff to the Grace Baptist Church family*



Dear Grace Baptist,

I am sorry that it took me so long to write to you; this has been difficult to put into words. As many of you know, I was laid off from my job at Wilshire [Baptist Church] in Dallas, due to budgetary cuts. It was a tough decision for the church, and it was hard for me to experience being laid off, but there are many ways to look at it, and I really do trust God that this will work for good in the long-run.

More than anything I wanted to tell you all how much it has meant to me throughout these past two and a half years that you faithfully wrote and sent cards, you kept up with me on Facebook, and you let me keep up with you as well. Your encouragement and love for me helped me through some of the toughest times that I experienced in my first church call. The prayer shawl that you made me hung on the back of my desk chair, a constant reminder of your presence in my ministry, and when the Texas air conditioning got too cold, I used it frequently to keep warm, body and soul.

You have often been in my thoughts and prayers along this journey. I can't believe it when I see pictures of GBC children growing up, though I imagine many of you felt the same way about me. I miss each of you who have been such a part of my life and upbringing.

I do not yet know what is on the horizon. I would love to come back up to the East Coast if I can. I still believe that I am being called to work with young people, the unchurched, and the disenfranchised, bringing together church and non-profit wherever possible.

Thank you again for everything you have done for me. I can't begin to thank you enough.

Much love,  
Abbie

# PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

I want to use my column this month to highlight two things:

First, I want to thank the congregation for its unanimous vote last Sunday in favor of our new Strategic Plan. I am very excited that we have committed ourselves to a common vision and to a new plan to achieve that vision. I really believe that it's going to make a significant difference as we seek to strengthen our church's ministries and witness. I will do my very best to keep us focused on this plan and to make sure that it doesn't get filed away and forgotten like other plans in the past. The Strategic Planning Committee is also committed to continue working to achieve the goals set before us beginning with the immediate priorities highlighted in the plan.

We ask for your continued prayerful support of this exciting new effort. We also ask for your active participation to ensure that our hopes and dreams for the future become a reality and our church continues to grow and make a difference for the glory of God.

Thank you for your participation in this important process and for placing your trust in the members of the planning committee. I am indebted to Betty Helpa, Jill Rhea, Mike Froman, Marjorie Scharpf and Jeanne Hanna for their prayerful deter-

mination and hard work. These are the people who will continue to oversee the progress of this plan and to make needed adjustments and refinements as we proceed.

Second, June is going to be Family Month here at Grace. It all begins on Sunday, June 3, as I share a message entitled, *Investment Tips for Growing Family Relationships*. The following Sunday, June 10, we'll celebrate Children's Day. Our entire worship service will be led by our children and focus on their special place in our church. June 17 is Father's Day and we'll be honoring the dads of our church. I'll bring a message entitled *Is God Like Daddy?*

Finally, on the afternoon and/or evening of June 24 a special workshop will be offered for parents and their teenage children. This special event, led by three counselors from the Kairos Counseling Center of Devon, PA, will address the special needs of our families. Peter and Carol Schreck, former professors at Palmer Seminary and experts in the area of marriage and family, will be featured along with another counselor yet to be named. Please save the date and plan to attend with your teens. More details will be forthcoming as they become available.

Have a wonderful month of June and God bless.

Pastor George

## June Birthdays

June 5	Walter Neaves	June 18	Ginny Scharf
June 6	Peter Sharpe	June 20	Betty Beaman
June 7	Debra Sharpe	June 20	Amanda Young
June 8	Barbara Vogt	June 20	June Nurnberger
June 11	Gunta Plostnieks	June 21	Michael Burns
June 12	Chris Close	June 22	Kim Gallagher
June 13	June Marshall	June 22	Neil Naroznowski
June 13	Marie Sparks	June 22	Jackie Pownall
June 14	Casey Stauffer	June 23	Chrissy Mathues Burke
June 15	Pat Mathues	June 26	Bob Hotchkiss
June 16	Doris Kramer	June 27	Deb Clewell
June 18	JoAnn Flower	June 29	Virginia Parker
June 18	Audrey Paluszka	June 30	Noel Jackson



## The Retro Game Show Extravaganza on May 12 was a groovy time!

Thank you to those who came out to support the Youth Summer Mission trip to Eleanor, WV. Over \$400 was raised for our trip!

Those who came were transported back to the time of plaid suits and long skinny microphones. We look forward to next year when we can do it all again!!

June dates for the Youth Group Graduate Recognition—June 3  
Last Youth Group of the year—  
June 10



Look for the following youth activities this summer!  
Specific times will be announced later...

Youth Group/Young Adult Monday night bowling outings:  
July 2, July 23, August 6, August 20

Tubing on the Delaware—Friday, August 10

August Pool Party



# AROUND the CONGREGATION

The **June Executive Committee meeting** is re-scheduled to Thursday, June 14 at 6:00 P.M. All new officers and board chairs should attend.

