



# the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

March 2018  
Gary Coffey

## Grace Episcopal Church

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www.facebook.com/graceasheville

The Grace TEAM  
is published monthly.  
Deadline for articles is the 15th.

**Sunday Worship**  
7:45 a.m. - Rite I  
9:00 a.m. - Family Eucharist  
11:15 a.m. - Festival Eucharist

**Healing Prayer**  
Every Sunday at  
9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
there is a prayer station available  
with Lay Healing Prayer Ministers.

**Healing Prayer Services**  
- Healing Prayer Service, Tuesdays  
(except 1st Tuesday), 6:30 p.m.;  
- Eucharist with Generational  
Healing Service, first Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.;  
- Healing Prayer Service and  
Eucharist; laying on of hands for  
God's healing, Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.

**Taizé**  
Third Sunday of each month at 8:00  
p.m. there is a Taizé service attended  
by an ecumenical congregation who  
enjoy the reflective form of worship  
using candles, incense, chants,  
meditative readings and prayers.  
Healing Prayer is also offered  
at the service.

Dear People of Grace,

I missed church yesterday due to a bad cold. I think I remember from French class that a bad cold is called *un rhume abominable*. Some of these respiratory viruses we're battling this year are abominable, aren't they? Anyway, I wish for all of you a healthy and happy spring!

We are now well into the season of Lent, "a time of self-examination and repentance; prayer, fasting and self-denial," *The Book of Common Prayer* tells us. How is it going for you? Just like travel on a ship, we can make course corrections at any point in our Lenten journey. So, two weeks or so, on the path, what course corrections do you and I need to make that will assist us in giving our hearts and wills more completely to our Lord Jesus?

Maybe our course correction will have to do with relationships that are not quite right. Maybe our course correction will be getting back to a daily time of prayer and self-examination or recommitting ourselves to study and meditation upon God's Word.

Speaking of self-examination, is it true for you, as it is for me, that sometimes we avoid self-examination because we're afraid of what we might see in our lives? Rather than really taking a good look at ourselves, we just stay busy and distracted, pushing on with life as we are.

If that, Beloved, is true for us, it occurs to me that God has something better for us than that. We need to remember that we are safe in the loving hands of God, and from that safe place

with Jesus, as He holds onto us, we can look at the unvarnished truth about ourselves.

Then, with the help of His gracious Spirit, we can repent of anything keeping us from being the loving Christlike persons we were created to be. With God's help, we can shed the anger or resentment or unforgiveness towards others or even towards ourselves. As we do so we find again those green pastures and still waters which

we read about in Psalm 23. As we shed whatever sinful behavior or attitudes that are holding us back from being more like Jesus, as painful as it may be to recognize these things in our lives, we know we are better off without them. Again, God has something better for us in this life than that. So, let me encourage

you, as I encourage myself, to take some time during this Lenten season, to be still before the Lord, to look inside and to consent to God's presence and God's action within us. Lent is a blessed time to look within ourselves and forsake the sin we find in our lives.

If we will do this, we can trade our sorrows, which sin always brings, for the joy that forgiveness and moving in a new and healthier direction with God always brings. It sounds like a good deal, doesn't it? And it sounds like a good deal because it IS a good deal.

“...sometimes we avoid self-examination because we're afraid of what we might see...”

Blessings and Peace,

Fr. Gary Coffey

# Events at a Glance

## A Quick Review of the Month

### Monday Morning Gospel Bible Study

*Mondays, 10:30 a.m., PH*

### Early Birds Men's Book Study

*Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m., LI*

### Centering Prayer

*Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., CR*

### Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

*Wednesdays, 12:15-1:15 p.m., LI*

### Choir and Bell Rehearsal

*Wednesdays: Bells, 6:00 p.m., Choir Rm.  
Choir, 7:15-8:45 p.m., PH*

### Generational Healing Eucharist

*Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m., CH*

### Order of St. Luke

*Thursday, March 8, 6:30 p.m., PH*

### Steadfast House Meal

*Friday, March 9, 6:00 p.m.*

### Flower Arranging Workshop

*Saturday, March 10, 10:00 a.m., PH (details on p. 3)*

### Pub Sing

*Sunday, March 11, snacks at 5:30 p.m.; singing at 6:00 p.m.*

### Healing Prayer Services

*Tuesdays, March 13, 20 & 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m., LI*

