

# Grace Notes

June 2019

"Come Home to Grace"

## Pilgrim or Tourist?

Here is a prayer from 1078, from the "Golden Age of Pilgrimage" used in a service in the cathedral in Barcelona, Spain, before pilgrims would embark on their journey. With a few substitutions, anyone could use it before a vacation trip:

*"Oh God, You who took up your servant Abraham from the city of Ur of the Chaldean's, watching over him in all his wanderings. You who were the guide of the Hebrew people in the desert, we humbly ask that You take care of these your servants who, for love of your name, make a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. Be a companion for them along the path, a guide at crossroads, strength in their weariness, defense before dangers, shelter on the way, shade against the heat, light in the darkness, a comforter in their discouragements, and firmness in their intentions, in order that, through your guidance, they might arrive unscathed at the end of their journey and, enriched with graces and virtues, they might return safely to their homes, which now lament their absence, filled with salutary and lasting joy. Through Jesus Christ Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, descend on you."*

Many of us will travel this summer to various locations. Many times it will be as a tourist. Occasionally we may travel as a pilgrim. The question arises: what is the difference?

A tourist is a consumer of the journey and there is nothing necessarily evil in that. It can be refreshing. A tourist takes in the sights and sounds and tastes along the way. A tourist takes a picture of a monument and thinks, "Oh, that was nice," and then goes home, perhaps exhausted from the experience of travel, yet with stories to tell.

A pilgrim looks to experience the journey on a different level. The pilgrim looks to encounter God somehow, someday, somewhere, on this journey and expects to enter sacred space, perhaps a number of times, or perhaps at the end of the journey as a goal of the pilgrimage. A pilgrim might take a picture of a monument, but also pauses to consider what this monument means and remembers those it commemorates. The pilgrim's travel might be difficult but the pilgrim arrives back at home full of energy and insight. I'm sure I won't shut up about Spain for weeks! Often what the pilgrim has experienced might take some time before it all sinks into the soul.

Sometimes I have been a pilgrim (peregrino). More often I have been a tourist (tourista). I know when I am on vacation I am usually a tourist. I am taking it all in for the enjoyment of it all. I am sure on my journey to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, there will be times I will be a tourist, taking pictures, tasting the cuisine and beverages along the way. But, certainly I will also be a pilgrim. I will be looking for meaning, to experience God along the way in some way as many have done for over a thousand years on that same path.

When I traveled to Olivet, Michigan, to take part in my mentor's funeral (Rev. Don Mullen) it had a sense of pilgrimage to it. I was going to share my memories and words of grief and hope. It

was a holy purpose in a holy place (Olivet Church). When I visit grave sites of loved ones or even just take a walk through the cemetery, I have a sense of entering sacred space. Church sanctuaries, to me, often have this sense of being sacred space, that they are set apart for a holy purpose. If the space resembles a gym or auditorium it just doesn't cut it for me. Sorry, it has to look something like a church to me! Even our church fellowship hall qualifies to me.

Sometimes as a tourist God invades and changes me into a pilgrim. Some years ago my family traveled and stopped at Antietam Battlefield. In that battle, on one day (9/17/1862), 23,000 men were killed or wounded, the most in American history. We walked around taking in the sights and suddenly I found myself walking down the Sunken Road where 2200 men died defending their position and each other. An account said "the dead were stacked like cord-wood." It was sobering. Suddenly I was on hallowed ground as I imagined the drama and terror played out that day in that very spot I was standing. God had invaded the fun vacay with a hard lesson on the violence of war. Other times God has broken into the vacation and it was fun and inspiring, but not that day. As a tourist it can be all fun and games. As a pilgrim, with God involved, it is not always *all* fun and games. It is often about *discovery*, spiritual, personal, and otherwise.

I invite you to take at least one pilgrim journey somewhere this summer if you can. See a monument. Put some flowers on a grave. Seek God's presence in the journey, or at the end of the journey. Being a tourist can be fun, but being a pilgrim can give new life to your soul, and that is a whole different and deeper level.

