



2017-2018  
ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Meeting and Celebration  
September 30, 2018 | 5:30pm  
Hosted at Grace McKean | 7300 Grubb Road

## LEAD PASTOR LETTER

My family moved to Erie when I was 15. It was a tough move for me as I was just heading in to 9<sup>th</sup> grade at a brand-new school, having to make brand-new friends. It was probably the closest I've ever been to true depression. My family was invited to a place called Grace Church by Bob and Mel Deppen (I served alongside Bob as an Elder this past year). I was introduced to a solid group of fellow-teenagers, I was mentored, I was exposed to solid biblical teaching and vibrant worship, and the trajectory of my life was changed forever.

Such is the power of the local church.

I still pinch myself some days that I get to serve the church where I grew up. And God is still on the move today just like he was back then. Not just in my life – but now thousands of lives being impacted by the ministry of Grace. The main highlight of this year for me has been the launch of our new Transform 1:8 vision. The process of meeting with so many of you in the formation of that vision, and then many rounds of meetings to discuss supporting and funding this vision, has been incredibly rewarding. Together we raised almost \$2.5 million toward our \$2.3 million goal. Yep... you read that right! I was blown away by the generosity of our congregation. I can't wait to see what God does as we continue to chase Him with our whole hearts! Here are a few other highlights:

- Soul Care retreat in January.
- 21 days of prayer and fasting in February.
- Attendance, growth, and momentum at all our sites.
- Sermon series like: Fire Fall, ROOTED (Colossians), Stories (Parables), Ruth
- A record 4960 people in attendance at Christmas at the Warner
- Mobilization of hundreds of faithful volunteers serving in Grace Kids
- Record Easter attendance in Harborcreek (767) and Girard (247)
- Grace Youth expansion and collaboration with other churches through The Exchange
- "Church Changes" series collaboration with McLane Church and Take Me to Worship
- Formalizing our 3<sup>rd</sup> global partnership with Oono Church in Tokyo, Japan
- Construction progress on 7<sup>th</sup> and Holland building including \$100,000 grant from ECGRA
- 82 first-time salvations and 142 baptisms this past ministry year.

These are the things happening from a 30,000-foot view, but there are so many more significant things happening at the individual level; lives being changed through life groups, marriages being restored, relationships deepened, addictions healed. It's truly a privilege to have a front-row-seat for what God is doing. I'm looking forward to another amazing year.

Pastor Derek



# 2017-2018 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

September 30, 2018

Recognition of New Members (*see page 9 for complete list*)

Convening of Meeting: Tony Gingrich

Transform 1:8 Update: Pastor Derek

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Tony Gingrich

*MOTION: That the church approve the minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting (pages 3-4)*

Presentation of Elections Ballot/Vote: Derek Sanford

*MOTION: That the church approves the names on the ballot for election to office (page 5)*

Financial Report and 2018-19 Budget: Aaron Lundberg

Closing of Meeting: Tony Gingrich

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## 2016-2017 MINUTES

*MOTION: That the church approve the minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting.*

### Annual Celebration 2016-2017 Minutes | September 13, 2017

- A recognition of new members preceded the opening of the business portion of the meeting.
- Sarah Burttt prayed for the meeting.
- The meeting opened at 8:10PM by Tony Gingrich.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes from the 2015-2016 Annual Meeting by Doug Nelson. Second by Jeff Irwin. No discussion. Motion was approved unanimously.

#### Elder Elections

- Derek made a presentation of the elections ballot.
  - Dean Lewis and Dave Treusch have concluded their 6<sup>th</sup> year as elders but have been appointed to stay for a 7<sup>th</sup> year.
  - Loren Little and Nate Burttt are being nominated on the ballot to join the Elders team as new lay Elders.
  - Tony Gingrich and Steve Miller are up for election for another two-year term to the Elders team.
  - David Snell is on the ballot as the Treasurer.
  - Mike Watson has been appointed as a new staff Elder.
- The motion to approve the names on the ballot for the aforementioned offices was made by Amy Swartzfager. Second by Eric Taylor. No discussion. Motion was approved unanimously.
- After the ballot count, all names listed on the ballot were approved as members of the Elders.

#### Marcus Atkinson's Licensing

- Pastor Derek explained the licensing process.
- Pastor Derek described how he and Aaron first met Marcus.
- Motion was made unanimously by the elders in the Elder Monthly Meeting held on 7/25/2017 to license Marcus as a Pastor. Second by Debbie Sweatman. No discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Elders and pastors laid hands on Marcus to pray for him. Bob Deppen led the prayer.