### TEAM Meeting

*Wednesday, March 14, 10:00 a.m., OF*

### Purls of Grace

*Thursday, March 15, 5:00 p.m., LI*

### Buildings and Grounds Workday

*Saturday, March 17, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*

### Taizé Worship Service

*Sunday, March 18, 8:00-9:00 p.m., CH*

### Vestry Meeting

*Monday, March 19, 5:30 p.m., LI*

### Rummage Sale Drop-Off Day

*Saturday March 24, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Storage Bldg.*

### Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion

*Sunday, March 25, 7:45, 9:00, 11:15 a.m., CH*

### Confirmation with Bishop José McLoughlin

*Sunday, March 25, 9:00 a.m., CH (reception to follow)*

### Easter Baskets for the Homebound

*Wednesday, March 28, 11:00 a.m., PH*

### Maundy Thursday: The Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

*Thursday, March 29, 6:00 p.m., CH*

### Good Friday Liturgy

*Friday, March 30, 12:00 noon & 6:00 p.m., CH*

### Holy Saturday Worship

*Saturday, March 31, 10:00 a.m., Urban Garden*

**Centering Prayer** meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the downstairs conference room. All are welcome.

The **Early Birds Men's Group** is a small group of men that has met in the library on Tuesdays for the past seven years, 8:30-10:00 a.m., to discuss a chosen book. All men of the church are welcome and are encouraged to bring friends who are not congregants. More people make for lively and thought-provoking discussions. We hope you will join us in March. Questions? Call Bill Spencer at 299-3566.

Sing with the **Grace Choir!** Singers are needed for all sections with some sight-reading skills, good intonation, as well as dedication and good humor. Contact Ned Tipton, ned.graceasheville@gmail.com for details. Choir Rehearsal is from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evenings and at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays. Bells practice Wednesdays, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Choir room.

**Men of the Church** will not meet during Lent. Details will be available later this month for the April meeting.

**Monday Morning Gospel Bible Study** is at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall. Facilitated by Fr. Bob, it is a study of the Gospel for the following Sunday. All are welcome.

The Mountain Chapter of the **Order of St. Luke** will meet on Thursday, March 8, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall. The Rev. John Rice will lead a discussion and prayer experience of "Praying with Power and Authority" with a focus on praying for persons battling cancer. All are welcome. One does not have to be an OSL member to attend. We will not meet if the Asheville City Schools are closed that day or will close early due to inclement weather.

**PubSing** is an informal gathering on the second Sunday evening of each month to sing hymns, old-time Gospel, and Americana inspirational music. We will meet this month on Sunday, March 11, at the French Broad Brewery, 101 Fairview Road. You may bring a snack at 5:30 p.m.; singing is 6:00-8:00. For more information, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114. Get directions at frenchbroadbrewery.com/directions/.

The **Rummage Sale Drop-Off Day** is Saturday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Storage House. Bring items for the next sale to the upper parking lot. The next drop-off date is June 30.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 11**

**2:00 A.M.**

*Spring forward!*

# Parish News, Updates and Reminders



**FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP.** You say you love flowers, but you think you can't arrange them? Think again! Our Flower Guild will be having a workshop in the parish hall on Saturday, March 10 at 10 a.m. Nora Jones and Marzy Israel will present ideas from the flower conference at Grace Cathedral in Charleston, and a DVD from the conference will be shown. See live demonstrations for large arrangements, and get some creative ideas for using "Grocery Store" flowers at home. Everyone is welcome and the Flower guild is always open to your fresh ideas!

**EASTER BASKETS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND FRIENDS.** Please join us Wednesday, March 28, 11:00 a.m. in the parish hall as we fill up pretty little Easter baskets to be delivered to homebound friends of Grace. As always, your baskets, plastic eggs and small gifts add a special touch.

*In addition to the baskets themselves, appropriate fillers for the baskets might include: stamps, lip gloss, candy, plastic Easter eggs, pens, small notepads, small containers of shampoo, tooth care items, lotion, breath mints, etc.*



*You are cordially invited to celebrate*  
**The Easter Vigil**  
*at*  
**The Cathedral of All Souls**  
*9 Swan Street in Biltmore Village*  
**Saturday, March 31, 8:00 p.m.**  
*Reception to follow.*

*For more information, visit [www.allsouls cathedral.org](http://www.allsouls cathedral.org)*



**CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT.** The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter morning following the 9:00 a.m. service. Children through fifth grade will gather in the parish hall, and the hunt will begin about 10:10 a.m. Please bring twelve empty plastic eggs and a basket for each child who will participate. Just put the empty eggs in the box in the foyer when you arrive. The eggs you bring will replace the twelve eggs your child takes home from the hunt.