Grace and Peace and safe travels this summer, *-Pastor Rob*

The following is an update on the preparations for the planned pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) in Spain:

**International Passport:** check

**Travel agency booked:** check

**Itinerary set:** check

**Airfare attained:** check

**"Just Enough Spanish" Spanish phrasebook:** check

**Travel insurance:** check

**Trip paid for:** will be in early July

**Hiking/walking gear:** (mostly attained, not yet complete)

**Permission/approval of all my doctors:** check All the doctors I regularly check in with, most recently in May (General Practitioner, Cardiologist, Electrophysiologist), approved of the trip and were excited for me. One said, "While I don't know anyone with your situation who has attempted such a thing, most of my patients would be a lot better off if they tried to get in shape and tried to do it. You'll be fine. Just pace yourself and don't overdo it." Another said to make sure I started slow, so I thoroughly warmed up in the first hour of walking. Another said to make sure I avoided the regular scanning machines at the airport and was only "wanded" from the waist down, or the programming of my implantable cardiac defibrillator could be scrambled! My GP wants to give me whatever pertinent medical records I might need to take with me so they will be at hand if needed. Going along with that, my cardiologist already gave me a copy of my EKG to take with me.

**Training:** still underway. One popular saying goes: "Do not let the Camino train you!"

**Reading background literature:** mostly done, a few books to finish.

**New cellphone:** Jules promises in a week or two we'll pick one out. The kids will help me learn it. I have a feeling this will be something akin to watching a Neanderthal learn calculus from a team of arguing college professors. More fun to watch than do!

**Still to get:** Pilgrim Passport: for stamping on the Camino to prove I was present at specific stops; scallop shell: the traditional symbol of St. James, a sign to show one is a pilgrim, it is carried always and usually visibly displayed on the backpack.

## Sundays in June

PLEASE NOTE: Worship in June, July, and August, starts at 10:00 a.m.!

### June 2

Sermon: "Our Turn" based on Luke 24:44-53. What is the Ascension about? What does it mean for Grace Church as our signature image, depicted in stained glass, before us every Sunday?

### June 9

Sermon: "The Day the Church Grew Up" based on Acts 10:44-48, the "Gentile Pentecost." It is Pentecost so wear red! This will be the choir's last day until the fall. We will also have communion.

### June 16 — Father's Day

Coffeehouse Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall. Activity: Think about the things your father says/said. Suitable for all ages! There will be refreshments during the service! Participatory Sermon: The Way of St. James, Part 5: Acts 15: 6-20 "James Speaks" This sermon is a "what happened next" from last week.

### June 23

Pastor Rob will be at the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches Annual Meeting in Cleveland 6/22-26, so we will have a "Missions Sunday." We'll briefly talk about the missions we supported last year to better inform everyone.

### June 30

Sermon: The Way of St. James, Part 6: James 3:1-12 "Lashing Your Tongue" Ever get a "tongue lashing" from someone? How about "lashing your tongue?" Ever say anything that revealed your brain was *not* in gear before you spoke? Yup. Me too. Find out what James says about having an out-of-control tongue. This is also a "Fifth Sunday Offering Day." See the article that follows!

### Fifth Sunday Offering will be on June 30<sup>th</sup>! Kingdom Home

The mission we will support is a new one: Kingdom Home founded by Detroit Tiger starting pitcher Matt Boyd and his wife, Ashley. They are seeking to rescue young girls in Uganda from sex trafficking and give them a place to live and grow to be Godly young women, and good and productive citizens. It started with a home for 36. It is now 90. Their goal is a piece of property for \$250,000 that can hold six new houses for 30-50 girls each. They are making a real difference in that region. Matt says that this problem ". . . can be beat in that region. It is not an unlimited problem. We can get to these girls before they do. Child sex trafficking can be beat in Uganda." Let's see if we can help! If you write a check, just make it out to "Grace Reaches Out" with a notation for Kingdom Home.

