



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

March 2019

Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue

Asheville, NC 28804

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Visit us online at

www.graceepiscopalchurch.us &

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. - Choral 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.

A Healing Prayer Service and
Eucharist with laying on of hands
for God's healing is offered on
Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.

Taizé

Third Sunday of each month at 7:00
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 this service.

A Message from Fr. Gary

Greetings in the name of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ,

Lent begins in just a few days.

During Lent we are called to not fall

victim to becoming
what the world is call-
ing us to be, but what
God is calling us to be.

In the not so recent
past, going into Lent
required that we "give
something up" so that
we might know the
feeling, experience the
pain and discomfort
that our Lord experi-
enced in the desert
when faced with temp-
tation. We have told
ourselves that, by giv-
ing up something, we
are better able to feel
that we have done our
Christian duty by
suffering the lack of
something that we
hold dear. The fact is,
I often recalled people

saying that they were giving something
up that they really didn't even care for.
I mean, what kind of sacrifice or hard-
ship or temptation is that?

You may recall a film a few years
ago titled "Chocolat." The film relates
the story of a small French town dur-
ing Lent. Everyone is trying hard to
avoid rich foods, but what should open
at the same time? A new and enticing
chocolate shop. It is agony to walk past
the shop with its velvety chocolate
smells. You can't help but think that
the townsfolk had missed the point —
especially when one of the most self-
righteous characters breaks into the
shop and gorges on the chocolates in-
side.

Lent is not about that kind of self-
denial. There is very little value in
simply giving up stuff! It's not about

giving up stuff; it's about GIVING stuff
— namely, the giving of your life to
Christ. And how do we do that? By
prayer, by time with our Lord in those

**Our Lord calls
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what he did, to
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to those who
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in our lives is
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need.**

precious times of silence
that we make for our-
selves because those
times are so rich and
important. It's about
giving our time, talent,
and treasure to our
Church family and to
our community. It's
about taking care of the
poor, destitute, margin-
alized, and prisoners, to
name just a few. Our
Lord calls us to simply
do what he did, to give
it all away to those who
have less than us with
the assurance that God's
love and Jesus' presence
in our lives is all that we
need.

Let us not become
like those who hang a
wooden cross on their

wall and then settle into their comforta-
ble routines forgetting that we are called
to love our neighbor deeply, no matter
whether that neighbor is rich or poor,
black or white, churchd or non-
churchd. We are not called to blend
in with those around us but to be ex-
treme in our faith. By doing so we will
be holy people instead of just nice, and
God will not moan at us but will rejoice
that we have heard, and we have seen,
and we have embarked on our annual
pilgrimage to Jerusalem with loving and
faithful hearts.

May this Lent find you stretching
yourselves and becoming all that God is
calling you to be.

Peace & Blessings,

Gary+

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, 8:45 a.m., LI

Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Wednesdays, 12:15-1:15 p.m., CH

Centering Prayer

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

Choir and Bell Rehearsals

Wednesdays: Bells, 6:00 p.m.; Choir, 7:15 p.m.

Special Vestry Meeting with Canon Augusta

Monday, March 4, 5:30 p.m., LI

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 5, 6-8:00 p.m., PH

Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m., LI

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, March 6, 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m., CH
Ashes also imposed for individuals, 7-8:00 a.m., CH

Steadfast House Meal

Friday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.

Ceilidh

Saturday, March 9, PH (details on p. 3)

Daylight Savings Time Change

Sunday, March 10 (Spring forward!)

Youth Missioner Visit

Sunday, March 10, 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. services
Lenten Labyrinth, 1-3:00 p.m., Urban Garden

PubSing

Sunday, March 10, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Men of the Church

Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.

TEAM Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 10:00 a.m., OF

Order of St. Luke

Thursday, March 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m., PH

Taizé Worship Service

Sunday, March 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m., CH

Vestry Meeting

Monday, March 18, 5:30 p.m., PH

Schedulers' Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 4:30 p.m., LI

Lenten Study

Tuesdays, March 19 & 26, 6:30 p.m., PH

Rummage Sale Drop-Off Day

Saturday, March 30, 9:00 a.m.-noon, upper parking lot

Altar Guild Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, March 30, 10:30 a.m., PH

Combined Sunday Services

Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m. (7:45 service regular time)

Fifth Sunday Brunch

Sunday, March 31, 11:15 a.m., PH

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 meets in the library on Tuesdays, 8:45-10:00 a.m., to discuss a chosen book. All men of the church are welcome and are encouraged to bring friends. Questions? Call Bill Spencer at 299-3566.