**PALM SUNDAY BISHOP'S VISITATION.** We are looking so forward to having our Bishop, The Right Rev. José McLoughlin, with us on Palm Sunday, March 25. On that day, Bishop José will confirm youth and adults at the 9:00 a.m. service. A reception in the parish hall will follow the service in honor of our Confirmands, and of course, Bishop José will be at the reception to greet all of you as well. This will be our very first formal parish visitation from our bishop, and we are delighted that it will be on Palm Sunday! Bishop José will be with us that day for all three services.



**OUR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE.**

Please join us for any or all of the Holy Week services listed below. We look forward to worshipping with you.



**March 25**

**Palm Sunday: THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION**

The Holy Eucharist, 7:45, 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.  
*At the 9:00 a.m. service, Confirmation will be held, with The Rt. Rev. Bishop José McLoughlin officiating, followed by a reception at 10:00 a.m.*

**March 29**

**Maundy Thursday: THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 6:00 p.m.

**March 30**

**GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY**

12:00 Noon and 6:00 p.m.

**March 31**

**HOLY SATURDAY WORSHIP**

10:00 a.m., Urban Memorial Garden

**April 1**

**EASTER DAY: THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION**

The Holy Eucharist at 7:45, 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.  
*The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held after the 9:00 service.*

# Grace Ministries in Action

*"Grace Ministries in Action" spotlights reports from our ministry leaders, keeping us informed about the ministries, their programs, and ways in which each of us can get involved. The ministry leaders listed here would love to hear from you.*

## MINISTRY LEADERS

**ADULT FORMATION:** Greg Townsend,  
gwtownsend@outlook.com

**ALTAR GUILD:**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:**

**CHILD FORMATION:** Mark Silvers,  
mhswjak@hotmail.com

**CHOIR:** Rusty McCredie,  
rebscape@att.net

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Eric Howell,  
eric\_howell@att.net

**ENDOWMENT:** Mike Nery,  
mnery.nam@att.net

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW):**  
Maria Mason,  
mariamaso@gmail.com

**FELLOWSHIP:** Sally Withers,  
sallywithers@gmail.com

**FINANCE:** Oscar Starnes,  
oscar.starnes@wellsfargoadvisors.com; Joe  
Aull, jaull@charter.net

**FLOWER GUILD:** Mary Israel,  
tobarranged@bellsouth.net

**HEALING MINISTRY:** Jeanne Robertson,  
j Robertson38@me.com

**MEN OF THE CHURCH:** Jim Compton,  
j.t.compton@gmail.com

**NEWCOMERS:** Ray Kuykendall,  
brk1442@gmail.com

**OFFICE MINISTRY:** Valerie Heavens,  
grace.church.asheville@gmail.com

**OUTREACH:** Cheryl Deyton,  
cheryldeyton@bellsouth.net

**PASTORAL CARE:** Kathleen Griffin,  
gkcggriffin7@att.net

**PUBSING:** Monty Wooten,  
montywooten@bellsouth.net

**STEWARDSHIP:** Kimberly Kneier,  
kkneier@yahoo.com

**TAIZÉ:** James Cannon,  
imjcannon@frontier.com

**YOUTH FORMATION:** Elaine Potter,  
elaine@graylineasheville.com

**WEDDING MINISTRY:** Elaine Potter,  
elaine@graylineasheville.com; Cheri  
Potter, Cheripotter82@gmail.com

**WORSHIP:** Gary Coffey,  
garycoffey77@gmail.com

## Adult Formation

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL.** Our study of the Gospel of John continues. Fr. Gary and Greg Townsend lead this class, which meets in the parish hall.

## Buildings and Grounds

**FINISHING TOUCHES FOR OUR FENCE.** Building and Grounds is finishing up framework needed for mounting the beautiful Celtic art pieces created by our own Tricia Hargrove for the new fence bordering our lower parking lot. The target date is Saturday, March 17, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact Pat Walters, pwalterspa@aol.com for details.