## Congratulations to all our College Graduates this year!:

Shannon Sally Joy	Westminster College	Mathematics (major), Biology (minor)
Tyler Wessling	Youngstown State	Criminal Justice, moving to Texas (already has a job!)
Brianna Cope	Ohio State	Operations Management
Whitney Cope	Ohio State	Logistics
Mike Bell	Kent State	Technology
Emilee Chlebus	Youngstown State	



You're Invited to Helen DeLucia's 90th Birthday Party!

On June 13, 5:30—7:30 p.m.  
The Andrew's Hall at Angels for Animals  
4750 South Range Road, Canfield, OH

If you would like to give a gift to Helen, the family requests that you make a donation to "Helen's Garden", a landscape area that will be dedicated to Helen, a veteran volunteer of Angels for Animals, at the completion of the new Angel Wing.

Rich & Jo Berryman	June 24, 1951
Jim & Mary Liggitt	June 20, 1953
Walter & Betty Burkey	June 18, 1954
Karl & Judy Bott	June 16, 1957
Gil & Betty Fennell	June 21, 1959 (60th!)
Dave & Jean Hanna	June 7, 1964
Tom & Cheryl Bell	June 15, 1974
Don & Kathy Reash	June 24, 2006
Greg & Melodie (Greenawalt) Cyrus	June 2, 2007
Tim & Caitlin Reash	June 11, 2011



June 21 is Gil & Betty  
Fennell's 60th Anniversary!

Let's surprise them with a card shower to help  
them celebrate. Their address is:

5634 Legend Hills Lane  
Brooksville, FL 34609

## Consistory Meeting of May

Members Present: Steve Barnett, Matt Bell, Brian Cope, Logan Cope, Kim Davis, Chris Eisenbraun, Bill Greenawalt, Alex Heintzelman, Jerry Hughes, Rob Joy, Pat Lanterman, Cindy Perorazio

Excused: Mark Frost

I. Devotions – Brian

Next Month: Kim

II. Duty Roster: May:

Elevator – Matt

Usher - Logan

June:

Elevator- Bill Hoover

Usher – Mark

Communion: June 9<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost – Chris Eisenbraun

III. Informal Discussion/Goal Setting:

Brief discussion of need / interest in Youth Pastor services. No action.

Youth Sunday school class has been rotating teachers monthly. Seems to be working well. Online curriculum is available / can serve as a framework. Support to change nursery rules in the bulletin to reflect recent utilization.

Discussion of coffee quality at cookie hour.

Discussion of Elevator operation.

Discussion of methods for counting attendance.

IV. Communications: Letter from Columbiana Chamber requesting support for City hanging baskets. Letter given to GRO.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from April reviewed. Motion to accept minutes: 1<sup>st</sup>: Jerry, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Brian, motion carries.

VI. Financial Secretary Report (M. Bell):

Financial report from April 2019 – Current Fund Revenue: \$12,960. Received 92% of budgeted (\$13,380); YTD income is about \$3,000 more than last year at this time. Current Fund Expense: \$12,752. Spent 95% of budgeted (\$13,355); YTD expense is about \$700 less than last year at this time.

Motion to accept the report. 1<sup>st</sup>: Steve, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Cindy, motion carries.

VII. Financial Committee Report (M. Bell):

No Report.

VIII. Pastors Report (R. Joy):

Communion 3 times in April. 14 Visitations, 5 counseling sessions.

April attendance up 2.77 congregants compared to last year.

Book discussion at Barnes and Noble. Men's Breakfast starting Wednesdays at 6:30am at C's Waffles.

NACCC Midwest Ministers' Convocation was informative, fun, enlightening.

Baccalaureate on 5/22 at The Upper Room. Rob to perform closing Prayer.

IX. Unfinished Business:

Continued discussion of making adaptive arrangements for communion. No specific action.

