



From the earliest days of Grace Church, God has always been faithful to us. Over the years, He has also entrusted us with grand dreams and visions. Here's a quick snapshot of where we've been in recent history:



GOD-ORDAINED CHANGES

In 2007, Grace Church moved from a landlocked location at 38th Street and Caughey Road in Millcreek to 7300 Grubb Road in McKean. This move was a catalyst for growth and we soon had a critical mass of people ready to follow God's lead. Worship in the Commons began in 2008, providing a unique and more traditional form of corporate worship. In 2009, ServErie was born in the hearts of Grace people. We also ramped up our leadership development by becoming an official host site for the Global Leadership Summit. In 2010 Al Dettler, our senior pastor of 32 years, sensed God's calling to step aside and make a way for our current lead pastor, Derek Sanford. That year also brought our multi-site strategy, when "Grace Church" became Grace McKean, and we began the process of launching Grace Harborcreek.

1,018
AVERAGE MONTHLY
ATTENDANCE
FROM 2007-2010



ENORMOUS BLESSING

Grace was gifted a church building in Harborcreek to be our permanent home! God did an amazing thing and used the generosity and selflessness of a handful of people to bless hundreds more.



EXPANDING THE KINGDOM

In the fall of 2014 Grace opened another location in the West County using Girard High School, and Grace Girard was born. In December, our leaders sensed God calling us to reach more people, so we began Christmas at the Warner with 2808 in attendance that first year.



WAITING AND PREPARING

2015 was a big year for Grace! After The Forward Project vision ended in 2016, we committed to a year of rest, renewal and preparation to hear from God for our next three years. The School of Prayer and Supernatural sermon series played a big part in the momentum and spiritual health of our church. As we waited, God spoke to our people, our Elders, and our leaders. And while we prepared, God did not rest.



FALL/WINTER 2016

- Grace App launch
- Second official global partner: Iglesias de Dios Pentecostal in the Dominican Republic
- James sermon series
- Christmas at the Warner: over 3500 people

1,366
AVERAGE MONTHLY
ATTENDANCE IN 2016



SUMMER/FALL/WINTER 2017

- ServErie Help Our Schools: Erie High Project
- Erie Insurance gifted 7th and Holland to us
- Made technical improvements to Girard High School, to bless the school and Grace Girard
- Added Sunday Services and changed Sunday structure for the first time in 10 years
- Church Changes, Toxic, and Rooted sermon series
- Christmas at the Warner: 5000 people with over 200 volunteers, and 40 faith decisions

1,577
AVERAGE MONTHLY
ATTENDANCE IN 2017



2007

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

A NEW VISION

Pastor Derek brought a five-year vision to the church, which included: 50 local churches partnering together through ServErie, gaining two global church partners, partnering with families, raising the temperature of discipleship, and continuing forward with our multi-site strategy. Through that vision, we formalized our first Global Partnership with a church in Haiti, who soon renamed themselves "Grace En Sion." Grace Harborcreek officially opened to the public, meeting in Harbor Creek High School.

TECHNICAL ADVANCES

Our creative team developed Grace Online, an online worship experience, to help expand our reach to the ends of the earth. We also redesigned whoisgrace.com to serve our multi-site vision.

1,188
AVERAGE MONTHLY
ATTENDANCE
FROM 2011-2015

GOING DEEPER

Rock the Lakes, a Billy Graham crusade, came to Erie. We held evangelism training and were part of the core team that made this event a success for our community. In the fall, GraceYouth started "The Exchange," and our main ministry focus was to ignite the spiritual growth at Grace through Life Groups. We set a goal that 75% of our average weekly attendance would participate in a Life Group by the end of the ministry year, and ended up achieving more than 80%. Our staff began hosting "Church to Church," a unique training and mentorship event for other churches. We also developed "Leadership One Day" to help the people of Grace with leadership skills. Christmas at the Warner drew over 3800 people, with 27 giving their lives to Christ.

SUMMER 2016

- ServErie Help Our Schools: Lincoln School Project
- Sunday in the Park: 2,250 in attendance, with 12 salvations and 61 baptisms
- Finding Your Way Back to God sermon series and book

SPRING 2017

- Third official global partner: Oono Kuristo Kyoukai in Japan
- I Am Jesus sermon series and book
- ServErie became a 501(c)3, and moved to 231 Parade Street, with Marcus Atkinson as Executive Director

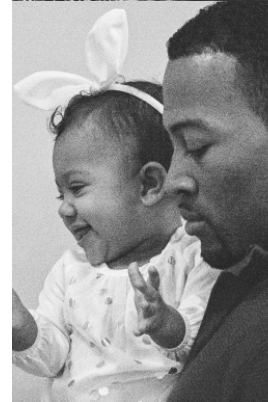
Grace Church has always prioritized people outside our walls: people in our communities, our nation, and our world who have never experienced the life-changing love of our savior. God has constantly led us to reach them and make room for them in our Grace family. He is stirring us again to have a transformational presence in the world around us. At the same time, we believe that our church's greatest resource is people ... it's you and me. And, as each of us grows deeper in our devotion to God, more confident in our calling, and more selfless with our resources, God will continue to position us to be an influence for others.