## Episcopal Church Women

**RUMMAGE SALE DROP-OFF DAY.** Getting your spring cleaning done? You're just in time. The Rummage Sale Drop-Off Day is Saturday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Storage House in the upper parking lot. Bring those spring-cleaning items for the next Rummage sale. To help with sorting and organizing, the ECW ladies ask you to please bring items only on the designated drop-off dates. The next drop off date will be June 30.

## Fellowship

**ANOTHER GREAT MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION.** Thank you to all who contributed in some way to the food and fun! Just take a look!

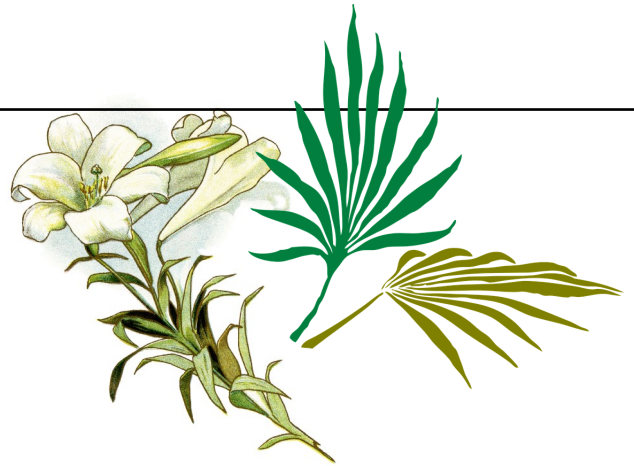


*Grace Ministries in Action continued on next page >>>*

*(“Grace Ministries in Action” continued)*

## Flower Guild

**PALMS AND FLOWERS AT EASTERTIDE.** Look for the special envelopes on the church pews this month for your memorial and thanksgiving donations, which will be used to purchase the flowers and palms for Eastertide. Thank you for the part you play in making our church even more beautiful for this Holy Season. Donors will be recognized in the May *TEAM Newsletter*.



## Outreach



**OUR NEXT ABCCM FOOD DRIVE.** Don't forget to pick up grocery bags Sunday, March 4, for the upcoming ABCCM food drive. Your donations of canned fruit, canned tuna and spaghetti sauce will help keep the ABCCM pantry stocked for those in need. Please bring groceries back to church by Sunday, March 11. And as always, thank you for helping out.



## Wedding Ministry

**NEW MEMBERS. UPCOMING WEDDING.** The Wedding Ministry welcomed a new member on February 10! Thank you, Nancy Walters, for joining the Wedding Team! We're excited to have you helping with weddings!

Our next wedding is March 3 at 5:00 p.m. Cheri Potter, Jean Hal-dane and Nancy Walters will be helping. We can all rejoice when a couple starts their married life at Grace. It is a blessing to be able to share our sanctuary for a ceremony uniting two people in the presence of God. I truly believe each wedding nourishes our worship space.



*We would love to welcome more new members to the Wedding Ministry! Please email or call either Cheri Potter or Elaine Potter if you are interested. And for all the members on the team, thank you for all you do to help make this a special place to be married.*



We publish the Parish Prayer List each month so you may include those listed in your daily prayers. To help you identify and/or contact the people for whom you are praying, we have included the last names of people with their permission.

*For Parishioners:* **Joan Aldrich, Chris Carson** (son of Martha & Randy); **Arnold & Nancy Clark; Nathan Crownover** (son of Bill & Barbara Crownover); **Ed Denison; Eva Dupree; Eunice Ferguson; Mary Hayes; Mary Israel; Wendy Kuykendall; Joyce Noble; Shannon Ponce; Nancy Porter; Sonny Rawls; Ray Robertson; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Rita Spragg, Don Wills.**

*For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities:* **Henny Caldwell; Mary Hayes** (mother of Rick Hayes); **Straudia & Mel Luedtke; Rita & Roger Lyda; Marion Mayfield-Johnson; Mary Ida Sprague; Laura Stephens.**