X. New Business:

JP Morgan stock was historically given as an endowment to the Church. Its current value is around \$130,000. The NACCC has an investment mutual fund that would likely be more secure in the long term compared to the JP Morgan stock. Concern about the wishes of the person who made the donation of stock. Chris will meet with Don Reash and Mark Frost regarding and report back.

Motion to approve Rob's vacation date on July 14<sup>th</sup> and moving July communion to July 21<sup>st</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>: Kim, 2<sup>nd</sup>:

Logan, motion carries.

XI. Committee Reports:

-GRO – Mothers Day Sunday service preparations in the works

-Endowment – Meeting held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Balance of the interest for Endowment – \$51,413.65, memorial interest available - \$16,720.26. NACCC Convention funding was approved.

-Property – Meeting was held in April. List of 44 project items to complete compiled. Kitchen floor and bathrooms completed. Brick tuck pointing is about 99% complete.

-Elders – All Sundays that Rob is to be absent for the rest of the year are currently covered.

-Women's Guild – Mother/Daughter Banquet held last night. Installation of officers in June. A tea to be held. Father/Son banquet June 9<sup>th</sup>. Pat Young was Woman of the Year.

XII. Adjournment & The Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting June 3rd, 2019 at 7PM.



- 6/1 Lynn McMaster
- 6/5 Paige Hoskinson
- 6/10 Jean Hanna
- 6/11 Linda Surace
- 6/12 Sam Ferguson
- 6/13 Helen DeLucia (Happy 90th!)  
Jules Joy  
Keri Gustafson
- 6/15 Ann Gustafson
- 6/16 Diane Greenawalt
- 6/17 Laurie Heintzelman
- 6/21 Ron Beckham
- 6/22 Colleen Eisenbraun  
Conner Barnes
- 6/23 Janet Flynn
- 6/24 Jack Johnston
- 6/27 Gary Day
- 6/29 Reagan Bell
- 6/30 Julie Bunevich  
Staci Hanna

★ Thank You! ★  
★ THANK YOU! ★

Thank You!

Thank you for choosing me as Woman of the Year! What a great honor! Words cannot adequately express my love and appreciation for each of you.

I am blessed to be a member of Grace Church.

—With Love, Pat Young

Those Ministering This Month:

**Greeters:**

6/2: Larry & Ginny Snyder

6/9:

6/16: Jack & Evelyn Johnston

6/23: Brian & Vicki Cope

6/30: Jeff, Lisa & Jackson Eisenbraun

**Liturgists:**

6/2: Becky Stearns

6/9: Laurie Heintzelman

6/16: Diane Barnes

6/23: Brenda Hanna

6/30: Jack Johnston

**Usher:** Mark Frost

**Elevator Attendant:** Bill Greenawalt

**Candles:** Cathy Hoover

Help Keep Grace Church Beautiful!

We are asking for help to water the flowers that are planted in front of the church. If you are willing to help, there is a sign up calendar in the dining room, or call Marcy to sign you up, for a week during the summer. This can be a great project for children or grandchildren too.

Remember to bring your own watering cans.

Thank you for your help!



## GRO Notes:

—Thanks to all those who contributed to our “*Baby Shower*” to benefit *Making Kids Count*. We received the following items: 431 diapers, 13 bibs, 6 burp cloths, 3 bottles/cups, 2 disposable place mats, 4 pacifiers, 969 wipes, 29 baby washes, 2 books, 90 socks, 16 clothing items, and 5 blankets. Hope everyone enjoyed the game and cake too!

—GRO would like to thank you for your support of our *Drive-Thru Rigatoni Dinners* again this year. We are grateful to all those who helped prep and serve our meals, provided cakes and those who bought meals, too. We couldn’t do it without do it without your contributions. Looking forward to starting again this September!