## Financial Report

- Attendance:
- 1457 average across all locations
  - Last 5 months have shown significant growth above average
- Aaron Lundberg shared the financial report for 2016-2017.
  - GIVING
    - Ministries/Operations: \$2,122,445
    - The Forward Project: \$136,317
    - Total Giving: \$2,525,519
  - OPERATING SUMMARY '16-'17
    - Revenue: \$2,396,920
    - Expense: \$2,216,494
    - Net Income: \$180,426
  - Forward Project Expense: \$131,152 (most to ServErie and Girard for service changes)
- Aaron gave an overview of the proposed 2017-2018 budget.
  - 2017-18 OPERATING BUDGET
    - REVENUE: \$2,550,781
    - EXPENSE: \$2,550,781
    - Surplus: \$0
    - Expense budgets do not exceed revenue budgets
  - Fixed Asset Budget: \$267,000
  - TOTAL RESERVES BALANCES
    - Fixed Asset Reserve: \$174,311
    - Operating Reserve: \$80,000
    - Special Purpose Reserve: \$63,814
  - Forward Project Balance: \$345,930
  - Benevolent Fund Balance: \$9,493
- Aaron opened the floor to questions:
  - What's the special purpose reserve?
  - Aaron: It's for missions, staffing, and other needs as outlined in the resource policies adopted by the financial team and the elders of Grace.
  - Please explain the slightly higher proportional increase in the ministries budget.
  - Aaron: We continue to add ministries, and we are setting ourselves up for the future, including things like an all-city worship event. More details to follow.
- A motion to close the business portion of the meeting was made by Aaron Lundberg.
- Second by Jess Wurst.
- No discussion.
- All in favor. The motion to close the business portion of the meeting passed.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

## 2017-2018 BALLOT

***Motion - that the church approves the names on the ballot for election to office.***

### **Treasurer:**

1\* David Snell

### **Elders:**

1 Nate Burt

1 Tony Gingrich (Church Chairman)

1 Loren Little

1 Steve Miller (Elder Chairman)

2\* Skip Papa

*Skip married his girlfriend Donna on September 27, 1975 and now she's truly his best friend. They have raised three great kids. He currently has one grandson and another on the way, praise God! Skip and Donna have attended Grace since 2010. They lead a Life Group and serve as LG Coaches, serve on Guest Experience team and as Marriage Mentors. Skip Has recently retired so that he can spend more time with his wife and family and those that he loves. Skip's Interests: God's great outdoors, fixing stuff, driving two and four-wheel vehicles. He also hope to renew his interests in hunting, fishing, hiking and camping.*

2\* Tom Hesch

*Tom and his wife of 37 years, Lori, are the parents of four adult children. Julie, Kristin, T.J. (wife Emily) and Kara (husband Dave) and five grandchildren: Lauren, Ailyn, Cece, George and Lily. Tom has been attending Grace Church (Harborcreek) since its inception. He became a Christian as a young adult and was baptized at Grace Harborcreek. He has served in many capacities including the site pastor team, Life Group Coach and leader, Service host, Core teacher and has mentored along with Lori. He is also the oldest member of the Grace Harborcreek softball team! Tom's spiritual gifts include: teaching, leadership and empathy/compassion. He has been employed in the pharmaceutical industry for 28 years.*

2\* Doug Nelson

*Doug has been married to his beautiful wife Sandy for 34 years and they have three grown sons: Greg and his wife Danielle, Adam (Jessica) and Aaron (Katy). He became a Christian as a young child and was baptized at the age of 21. His spiritual gifts are encouragement, serving and mercy. Doug had been a member of Grace Church for over 30 years and attends Grace McKean. He serves in GraceKids as well as the Guest Experience Team and has been a Life Group Leader and Elder in the past. He's worked for the City of Erie Engineering Department for 26 years.*

### **Staff Appointed Elders:**

1 Bernie Farabaugh

1 Aaron Lundberg

1 Jim Scarpitti

1 Mike Watson

### Legend

\* On the ballot for a vote

# Lay Elder - appointed to a 7<sup>th</sup> year

1 One-year term

2 Two-year term

*\*Bios are provided for those new to the team.*

## 2016-2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

### GIVING

Ministries/Operations	\$2,425,191
Forward Project	\$64,324
Missions	\$140,250
Debt Reduction	\$37,040
Benevolent	<u>\$55,145</u>
<b>Giving Total</b>	<b>\$2,721,950</b>

### YEARLY GENERAL FUND GIVING DISTRIBUTION (1052 GIVING UNITS)

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>% Of All Givers</u>
1-499	421	40%
500-1499	242	23%
1500-3999	208	20%
4000-6999	85	8%
7000-9999	52	5%
10000+	43	4%