**Childcare volunteers are needed** throughout the summer months. Please check out the sign-up sheets in the narthex and see where your help is needed during the 9:30 A.M. summer worship service.

**Lift Training** has been re-scheduled for **Sunday, June 10**, following the worship service. Wear (or bring) casual clothes and bring a lunch to eat before training starts.

**Shabrae Krieg** was officially welcomed into the membership of Grace Baptist Church of Blue Bell in May. Because she is on the mission field in Mexico with her husband, Jean-Luc, the membership process was accomplished over several months via e-mail, Skype and telephone conversations. We look forward to extending the Right Hand of Christian Fellowship personally when they visit with us next.

**Congratulations to Sabrina Mathues** and Steven Matthews on the birth of a son, Noah Lee Matthews, on May 17 in New Jersey. Proud grandparents are **Harold and Pat Mathues**.

We extend **Christian sympathy** to the following:

- ♦ **Jeanne Hanna** and family on the death of her aunt, Lorraine LaMaina, on May 15 in Whiting, NJ
- ♦ **Anita Crumpler** and family on the death of her mother, **Louise Blessing**, on May 21 in Newport News, VA at the age of 102

**Thank you:** "Thank you to everyone from Grace for everything you did for us, and everything you meant to our parents."—Joanne Grant, daughter of Joe and Marion Shaw

**Diane Schwartz** will participate in the 40th Annual American Cancer Society Bike-a-thon on July 8. She's been able to donate over \$50,000 in donations to the American Cancer Society for cancer research in her 10 years of riding. To sponsor Diane on-line, go to [www.acsbike.org](http://www.acsbike.org), click on donate, type in her name, click on her name when it comes up, and follow the directions from there. You can also mail a check to her (4139 Aster Lane, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462) or put a check in her church mailbox. Make checks payable to "American Cancer Society" and put "Diane Schwartz, Rider #13" in the memo line.

The congregation is invited to a drop-in graduation party for David Crane, son of our former interim pastor, Steve Crane, and his wife, Francesca. The party will be Saturday, June 9, 4:00-7:00 P.M. at the Crane home (90 S. 11th Avenue, Coatesville, PA). David will graduate from the Child and Career Development Center.

#### Directory Correction:

**David & Erica Fitzgerald (not Fitzpatrick!)**

Children: Nathanael Russell, Elizabeth Clare  
815-323-0500 (Erica's cell) - no land line number

#### Address & E-mail Changes:

- ♦ Delores Davis, Elm Terrace Gardens, 602 N. Broad St., Apt. B-319, Lansdale, PA 19446 (same phone number)
- ♦ Natalie Glantz—[NGlantz@primehealthcare.com](mailto:NGlantz@primehealthcare.com)
- ♦ Steve Lloyd—new phone no. 484-804-1936
- ♦ Bob Stremme—[Karlrob1@verizon.net](mailto:Karlrob1@verizon.net)
- ♦ Gene Stremme—[Imogene94@verizon.net](mailto:Imogene94@verizon.net)

**Join the GBCBB Duffers** for golf outings this summer—June 16, July 21, August 18, and September 15. Contact Harold Mathues to reserve your spot!

**Grace Baptist sponsors a Red Cross Bloodmobile on Friday, June 29, 1:00-7:00 P.M.** The need for blood is always great—please give to save a life. There will be a link on the church website with instructions to register on-line or you may call Linda Allmond, Sue Jenkins or Trish in the church office.

#### SAVE THIS FALL DATE!

**Saturday, November 3, 7:00 P.M.**

#### Annual Fall Concert

**The Sanctuary Choir presents "Sinatra and Friends"**. All interested singers are welcome to participate! Special summer workshops are being held at 7:30 P.M. on June 14, July 19 and August 16.



**SUMMER HOURS**  
for  
**CHURCH OFFICE**

**Tuesday-Friday**  
**9:00am-12:00pm**  
**Closed on Mondays**  
**(beginning on June 4)**



# *Grace Baptist Church of Blue Bell*

P.O. Box 122  
437 Skippack Pike & Lewis Lane  
Blue Bell, PA 19422  
215-628-2077 FAX 215-628-1950  
[www.gbcbb.org](http://www.gbcbb.org)  
E-mail: [staff@gbcbb.org](mailto:staff@gbcbb.org)



If you would prefer not to receive future mailings, call or e-mail and let us know.  
The monthly newsletter is also available at the church website.

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GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF BLUE BELL

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**KIDS NIGHT OUT**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 1**  
7-9pm at the church

All 4th-6th graders are invited for a fun evening of pizza, games and prizes!  
**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**

**RSVP to Casey Stauffer [cstauffer@gbcbb.org](mailto:cstauffer@gbcbb.org) or 610-389-2387**

**Be sure to mark your calendar for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

**“Dive Deep!”**

**Sunday, July 8—Thursday, July 12, 6:00-8:30 P.M.**

**All children ages 3-12 are welcome to enjoy VBS fun!**

**Bring your children & grandchildren—invite your friends and neighbors!**

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