



2023

ELDERTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY – NEWSLETTER – 2023

PASTORS PAGE

AMAZING GRACE

Acts 9:1-18

The grace of God. How many times have we heard this phrase before? The word grace is a common word used every day. There are times we use it as a form of prayer before we eat. There are times we use it when referring to what we should do when being harsh.

There are people that don't believe in the grace of God. There are those who believe that God does not exist so to further say God's grace does not exist is no new thing. How can God give grace, which is unmerited favor by the way, to those who don't deserve it. We know people in our own lives that no grace should be given to. Yet, we see God pour grace upon his people when they don't deserve it. We see God pour his grace upon the children of Israel. We see God pour his grace upon the disciples. And we definitely see God pour his grace upon Paul in our passage. What do we see about the grace of God in Paul's conversion? Let's dive a little deeper and find out.

No Sinner is Beyond God's Grace.....

Not many of us are "breathing threats and murder" against our opponents. However, we have all been on wrong paths that have been injurious to ourselves and others. We have all been headstrong, stubborn, blinded to our own ambition, selfish to meet our own need, caught in addictive behaviors, and oblivious of the true cost to others or to ourselves. Here are some examples: The hard-driving businesswoman who is so determined to get a promotion that she loses her marriage. The teenager, angry and hurt, who cannot forgive a parent's error. The man who is so locked up in his emotions that he cannot express his love for his spouse. The ever-pleasing wife who is so accommodating as to allow her husband's alcoholism to destroy their children. The revengeful lover who would do harm rather than seek reconciliation. The employer whose cultural values prevent him from promoting women equally. The partisan political leader incapable of compromise. The hard, demanding parent who cannot give a child a break. There is no sinner beyond the grace of God. If God can save Paul, he can save you.

God Will Meet You Where You Are.....

God met Paul where he was. If you look at the text, Paul was on his way to persecute the church in Syria. Christ met Paul on the road to Damascus and spoke to him the grace of God. Paul was angry and full of hate for the church. Yet, Christ met him where he was. Christ will meet us where we are.

A Life Saved by Grace Is Noticeable.....

It is easy to identify with Ananias in this story. When the Lord tells him in a vision about what is going on with Paul, Ananias is dubious, to say the least. "You must be kidding! This guy is out to get us." Experience teaches us to be cautious about peoples' ability to change. It is hard "to teach old dogs new tricks." However, a consistent theme in the Bible is that when God is the agent of change, all things are possible. This story is a helpful reminder that conversion is not primarily about us, but about God. Let's remember this, there is no one religious experience that fits all. What happened to Paul on the Damascus Road was dramatic and had a significant impact on the church. Our task is to remain open to what God is doing in and around us. When Christ comes to our life, we change for the better. The roads to Christian faith are as varied as the people who profess it. A life saved by grace is noticeable.

Finally, when the scales fell from our eyes, we saw life and others through Christ's vision. When Christ saves us, he gives us a new perspective on life. He puts love in our hearts for those difficult to love. He provides a new way to look at our neighbor. Christ even brings a new perspective on how we view ourselves. God's grace is amazing and we are the beneficiaries of His grace. Continue to live out and in the grace of God.

Your Brother because of Jesus,

Angel

GREETERS & ACOLYTE'S

Mark Your Calendars

This is the only list you will receive – so PLEASE look this over

If the date assigned to you conflicts with your schedule, **PLEASE TRADE** with someone else on the list and let the church office know of this change

GREETERS should be at the door at 10:00 AM. The bell should be rung 10 times at 10:15 and again at 10:30 AM. Please hand out the morning bulletin. Close the doors when the service begins. You will also take up the offering, get the collection plates before the service begins; they are on the first pew in the back section of the church (in the black cloth bag).

Please lock the front doors into the church. Pull to make sure the door is latched, use the small “key” found on the window ledge, insert it into the bar of the door and turn until the bar pops out. The handicap door will remain unlocked until 10 minutes into service (Cassie will take care of this.)

