

# METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

August 2025

Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP



Pastor Jim Brown—[jabrown215@yahoo.com](mailto:jabrown215@yahoo.com)

Praise the Lord for thirteen students who attended Camp Conquest this summer! They had great fun! Some loved swimming in the pool. Others mentioned riding horses. And the rifle range was a big hit.

They also learned about the Lord. One student mentioned that they were encouraged about the assurance of God's presence with them always. Another said they learned that God always keeps His promises. And a teen was inspired to live in holiness in all circumstances.

Please ask the Lord to help students reflect on experiences this summer throughout the year. Pray for impact in families, at church and at school. and learned new ways to live for Jesus. And three students were baptized last month! Each of them placed their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, eagerly displaying their faith in a public way.



**METROGRACE**  
Developing Urban Churches

*Thank you for supporting MetroGrace this month!  
Please include this cut-off with your next gift and  
use the back to indicate any changes to your  
contact information.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift to support:

General Fund	\$ _____
Jim and Lisa Brown	\$ _____
Pete and Danielle Forshtay	\$ _____
Rick and Kristin Dobrowolski	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____

**2417 Welsh Road Suite 21**  
**PMB#501**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19114**  
**215-533-3396**  
**[www.metrograce.org](http://www.metrograce.org)**  
**Dr. Jim Brown,**





**Pastor Rick Dobrowolski—rickdob7@icloud.com**



### City Parking Struggles

Urban churches will typically face issues with parking and with zoning due to parking needs. Assembling any size congregation on Sundays, especially in a car-dependent city with only a limited bus system, comes with its problems in where to park the vehicles. We have had the benefit of a local business owner graciously allowing us the use of his parking lot behind our building until the time when he would demolish the building on that property and then remove the parking lot to make way for his new building. The demo of the old structure happened this week and we're hoping that we'll still have the parking lot for a bit longer. Please pray that we can come up with a good longer-term solution.

### Faith that Works

Our current preaching series is the book of James, which we started after completing the Sermon on the Mount. As we emphasize a faith that works itself out in a changed life, please pray that people respond through the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives. We've already seen some convicted to battle their addictions and seek to live for Christ in their choices. Please continue to pray for fruitful lives.



**Pastor Pete Forshtay—peteforshtay@gmail.com**

Last month Word of Grace Church held an Ice Cream Social on the sidewalk in front of their building. The congregation invited friends and neighbors. They set

up outdoor games like corn hole and giant Jenga. And, indoor games were prepared for those wishing to escape the sweltering heat. The team arranged for an ice cream truck to arrive at the facility. And, participants could order what they wanted, play some games and connect with the church family. About fifty people enjoyed the evening event. Please pray for growing relationships with neighbors in Wissinoming.



Champagne is a troubled woman who is known for the wrong kind of work. She and others often ply their trade from the steps of the church that face the street. Their behavior is a nuisance to the neighbors so Pastor Pete has to ask them to leave, always inviting them to come to church. He's encountered Champagne frequently, but he refused to call her by that name. He asked her what name her parents had given her. Eventually, she gave in and told him that her name was Vileema. Last

month, she made her way into a worship service. Later, she was seen on surveillance cameras hosing out the church trash cans and cleaning the sidewalk. Please ask the Lord to save Vileema.



**Mike & Margarete Connor have been an important part of MetroGrace and Crossroads Church for many years. Last month Mike had emergency surgery to remove a mass believed to be colon cancer. Please pray for healing as the Connor family deals with this difficult challenge.**

**Thank you for helping us develop urban churches!**