He is calling us to a new vision.





We see a day, three years from now, when we, the people of Grace, will walk with God not just on Sundays but every day. Where we are equipped to use our gifts to impact the world around us. We see our sites doubling in size to 3,500 worshipers on a weekend. We see our facilities expanded and renovated to accommodate that growth. We see new innovations in how we use technology and worship venues to reach a new generation. We see a new leadership development center at 7th and Holland that will serve our church, our city, and the church worldwide. We see a congregation mobilized to address the leading needs in our city through volunteerism. We see an increased awareness and involvement in the global church, and resourced global partners in Haiti, Japan, and the Dominican Republic funded to go to the next level. It's a new chapter for Grace Church. Will you join us in chasing these dreams?



You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

- Acts 1:8

THIS VISION IS BASED ON THE STRATEGY LAID OUT BY JESUS IN ACTS 1:8. OUR INFLUENCE STARTS TO LOOK LIKE 4 CONCENTRIC CIRCLES; LIKE A RIPPLE IN A POND THAT STARTS WITH THE FIRST STONE THROW.



TRANSFORM 1:8

THE NEXT THREE YEARS AT GRACE ARE ABOUT TRANSFORMATION: POSITIVE CHANGE THAT BEGINS IN OUR OWN LIVES AND ULTIMATELY WILL CHANGE THE WORLD AROUND US.

There are two main components of this vision that build on each other. The first depends on YOU. You have been entrusted by God with tools that need to be maximized for this Kingdom vision to become a reality. Our commitment over the next three years is to help you walk with greater purpose in your life by developing and unleashing these personal assets. You are not here by accident!

We'll spend the next few pages exploring what we see for you and our church over the next three years:

OUR FUTURE: *Transforming* Communities with *Transformed* People



You understand your story of faith. Your relationship with God is a priority in your life and your faith has moved from a weekly event to a daily walk with God. The story He is writing over your life isn't complete, but you're in tune with the Holy Spirit and ready to share what He is doing with those around you.



Your gifts have been unleashed. You understand who you are in Christ, how you've been wired, and you have chosen a primary and secondary ministry area to expand your influence on the world around you.



You have leveraged your resources. Your heart and God's heart are aligned when it comes to how you use the financial resources He has blessed you with. You have tremendous joy and freedom through generosity.

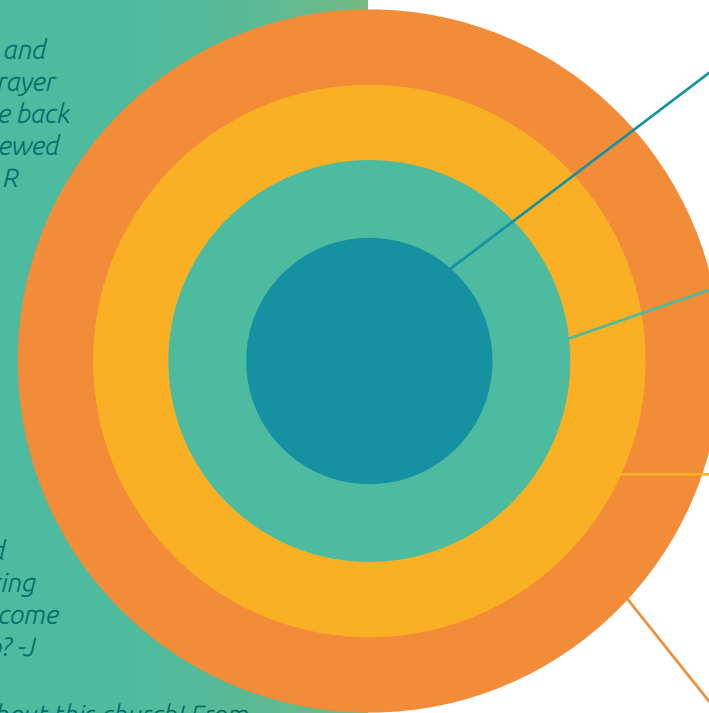
You will be able to apply your tools in these four areas >>

I love the saying "If you're not dead, you're not done". That saying is taking on new meaning for me as I approach retirement from my job in a few years and look to how God wants to use me in my "next career". -S

I am so thankful for Grace online and the archived sermons. Through prayer and the sermons, [my niece] came back to God, and He rewarded her renewed faithfulness. God is so amazing! - R

I really loved The Exchange and had so much fun! I was wondering if there was any way I could become involved with your youth group? -J

I don't know where I would be without this church! From the moment I came here, I knew this place was different, and no matter what, I'd be accepted and loved. We aren't just a group of people that you see on Sunday and don't think about again until the next week, we really are a Framily!! -T



YOUR RELATIONSHIPS (JERUSALEM):

Your inner circle of influence like family, friends, and neighbors.