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>GREETERS</u> | <u>ACOLYTES</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| May 7 | Larry and Linda Prugh | MaKayla Scrips |
| May 14 | Brett and Joanie Riggle | Emily Johns |
| May 21 | Dave Pletcher and Travis Johns | Jonah Scrips |
| May 28 | Tyler Keith and Hannah Schrecengost | Aaron Quinn |
| June 4 | Jeff Schrecengost and Cheryl Hankey | Mia Scrips |

FLOWERS FOR MAY

May 7 and 14 – Blythe Johns

May 21 and 28 – open

May 28 – organ arrangement – Linda Prugh

Joanie Riggle is the contact person for the flower calendar. If anyone wishes to request a date for chancel flowers or for an organ or table arrangement, please schedule with Joanie 724-954-1671.

GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE?



If you are graduating from high school, college; business school, master's degree, etc.

please contact the church office
724-354-3117

An information packet will be mailed to each graduate.

Please return the completed information to the church office by
June 8, 2023



We would like extend our sincere thanks
to H2O Restoration
for their generous donation
to the youth group.

This donation helped the youth group
purchase tickets for the MercyMe concert.

*God loves a cheerful giver
2 Corinthians 9:7*



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

On Sunday, April 30, 2023,
We participated in the baptism of

Coleson Lee Myers
son of
Carmen (Riggle) and Ryan Myers

In a spirit of thanksgiving and promise,
let us, along with his family,
commit ourselves to Coleson's
nurture and guidance in the Christian faith.



On April 23, 2023
we welcomed to our church family
by reaffirmation of faith -

Sue Pierce

Let us nurture, love and assist
Sue to be Christ's faithful disciple.

**Presbyterian Women
sponsored Blanket Sunday Month
March 6 through March 27**

**\$2215.00 was collected
and was sent to
Church World Services**

**Thanks to all who donated
so generously.**

**BLANKET THE
WORLD WITH
— love —**



We extend our congratulations to Zane and Lizzy Clowser
on the birth of their son,
Blaine Nathaniel,
born at 8:00 PM, March 29, 2023.
Blaine weighed 7 lb. 13.5 oz. and was 21 inches long.

We also congratulate grandparents, Mark and Cassie Clowser.

Every good and perfect gift is from above. James 1:17



Red is the color of Pentecost.
Celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on
the disciples of Jesus after his ascension.
The color symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Please join us as we celebrate
Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023

We will have communion and celebrate by wearing red and/or white.

BUTTERFLY HILL PRESCHOOL

May 2023



Oh, WOW! The 2022-2023 preschool year is coming to an end. The month of May is full of fun activities and special days.

Butterflies Class - Ready to graduate!



Movie about Bus Safety

Visit to the Elderton Elementary Kindergarten

Community Helper's Day - Visit the Fire Hall

Career Day - children come dressed as what they want to be when they grow up

Fun Day at the Elderton/Plumcreek Recreational Park

Lots of Review

Graduation

They are ready for Kindergarten !



Caterpillars Class

So much growth and maturity

Zoo Unit about zoo animals

Down on the Farm Picnic

Fun Day at preschool

Review - Letters, Numbers, Colors, Shapes

Promotion

They are now Butterflies !



Toddler Time - What a busy year!

Lots of Growth

Lots of Fun

Great crafts

Awesome Bible stories

Learning to trace

Learning colors and shapes

Intro to letters and numbers

They are ready to move on to the Caterpillar Class !





THE ELDERTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
YOUTH GROUP IS



*On Our Way to
Something New!*

Well, April came and went by so fast, the Youth Group hardly had time to meet. HOWEVER, most of us were still able to be at church and celebrate Easter, and all of the festivities and meaning that go along with it.

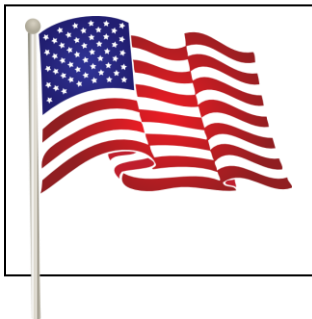
We also were able to meet after church on Sunday, April 23. We had lunch together, played an ice breaker game and discussed our future events, and a name and symbol for our awesome group.

I see bowling in our near future! Stay tuned...