—GRO will be busy this summer with our *GROWTH (Grace Reaches Out With Thanks)* projects. On June 27, we will be serving a continental breakfast to those attending the monthly food giveaway at the Way Station. In July we will provide snacks for the park staff and police department staff, and in August we will be donating care bags for the families of cancer patients through Columbiana County Hospice. We will also provide snacks for a concert in the Firestone Park in August. We appreciate your support for GRO. Without it we wouldn’t be able to “reach out” in support. We welcome your help with our missions. Just contact a GRO member if you’re able to help.

—Our *5th Sunday Loose Offering* on June 30 will support Kingdom Home. They provide homes for your people in Uganda at risk of entering child sex slavery. In the homes provided, the children’s material, emotional, educational and spiritual needs are met until they’re able to provide for themselves. Kingdom Homes was started by Matthew and Ashley Boyd. Matthew is a pitcher for the Detroit Tigers. Uganda has the world’s youngest population with 78% under age 30 and 1 of 10 are orphans. Unfortunately, many fall victim to the child sex trade. Please make plans to help support this mission. More information will be provided.

—GRO and the Youth Education Staff will hold a 1 day Kid’s Camp on Friday, July 19. Headquarters will be at the Barnes’ home and will include swimming, a hot dog roast, songs, crafts, games, lesson and a night walk through the park. Mark your calendars for a fun-packed night. More details to come and a rain date to be scheduled.

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### **Coming Up: Mark Your Calendars! Sunday, July 21 @ 11:00 a.m.**

#### **A Brief after Worship Workshop: “How to Pilgrimage in Place”**

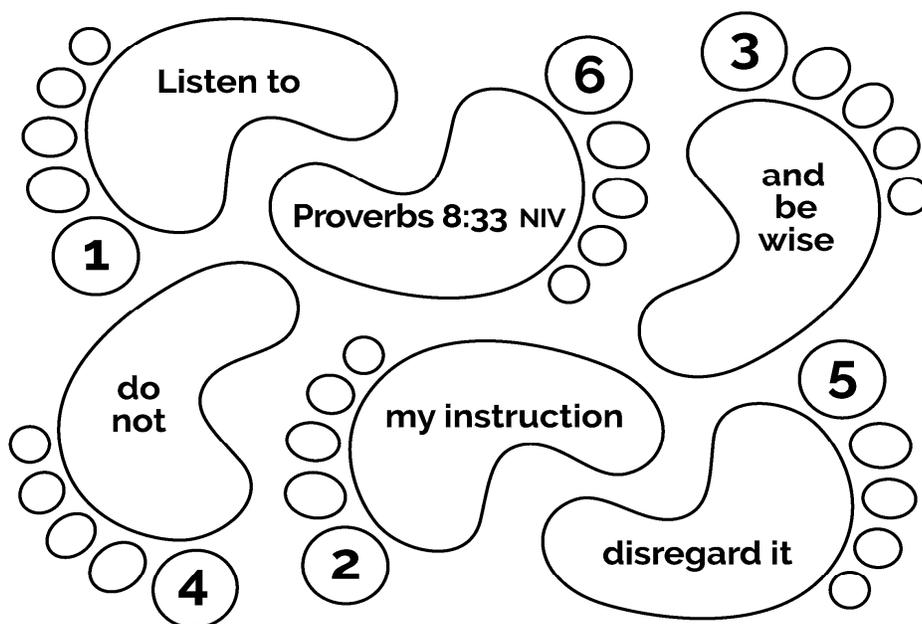
There are a number of folks who, for various reasons, cannot take part in a traditional traveling pilgrimage. That, however, does not decrease the pilgrim Christians’ spiritual need to do pilgrimage. How can a person still do it if mobility is limited or impossible? Come find out!



## FOLLOW OUR FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

In the book of Proverbs, a father urges his son to listen to his wisdom, which he received from his heavenly Father.

*Directions: Starting at 1, follow the footsteps and write the words in order on the blanks below.*



“ \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: "Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it." Proverbs 8:33, NIV

Grace Notes

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