Grace Church offers a **Holy Eucharist and Healing Service** on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. Healing prayer stations are also available at the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday services and at the Taizé service every third Sunday.

Men of the Church will meet Tuesday, March 12, co-hosted by John Riggsby and Ed Woechener, at John's home, 103 Dogwood Drive, Weaverville. The social starts at 6:00 p.m., followed by supper and a short business meeting. The cost is \$15, and a sign-up sheet is posted in the foyer. All men of the church welcome.

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 Thursday, March 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall to continue the program series, "Growing in Jesus' Ministry of Healing." The topic this month is "The Relational Five-Step Prayer Model." We will view a DVD on this model by Randy Clark, a leader in the Christian healing ministry. *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 because of inclement weather. Please join us! You will bless us with your presence.*

Come join us for **PubSing**, an informal gathering on the second Sunday of each month to sing hymns, old-time gospel, and Americana inspirational music. We'll meet on March 10. Our time and location are to be determined. For more information contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114.

Don't miss the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**, Tuesday, March 5, 6-8:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Your vestry will be cooking and serving. Cost just \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per family. Don't miss this fun and filling Episcopal tradition!

Our **Youth Missioner**, Jenna Sharrits, who usually visits the 9:00 and 11:15 services at Grace the first Sunday of every month, will be here this month on Sunday, March 10.

Parish News, Updates & Reminders

FAREWELL AND GOD-SPEED, NED TIPTON! Sunday, February 10, we said goodbye to our Director of Music, Ned Tipton, wishing him all the best at his new church in Connecticut. We'll miss you, Ned. A portion of his "God-Be-With-You" letter is below:

Dear people of Grace,

Please know how grateful I am for the liturgical send-off, for the wonderful and delicious reception following the service (thank you, Sally W. and crew!), and for the kind words spoken to me by many of you.

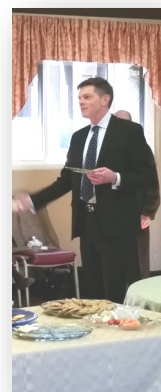
As I mentioned in my original letter announcing my leave, I shall always — I hope — be a part of the Grace family, and will visit whenever I can. I know you are in good and loving hands with Fr. Gary, Fr. Bob, Dn. Jeannette, Valerie, Cathy, and Greg; and certainly with Mary Ann Warren, who has agreed to serve as Interim Director of Music.

I will continue to pray for you all, as Grace searches not only for a new Director of Music, but most especially, a new Rector.

As the French would say ... Au revoir! Until we meet again. And we shall.

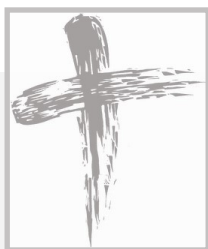
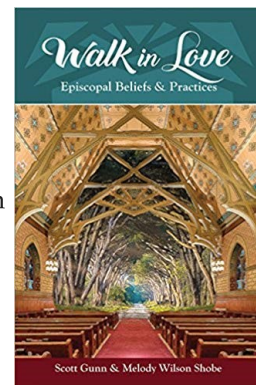
So ... peace, blessings, gratitude, goodbye, and Au revoir!

Ned



"I didn't know, until recently, that our word 'Goodbye' is a shortened form of 'God be with you.'"

SPECIAL LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITY. Situations have dictated a change in our Lenten Study. Fr. Gary will now offer a journey through the *Book of Common Prayer* using the book *Walk in Love: Episcopal Belief and Practices*. We will begin on Tuesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to bring your meal with you. Please join us as we re-discover our wonderful prayer book. Fr. Gary recommends purchasing the book and starting to read before we begin.



SOMETHING NEW FOR ASH WEDNESDAY. On Ash Wednesday, March 6, in addition to our Noon and 6:00 p.m. services, Fr. Gary will also offer an opportunity to receive ashes between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. Fr. Gary will administer the ashes accompanied by a short, simple liturgy and prayers. Fr. Gary will do this in the Nave at the Sunday morning healing station.



JOIN OUR CEILIDH (pronounced "KAY-LEE") CELEBRATION. Ceilidh is a gaelic word meaning gathering or party. Donald Mackenzie wrote in his book "Scottish Wonder Tales from Myth and Legend" about the Ceilidh: "On long, dark winter nights it is still the custom in small villages for friends to collect in a house and hold what they call a ceilidh." We'll be carrying on that old tradition with our friends, family and neighbors in the parish hall, Saturday, March 9, 6-9:00 p.m. Wear your kilt (or not!) and plan to enjoy lots of good food, traditional music and dance.