*For Others (names to stay on the list for four weeks; call the church office to keep names on the list for a longer time):* **Michael & Da-ae Aull** (son & daughter-in-law of Joe and Cheryl Aull); **Kim Bailey; Chris Boehme** (son-in-law of Mary Alice Nard); **Deane Boggs** (sister of Joyce Noble); **Sullivan Bull** (friend of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Bunni Cosimati** (sister of Bob DuBrul); **Mary Cozine** (former parishioner); **Rocky Cunningham; Keith Enloe** (friend of Mary Israel); **Kacie Epley** (cousin of Vicki & Paul Vest); **Al Fadel** (friend of Nancy & Arnold Clark); **Danny Hall** (brother-in-law of David Gentry); **Kathleen & Michael Johnson** (friends of Barbara Wilcox); **Jeff Johnston** (cousin of Eva Dupree); **Johnette & Bob Kievit** (friends of Don Wills); **Fred & Jean Macon** (friends of Don Wills); **Lisa McDonald** (sister of Susan Robinson); **Jim Monroe** (friend of Jeannette & Bob Reese); **Allie Pannell** (niece of Ron & Jeanne Sims); **Janice Ribet** (former parishioner); **Storksen family** (friends of Barbara Wilcox); **Marcus Trinite** (son of Mickey & Tricia Trinite); **Janet Waters** (daughter of Cal & Nancy Remmers); **Wayne Wills** (brother of Don Wills); **Betty** (mother of Beth Stahl); **Elizabeth; Hendrik** (friend of Barbara Wilcox); **June** (friend of Barbara Wilcox); **Scott** (friend of Pete Kuehne); **Steve, Sue; Susan; Susan** (friend of Shannon Ponce).

*For Those in the Episcopal Church:* **Michael** (our presiding Bishop); **José, Porter and Robert** (our Bishops); **the clergy, vestry, staff, ministries and people of this parish; Church of the Advocate.**

*For Those Who Have Died and Their Families:* **Norma Carter** (mother-in-law of Valerie Heavens); **Connie Maslik**

*For Those in Service to Our Country:* **Tommy & Danny Brown** (grandsons of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **David Ely** (son of Dave Ely); **Matthew George** (son of Zoe Davis); **Austin Harrison** (nephew of Bill & Glenda Sanderson); **Spencer & Erica High; Jason Marino** (son of Lynda McCredie); **Daniel Schultz** (son of Judy Rhodes); **Nancy Smith; Caitlin Vest** (niece of Vicki & Paul Vest).

**For our President Donald Trump, his Cabinet, Congress & our country; for victims of violence across the world; for local agencies & those who work for relief of the poor; for better stewardship of water; for resolution of crises throughout our world.**

*The Bulletin and TEAM prayer list is one of many prayer lists at Grace. Please get permission from anyone you would like to add to the list and contact Kathleen Griffin at 337-8241 or [gkcgiffin7@gmail.com](mailto:gkcgiffin7@gmail.com) or the church office at [grace.church.asheville@gmail.com](mailto:grace.church.asheville@gmail.com).*