YOUR SITE (JUDEA):

The general location where you worship.



OUR CITY (SAMARIA):

For our church, this is Erie, Pennsylvania.



OUR WORLD (THE ENDS OF THE EARTH):

Our global church partners and missionary partners.



YOUR RELATIONSHIPS (JERUSALEM):

Everything is built on what God is doing in the hearts of each individual at Grace, so our first goal is to help you be an incredible witness!

Here's a small glimpse of what we're considering for the next three years:

- Special sermon series
- World-class training and educational opportunities in apologetics, Biblical studies, and leadership development
- Leveraging technology, as well as our thinkers and writers, to create materials and resources that will support your daily walk with God
- Developing a new app that will allow notification flexibility, and access to robust content
- Innovation in the area of how and where people gather for church.
- Initiatives to help you to identify and reach people in your life who need Jesus



YOUR SITE (JUDEA):

Double weekend attendance at each site.

From a church of 1,750 to a church of 3,500 in attendance.

People in a 7-mile radius of our locations who are NOT actively involved in their faith or a church: Girard: 16,500 people | Harborcreek: 25,000 people | McKean: 50,000 people. That is more than 90,000 people in our backyards who need to hear about Jesus! We have work to do and space to make!

Increase the space capacity of our facilities in anticipation of growth.

Grace Harborcreek:

- New worship center, lobby, nursery, and toddler areas
- Increase parking capacity
- Renovate existing building for children's space

Grace McKean:

- Expand children's ministry space, worship space
- Redesigned atrium and signage

Grace Girard:

- Upgrade school environment and new signage
- Rent more classroom space



OUR CITY (SAMARIA):

Create a world-class leadership center at 7th and Holland.

We were gifted 7th and Holland - the location of Grace's original church facility! We plan to renovate the space into a leadership development center that will be a blessing to the city, the region, and the entire world.

One of the great cries of Christian leaders - especially in the city - is for leadership resourcing: Our hope is that at 7th and Holland we can provide:

- Leadership training
- Organizational management and administrative support
- Funding strategies
- Creative arts and marketing
- Packaged Grace content (preaching, leadership, creative) for other churches both locally and globally

Meet 3 tangible needs in our city in 3 years.

Erie's poverty rate is nearly double the national average. There are more than 16,000 children in poverty. We're not OK with that. So we're going to discover and fund one high-impact, tangible initiative in our city every year for three years.



OUR WORLD (THE ENDS OF THE EARTH):

Increase the ministry capacity of our global partners.

The great commission is a global movement. Jesus said go into "all the world." As a suburban American church, we have a responsibility to the global church.

We are working with strategic churches and indigenous leaders in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Japan. Just like we want to see our sites expand in size and influence – we want to see our partner churches expand in size and influence. This will look different in each country, but all three partners have visions of greater influence. We want to support them (and you!) in reaching the world by:

- Partnering with Converge and other regional churches to add short-term trip opportunities, so we can send hundreds more people around the globe
- Sponsoring every child in our schools (Haiti and the DR)
- Working with our partner churches to determine their areas of potential expansion
- Providing funding and people resources to our partners as they expand



I accepted Christ as my Savior at Christmas at the Warner 2014. I had entered into the service that night somewhat lost, broken, full of anxiety, and with little knowledge of Christ. I left that service knowing in my heart that Christ is my Savior and that it would be the beginning of a beautiful journey to knowing my Lord and Savior. -A



**Transform 1:8 will take everyone at Grace:
your story, your calling and your finances.**

*To provide resources and impact
our four circles, we have set a
faith goal to raise \$2.3 million.*

GOAL: \$2.3 MILLION

ESTIMATED BREAKDOWN:

- YOUR RELATIONSHIPS (JERUSALEM): \$150,000
- YOUR SITE (JUDEA): \$1.5 million
- OUR CITY (SAMARIA): \$500,000
- OUR WORLD (THE END OF THE EARTH): \$150,000

*God is calling you to play a role in
this vision. Maybe you came to Grace
40 years ago, 4 years ago or 4 weeks ago.
Before you came, someone sacrificed so
you can have a seat. Someone took a step
so you would hear about His love and find
your place at Grace. And, now it's your turn
to pay it forward – to join me in sacrificially
committing to God's plan for Grace.*

*Please consider doing these three things as
we launch this new vision:*

- 1. Get informed.** Read this. Go online. Talk to people.
- 2. Listen to God.** Find your chair. Pray about how He wants you to be involved.
- 3. Do what He tells you.**

*I am thrilled to walk through the next three
years with you!*


Pastor Derek



*I love this church. It is a great
place to not only experience
God but also where you can
see people using their talents
and gifts to serve God in our
community and beyond. That's
what the church is supposed
to be doing and I think Grace
is striving to accomplish that
goal... to share Jesus' love as
He empowers us. -L*

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GET INFORMED,
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