



“Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them.

“Peace be with you,” he said.” - John 20:26

When Jesus spoke “Peace” to a scared bunch of followers, he was bringing a presence of wholeness, safety, and assurance into the disciples’ chaos. The Hebrew word is “shalom”. More than just the absence of conflict, shalom signifies abundance and provision. So, God entered into the terrifying chaos of their lives at the moment, ushering in the fullness of God’s shalom.

Jesus does the same for us today. We get fearful and protective when threatened. We “lock the doors” of our heart. But God, in God’s faithfulness to us, passes through our gates of fear to remind us that shalom is there for us, if we choose to embrace Him.

Be careful not to allow the noisy chaos of this present age to overwhelm you. Instead, listen carefully to the whisper of Jesus speaking shalom.

Peace be with you!

Scott ♥

(Isaiah 26: 3-4)

KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **HARP CONCERT!** Mark your calendars now for a late summer concert on Aug. 25. Renowned harpist, Amy Shreve, will lead us in creative worship for our Sunday morning service. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to a high quality music experience!
- Experience Jesus like never before in season 3 of **The Chosen**, Thursday evenings @ 6:30, beginning May 9, in the Church sanctuary. Lively discussion follows the 30 minute episode. There may be cookies!
- **Leadership Team Meeting** following the potluck on Sunday, **June 2**. All are welcome.



Anyone interested in going to **Romania** in October this year should **let me know by April** so we can get tickets . The price has gone

down and we need to get them purchased before they increase. I am still doing the can drive. Drop off points: Northwood Restaurant, Lighthouse Church or Chuck's. Thank you for your donations for the project - Shirley Hollister 517-425-2836 or ahappyheart46@yahoo.com

Our 2024 **1st Quarter Missions** collection for [Healing Art Medical Missions](#) to Haiti and [Higher Ground](#) outreach totaled \$1425.70. Thank you for sending the love of Jesus to Haiti and Nepal!

Our **second quarter mission’s giving** focuses on [Bay Cliff Health Camp](#) and [Care Net Pregnancy Center of the EUP](#). Both are about supporting kids and this has been the most popular missions’ outreach. **Aimee Ogston**, Care Net Director, will be with us Sunday morning, **May 19**, to update us on Care Net news, as well as share a message of hope with us. **Clayton Ledy** will be with us on **June 16** to share about Bay Cliff and an encouraging word of God’s Good News!



You will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

[Micah 7:19](#)

“In moments where tragedy happens or even hurt, there are opportunities to demonstrate grace or to exact vengeance,” the recently bereaved man remarked. “I chose to demonstrate grace.”

Pastor Erik Fitzgerald’s wife had been killed in a car accident caused by an exhausted firefighter who fell asleep while driving home, and legal prosecutors wanted to know whether he would seek the maximum sentence. The pastor chose to practice the forgiveness he often preached about. To the surprise of both him and the firefighter, the men eventually became friends. (over)



Pastor Erik was living out of the grace he'd received from God, who'd forgiven him all of his sins. Through his actions he echoed the words of the prophet Micah, who praised God for pardoning sin and forgiving when we do wrong ([Micah 7:18](#)). The prophet uses wonderfully visual language to show just how far God goes in forgiving His people, saying that He will "tread our sins underfoot" and hurl our wrongdoings into the deep sea (v. 19). The firefighter received a gift of freedom that day, which brought him closer to God.

Whatever difficulty we face, we know that God reaches out to us with loving, open arms, welcoming us into His safe embrace. He "delights to show mercy" (v. 18). As we receive His love and grace, He gives us the strength to forgive those who hurt us—even as Pastor Erik did.

Prayer

Father God, You love us without ceasing, and You delight to forgive us when we return to You. Envelop us with Your love, that we might demonstrate grace to those who hurt us.

By: [Amy Boucher Pye](#)

From:

<https://odb.org/2020/01/22/demonstrating-grace-2>

May Birthdays

- 7. Lisa Tarr
- 13. Cheryl Wolf & Emily Ogden
- 21. Scott Danforth
- 24. Christina Kolo
- 27. Bill McMurtry

(If we don't have your birthday or anniversary, let us know!)

Pearls Of Wisdom "Who I Am In Christ"

*I am God's workmanship, created in Christ
Jesus for good works.
See: Ephesians 2:10*

- Ruth Wise

**ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER ARE
DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY TUESDAY,
MAY 21ST (Email, if possible.)**



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