# March 2018 Ministry Schedule with Holy Week

Date	Service Time	Acolyte C	Acolyte G	Acolyte E	Lector, Intercessor & Presenters	Healing Team	Ushers	Chalicians	Coffee Hour	Lesson	
<b>March 4</b>											
	7:45						Steve Jones	Margaret Dahm			
	9:00	Maya Bell	Aleena Bennett	Zoe Davis	L, I, P - Nancy Walters Anne Simmons	Louise Wernicke Patricia Hargrove	Will Israel Tom Barr	1. John Woodson 2. Cuyler Dupree	Elaine Dephousse	1st Lesson	
	11:45	Jonah Silvers	Olivia Nery	Grace Miller	L, I, P - Rustie McCredie Elaine Potter	Pat Davis Karen Compton	Larry & LuAnn Harris	1. Cliff Albertson 2. Eric Howell	Volunteer	2nd Lesson 9:00 Lesson	
<b>March 11</b>											
	7:45						Johnny Robinson	Susan Robinson			
	9:00	Moir Stewart	Lauren Kuykendall	Louise Wernicke	L, I, P - Greg Townsend Debbie Jones	Allyn & Joan Aldrich	Paul & Vicki Vest	1. Nancy Walters 2. Debbie Jones	Cuyler Dupree	1st Lesson 9:00 Lesson	
	11:45	Rusty McCredie	Sally Withers	Ellie Silvers	L, I, P - Kristen Dusenbery Nancy Remmers	Mary Israel Corinne Spencer	Ed Woekener Bob Turner	1. Steve Parker 2. Sally Coburn	Pat Stafford	2nd Lesson	
	Taizé 8:00 PM				L - James Cannon I - Monty Wooten	Fr. Bob Reese					
<b>March 18</b>											
	7:45						Ed Durcan	James Cannon			
	9:00	Laura Ellington	Nola Ellington	Liste Ellington	L, I, P - Barbara Wilcox Jeanne Robertson	Pat Davis Jane Whitman	Mickey & Tricia Trinite	1. Lorie Tola 2. Ann Robinson	Paul Vest	1st Lesson 9:00 Lesson	
	11:45	Mark Silvers	Sally Withers	Eric Howell	L, I, P - Mark Silvers Jenny Thomas	Sonny Rawls Karen Compton	Elaine Potter Rusty Herman	1. TBA 2. Mark Silvers	Georgi Bruce	2nd Lesson	
<b>March 25 ~ Palm Sunday; March 29 ~ Maundy Thursday; March 30 ~ Good Friday; March 31 ~ Holy Saturday Urban Garden Service</b>											
Palm Sun.	7:45						Steve Jones	Jack Frue			
Palm Sunday	9:00	Carsten Path	Tessa Path	Daphne Urquhart	L, I, P - Vicki Vest Hugh Vaughn	Jeanne Robertson Shari Lane	Derick & Wade Edwards	1. Carol Booth 2. Cuyler Dupree	Micki Newton	1st Lesson	
Palm Sunday	11:45	Cheryl Aull	Ellie Silvers	Grace Miller	L, I, P - Rusty McCredie, Kimberly Kneier	Mary Israel Sonny Rawls	Bob Turner Ed Woekener	1. Charles Carter 2. Kimberly Kneier	Mary Ann Warren	2nd Lesson 9:00 Lesson	
Maundy Thursday	6:00 PM	TBA			L, I, P - Mark Silvers, Sally Withers		Larry & LuAnn Harris	1. Sally Withers 2. Mark Silvers		Maundy Thursday	
Good Friday	12:00 PM	TBA			L, I, P - Hugh Vaughn, Barbara Wilcox		TBA	1. Cliff Albertson 2. TBA		Good Friday 1st Lesson	
Good Friday	6:00 PM	TBA			L, I, P - Jeanne Robertson Nancy Walters		TBA	1. Nancy Walters 2. Bill Spencer		Good Friday 2nd Lesson	
Holy Saturday	10:00 AM	Elaine Potter			L, I, P - Elaine Potter		TBA	TBA		Urban Garden Service	
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>											
Date	Counters	Depositors	Date	Flower Arrangers							Altar Guild
4-Mar	Steve Birkhofer	James Cannon	4-Mar	Israel - Refresh Greenery, Wedding							Group 1: March 3 - March 9
11-Mar	Martha Boyette	Judy Bohan	11-Mar	Greenery							Group 2: March 10 - March 16
18-Mar	Sally Withers	Chal & Hugh Vaughn	18-Mar	Greenery							Group 3: March 17 - March 23
25-Mar	Georgi Bruce	Anne Simmons	25-Mar	Newton - Greenery; Maundy Thursday							Group 4: March 24 - March 30



## March Anniversaries

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Cathy Adkins and Earl Leininger	2
David and Suana Gentry	25
Beth and Pat McKinsey	30

## March Birthdays

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1 Tom Wernicke	19 Mary Israel
2 Samuel Ellington	20 Nola Ellington
2 Eric Howell	20 Brad Smith
2 Grace Miller	23 Cameron Bell
5 Joe Aull	25 Bill Crownover
8 Pat McKinsey	25 Nancy Remmers
11 Carol Booth	26 Kimberly Kneier
11 Jimmy Hudson	27 Sally Coburn
12 James Carlin	27 Charlie Milling
15 Valerie Heavens	27 Mark Wall
16 Corey Snyder	29 Terri Frue
16 Lindsay Whitner	29 Kelly Thompson
17 Keith Hargrove	29 Guy Walker Wrenn Jr.
17 Andrew Wall	31 Shawn Chase
18 Laura Parton	31 Brett Young

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, loved ones and friends of  
Connie Maslik  
and  
Norma Carter  
(mother-in-law of Valerie Heavens)

## Special Gifts

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The Aumbry candle is given to the Glory of God by Tricia and Keith Hargrove in thanksgiving for the blessing of family and friends.

On Palm Sunday, the hot cross buns are given to the Glory of God by the Rev. Jane Smith in memory of Marguerite Alexander.