Your Youth Group Leaders:

Cory and Kathy Jo Scrips, and Emily Spencer

**ELDERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**



MAY 29, 2023 –

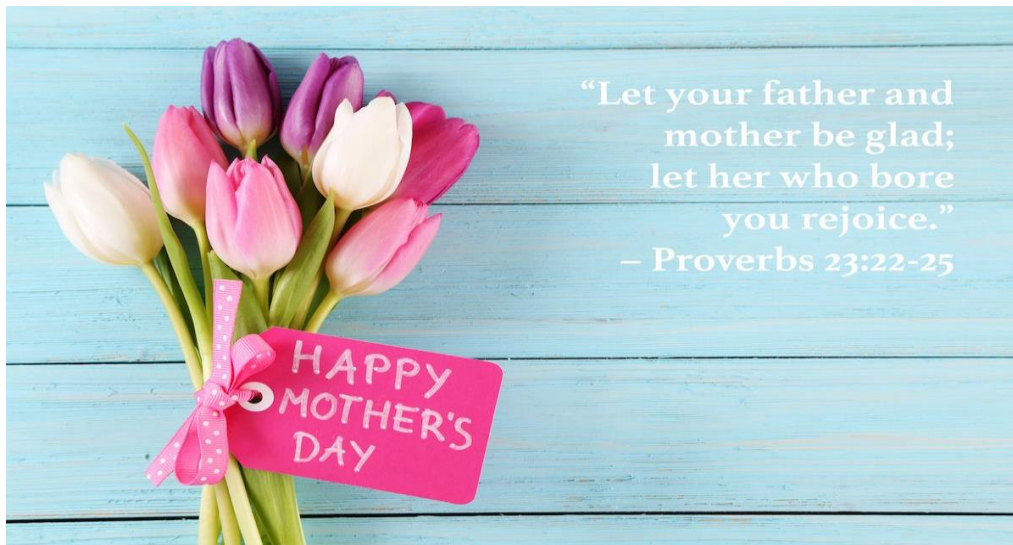
**The parade will start at 11:00 AM
directly following will be the annual
chicken BBQ dinner.**

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Brooks Fleming – 2nd
Robert (Bobby) Anderson – 2nd
Paul Meyers - 4th
Jamey Brumbaugh – 6th
Rodney Howard – 9th
Kaely Klonowski – 10th
Amanda Schrecengost – 10th
Emily Johns – 10th
Katherine Amanlou – 10th
Steven Hankey – 13th
Russell Schall – 14th
Tandi Spencer – 14th
Kris Hilty – 15th
Austin Cessna – 15th
Peg Rowan – 16th
Mark Schrecengost, Jr. – 16th
Dewey Hixenbaugh – 17th
David Popp - 17th
Jennifer Johns - 18th
Olivia Daquilante – 19th
Jodi Rearick – 20th
Kurt Flickinger – 20th
Braden Tutak – 21st
Adam Quinn – 23rd
Rylee Riggle – 23rd
Blythe Johns – 24th
Luke Schrecengost – 24th
Melissa Rupert – 26th
Evan Hilty – 28th
Carmen Riggle – 31st

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Will and Val Orr – 1st, 2007
Vaughn and Margie Wood – 16th, 1967
Nick and Jenny Shultz – 20th, 2000
Denny and Heather Bell – 21st, 2004
Colton and Shelby Fairman – 21st, 2022
Tim and Brandi Bertolino – 23rd, 1998 – **25 years**
Dan and Lisa Brumbaugh – 23rd, 1981
Larry and Linda Prugh – 26th, 1979
Adam and Ashley Quinn – 28th, 2011
Roy and Colleen Cessna – 30th



May 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service - | 8 | 9 10:00-3:00- Helping Hand | 10 1:00 – Circle Meeting- Nancy Schrecengost’s house | 11 6:00 – Session meeting 6:00 – Deacon’s meeting | 12 | 13 9:00-12:00- Helping Hand |
|  14 Mother’s Day 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service - | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 35 th Annual Elderton 5K | 20 |
| 21 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service - | 22 Butterfly Hill Preschool- Toddler Time Promotion | 23 Butterfly Hill Preschool- Caterpillar Promotion | 24 Butterfly Hill Preschool- Butterfly Graduation | 25 10:00-3:00- Helping Hand 6:00 – Christian Ed Meeting | 26 | 27 |
|  28 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service – Communion |  29 11:00 – Parade Chicken BBQ after parade | 30 | 31 | MEMORIAL DAY.... THE DAY THAT’S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM. | | |