**Giving to all funds – 1225 giving units**

**Average giving to General Fund: \$2243**

**Average total giving: \$2562.68**

### 371 First Time Givers!

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE \$2,620,421\***

\$97,211 better than plan

\*Includes Giving and Ministry Revenue and Missions but not Debt Reduction, Forward Project, Transform or Benevolent

#### Total Operating Expense

Personnel	1,126,215
Mortgage Fund	288,000
Operations	191,941
Ministries	353,470
Missions	246,059
Café & Rentals	10,980
Fixed Asset Reserve	<u>190,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,406,665</b>

#### Transform Project Expense

Lives	7,939
Sites	18,999
City	100,736
Misc	<u>18,642</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>146,316</b>

**Net Income \$213,756**

**Total Debt Balance Due: \$1,805,319**

**Total Reserves \$420,959**

**Benevolent Balance Available: \$19,930**

*If you would like to see greater budget detail or have questions, please contact Ashley Dentino (814.790.4973 x230 or [ashley@whoisgrace.com](mailto:ashley@whoisgrace.com)) before the meeting.*

## 2018-2019 OPERATING BUDGET

### REVENUE

Ministries/Ops Giving	\$2,544,643
Ministries	31,380
Cafe & Rentals	<u>16,370</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,592,393</b>

### EXPENSE

Personnel	1,338,026
Mortgage Fund	324,000
Ministries	626,670
Operations	171,102
Cafe & Rentals	9,060
Fixed Asset Reserve	<u>253,500</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,722,358</b>

SURPLUS                      \$            0

### ASSET BUDGET

\$282,968 – includes Repair, Maintenance, Construction, Renovations & Equipment

*If you would like to see greater budget detail or have questions, please contact Ashley Dentino (814.790.4973 x230 or [ashley@whoisgrace.com](mailto:ashley@whoisgrace.com)) before the meeting.*

## 2017-2018 SITE PASTOR UPDATES

### Pastor Malcolm Beall – Grace Girard

Grace Girard recently completed its fourth year of ministry. God has brought us through a lot of growth over the past year, both as a church and as individuals. Girard's fourth year marked significant growth in Sunday morning attendance, as well as our various community events. It is exciting to see Grace's influence in the community grow as we become more involved and reach out when needs come up. Our strong and growing relationship with Girard School District also helps us reach the community. We are reminded that God is moving in great ways in West County. This growth reaffirms our calling to this area.

Life stories from people who attend Grace Girard continue to be the greatest reminder of why we are here. Like the couple last fall who experienced a personal tragedy involving their child. Someone from Grace Girard was led by the Holy Spirit to call this family and invite them to Fall Fest. The two families hadn't ever met, but lived through a similar traumatic experience with their child. This family came to Fall Fest with their children, and then to church the next day. Crystal and Dean have since begun a relationship with Christ, got baptized, taken CORE, and gotten in a Life Group. I also think of the three adult sisters who came to church five weeks ago because they were looking for a place to worship and feel welcome. I can't wait to see what God has in store for their journey. Praise God for the changed lives, and the many more to come!!

### Pastor John Tiernan – Grace Harborcreek

It is hard for me to believe that I just finished my 5th year as Site Pastor at Grace Harborcreek. It has been an incredible journey watching God work powerfully through our volunteers and leaders to help so many people know and grow in Christ! This has been another year full of reasons to praise God: the addition of a successful third service, a significant increase in attendance, over 1000 people at our Fall Fest outreach, and needing overflow seating for our Saturday night Easter service. In the recent months, we are thanking God for providing two new part-time staff members, Kelly Lester (Engagement Lead) and Anna Bentley (Site Admin) who will equip and support our leaders and volunteers.

We are also celebrating the individual lives God is transforming. God is transforming Paula. She started attending last fall, joined a Life Group and is ON FIRE for Jesus! She shares her passion for Christ with her family, her friends, two youth who attend church with her, preschoolers in GraceKids, young people at the Exchange, and the staff and families at Edison Elementary. God is transforming Brian. He is trusting God through a difficult season, welcoming the support and encouragement of his Life Group, and walking in God's grace like never before. God is transforming a small group of 9th graders in GraceYouth. I've watched them rapidly grow in their faith, invite their friends to church, begin to serve on ministry teams, get baptized – and now some of their parents attend Grace because their kids kept inviting them. Those are just three stories out of the hundreds that are happening! With so much growth, it is thrilling to look ahead in anticipation of building a new worship center – and the people God will bring through those doors who will find new life and transformation in Christ!