The Palms for Palm Sunday are given to the Glory of God by:

- Ed Duncan in memory of Dick Drake;  
- Rita Lyda in thanksgiving for Grace Church and in loving memory of her parents, Disa and Jens Krestensen.

The flowers for Maundy Thursday are given to the Glory of God by:

- the Duncan and Drake family in memory of Helen Powers.



## Our Easter Flowers

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As we approach Holy Week, the Flower Guild looks forward to festooning our beautiful church with flowers to the Glory of God. Unfortunately, our coffers are lower than usual due to unpaid balances, the rising costs of supplies, fewer weekly donors, and minimal donations this Christmas season. I do want to give our heartfelt thanks to our loyal, consistent donors. What would we do without you?

We will make every effort to have the flower donation envelopes in the pews beginning March 1. Plus, we will continue to look for ways to remind the congregation about how important their support will be. I would certainly regret the need to cut back on the flowers which enhance the beauty of our sanctuary, foyer, and entry doors.

Please know that every effort is made to forage, shop wholesale, etc., in order to keep our costs down. Mary Jane Westall is coordinator for donations. You may reach her at 254-6221 or 273-1857. She will arrange for a memorial donation in memory of a loved one or in commemoration of a special occasion (anniversaries, births, and baptisms are all meaningful!).

Thank you in advance for all you are able to do to help us make Grace Church beautiful for Easter.

# Cautious Optimism for Positive Variance

Statement of Activities - Grace Church				
Year to Date - January 2018				
		Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>Income:</b>				
	Pledges	44,521	29,468	15,053
	Prior Year Pledges	-	-	-
	Non-pledged Offerings	-	1,011	(1,011)
	Open Offering	725	2,822	(2,097)
	Interest	5	5	0
	Misc.	1,302	1,110	192
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>46,553</b>	<b>34,416</b>	<b>12,137</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
	Outreach/Mission	3,584	4,167	(583)
	Parish Programs	1,166	747	419
	Operations	7,167	5,619	1,548
	Personnel	25,787	23,883	1,903
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>37,704</b>	<b>34,416</b>	<b>3,287</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses:</b>		<b>8,850</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>8,850</b>

Pledge receipts through the end of January totaled \$44,521, compared to projected pledges of \$29,468. Considering all income sources, income received for the year totaled \$46,553, while we projected income to be \$34,416. We ended the month with a positive income variance of \$12,137. This number should be viewed cautiously though, as we also received \$22,805 in prepaid pledges for 2018.

The positive income variance was reduced by expenses greater than budgeted amounts by \$3,287. When these overages were applied to the positive income variance of \$12,137 our income less expenses resulted in a surplus of \$8,850 at the end of January.

We continue to encourage prayer and attention to our stewardship efforts as we begin another year.

Your Vestry

## A Gracious Offer

To help increase our loose plate or cash offering, a couple in our parish has graciously agreed to match the first \$250 of loose plate offering given on the first and second Sundays of each month for the remainder of the year. Someone did this in their last parish, they told us, and it significantly improved the loose plate offering each month. Can we meet this gracious offer? Will you consider giving an extra couple of dollars two Sundays out of the month in an effort to provide additional funding for our ministry together? Remember, the fun part is that, on the first two Sundays of each month, when we put \$2.00 in the plate, it immediately becomes \$4.00! Thank you in advance for bringing a little extra cash each week to help with God's work through Grace Church.

## United Thank Offering Blue Boxes

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

The ministry of the United Thank Offering has remained the same since its founding – recognize your blessings and make a thank offering into your Blue Box, and it will go to support mission and ministry around the world. In a time of dwindling resources and growing anxiety and cynicism, the United Thank Offering is a much-needed ministry, not only in our Church, but also in our world.

*Pick up your own UTO Blue Box in the church foyer and start dropping in your loose change every day. Or make filling it up a project for the whole family. We have so much for which to give thanks. An "In-Gathering" Sunday will be announced later this year.*



# Fun Making Pretzels

Every year, as Lent begins, we have fun making pretzels in the Grace kitchen. We do it because, around the year 610 (supposedly in preparation for Lent) a monk was using unleavened bread to make a treat for children who had learned to recite their prayers. Christians in those days prayed by folding their hands across their chests with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. The clever monk twisted strips of dough to look like hands folded in prayer. He gave his creation the name “pretiola,” Latin for “little reward.”

We thought you might enjoy these photos of our young people creating and sampling their “little rewards.”



# Have a blessed Lent!