### Pastor Brian Lusky – Grace McKean

This ministry year marks the end of my time as the Site Lead for Grace McKean. As I look back, I am filled with extreme gratitude for the graciousness of God. It has been a joy of my life to humbly walk alongside our congregation here over some amazing moves of the Holy Spirit. Over the last four years, Grace McKean has grown by more than 350 people in average weekend attendance. Dozens of people have been baptized in the last year or have come to trust Christ as their savior. Weekend service offerings went from three to five and we're seeing growth both in the Worship Center and the Commons. Fall Fest, the Christmas Inviter, and Easter Egg hunt were highlights of the year. These events allowed a combined 1,400 people, many of whom have no church home or relationship with God, to experience unique community at Grace McKean. In addition, we hired two new staff, Scott Michel as the Grace McKean Site Lead and Stefanie Johnson as the Engagement Lead. Both are incredible leaders who will help people at Grace McKean grow in their faith.



In reflecting over the past year, I'm reminded of people who have taken significant steps in their spiritual walk. Alyssa is overcoming her previous addictions by committing her whole heart to Christ and recently celebrated her first year of sobriety. Kayla didn't have anywhere to go until a family from Grace took her in. After experiencing community at Grace McKean and the love of God through her new family, she gave her life to Christ for the first time this past spring. Tim and Sandy have just started their journey toward God. As an ex Catholic agnostic and a practicing Wiccan, they were not comfortable coming on Sunday. But getting a taste of community from our inviter events has convinced them that they can open up about their doubts about God and have taken the first steps towards a relationship with Him this year. Because people from Grace convinced them there might be a church community that was different from their past experiences.

I am confident that as I turn over this site to the capable hands of Scott Michel, God will lead us onward to accomplish more than we ever dreamed possible. I'm looking forward to cheering it on as the Global Missions Pastor and as a Grace McKean attendee with my family.

## NEW MEMBERS

Anna Bentley  
Zachary Bentley  
Brittany Bilowus  
Luke Bilowus  
Scott Chadsey  
Martha Dush  
Ron Dush  
Amanda Fiske  
Stephanie Havern  
Douglas Hayes  
Kathy Hayes  
Shara Hewitt  
Shana Krivonak  
Mary Kunik  
Nikki Moyer  
Dane Olmstead  
Stacey Olmstead  
Tammy Philabaum  
Dawn Rickenbrode  
Nicole Rzodkiewicz "Rocky"  
Carl Siebauer  
Kathy Siebauer  
Terry Taylor  
Dennis Wagers  
Elaine Wagers  
Craig Welker  
Jennifer Welker  
Dexter Witchey  
Nichole Witchey  
Peter Wurst  
Maria Fagley  
Nick Dersch  
Kalyn Dersch  
Darlene Wenner

## MEMBERS REMOVED

Dusty Aldridge  
Joy Bennett  
Gabriel Cook  
John Eberlin  
Kim Finnegan  
Mike and Patty Hall  
Sarah Horning  
Brianna Krysiak  
Matt and Amber McDowell  
Courtney McManigle  
Heather Newport  
Steve and Karen Pattison  
Matt and Ashley Sumosky  
Al and Susan Tatalone  
Evan Turner  
Jennifer Turner  
Nate Wheeler  
Cheryl Zellefrow  
Carol Alford  
Vicki Coy  
Ben Deppen  
Jared Detter  
Dan Dunn  
Carolyn Eller  
Scott Tait  
Julia Campbell  
Larry and Florence Shallenberger

*\*Please contact us if we have accidentally omitted or added your name. We sincerely apologize for any oversight!  
Jeannine@whoisgrace.com | 814.790.4973 x226*



Over 516 students visited The Exchange  
260: highest attended night  
51 volunteers make The Exchange possible  
Including Life Group Leaders and Site Leads, we have 77 volunteers with GraceYouth  
94 students participated in Life Groups  
GraceYouth and The Exchange have influenced students from 52 schools

## 701 PEOPLE AT GRACE ARE VOLUNTEERING!

**SERVERIE**  
SERVE-EQUIP-CONNECT

**SCHOOL PROJECT:**

1,568 – TOTAL SHIFTS WORKED  
6,272 – VOLUNTEER HOURS  
1,189 –VOLUNTEERS OVER 3 DAYS  
\$154,856 VOLUNTEER EQUIVALENT RATE



11 kids baptized  
386 kids visited GraceKids for the first time  
average weekly attendance near 300  
260 volunteers with GraceKids



94 Adult  
LifeGroups:  
that is  
**660 PEOPLE!**

## OVER 200 SALVATIONS!

142 BAPTISMS!

**BEST.  
DAY.  
EVER.**

**ATTENDANCE NUMBERS**

16-17 MCK: 1012  
17-18 MCK: 1092  
Increased by 80 (8%)

16-17 HC: 316  
17-18 HC: 425  
Increased by 109 (34.5%)

16-17 GIR: 129  
17-18 GIR: 162  
Increased by: 33 (25.6%)