**REMEMBER! DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS SUNDAY, MARCH 10.
BE SURE TO SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD AN HOUR!**

Continued on p. 4 >>>

Parish News, Updates & Reminders *(continued from p. 3)*



OUR YOUTH MINISTRY. The Asheville Youth Ministry is still taking steps forward as we build our community in Christ. The end of January, the youth joined with All Souls youth group for a fun bowling day! (Let me just say I learned some new ways to bowl.) The first weekend in February was a Diocesan skating event in Waynesville. We skated and fell and skated some more! We finished out February with some Bible study, but only in the most fun way, like recreating boats to carry many, many goldfish.



So, here's what to expect in March:

- **March 1-3: Diocesan Youth Spring Conference.** This is an overnight retreat for 8th-12th graders!
- **March 10: Lenten Labyrinth** at Grace Asheville, 1:00-3:00 p.m. We will be cleaning up the area around the labyrinth, and once we have made the area nice, we'll learn about walking a labyrinth and the purpose of a labyrinth.
- **March 16:** St. James Black Mountain, 9:30 a.m. until noon, **Compassion Fatigue: Claiming Your Heart Center in a Broken World** with John Pavlovitz. Tickets are \$15 per person at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-james-episcopal-church-18521652314>. This is an event for both youth and parents! For more information, check the poster in the foyer.
- **March 17:** St. Mary's, 1:00-3:00 p.m., "Made in God's Image: Self-Portraits." Check email for more information!
- **March 24: No Youth Events**
- **March 31:** Holy Spirit Mars Hill, 9:30am-2:00 p.m. We will travel to Holy Spirit Mars Hill for their morning worship and will enjoy a meal together afterwards! Sign-up is needed, so please look out for an email from Jenna.
- **April 5-7: Diocesan High School Dismantling Racism Retreat.** This is an overnight retreat for 9th-12th grade. If interested please let Jenna know!

SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK. Holy Week is the week leading up to the Feast of the Resurrection, or Easter Day. The first record of Holy Week services comes to us from a pilgrim named Egeria who traveled to Jerusalem in the 4th century. The Triduum, or "three holy days" of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday help us prepare for Easter Day! Please join us for all of these days of special observance.

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, April 14: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" So begins this day of celebration commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We will gather outside the church at 9:00 and 11:15 to process into the services joyfully. The tone soon turns, however, as we hear of Jesus' betrayal and crucifixion. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week, April 15, 16 and 17: Holy Week is a time of more intense preparation for the celebration of Easter. The Holy Eucharist is offered April 15, 16 and 17, at 12:15 p.m. during Holy Week to assist people in their observance and preparation.

Maundy Thursday, April 18: As a sign of servanthood, we include the washing of feet. As the liturgy concludes, the altar is stripped, and the night watch with the Blessed Sacrament begins. We ask parishioners to keep watch during the night hours remembering Jesus and the disciples at Gethsemane... "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?" We will begin Maundy Thursday with a Seder meal at 5:30 p.m. (tickets in advance) and the liturgy will begin close to 6:45 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19: This day marks the crucifixion of our Lord. We do not celebrate the Eucharist on this day, but rather at noon we share communion from the reserved Sacrament using the Liturgy for Good Friday. The church will be open from 1:00-3:00 p.m. for those who wish to meditate on the death of Jesus during that time. At 6:00 p.m. we offer the Liturgy for Good Friday with the Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday, April 20: Holy Saturday is a day of rest and quiet...creation waits for Christ's resurrection. A liturgy recalling those who have died takes place in the Urban Garden at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Vigil, April 20: Discussions are continuing with the Grace Worship Committee about celebrating the Easter Vigil at Grace. Details will follow!

Easter Day, April 21: Easter Day Services at 7:45, 9:00, and 11:15 a.m. The celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord is the focus of this day at all three services as we join with hundreds of thousands of Christians throughout the world. Bring bells to ring and flowers (at 9:00) with which to "flower the cross". Church school classes will not meet and there will be an Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service.

From Our Senior Warden

Greg Townsend

Our Senior Warden, Greg Townsend, continues to play an important role in the transition journey we have embarked upon at Grace. His monthly reports will keep us updated and encouraged along the way.



The Vestry conducted our annual retreat the weekend of February 1-2. I have a few important items to share from our work together. First, we adopted a new organizational model for our Vestry. The **SWEEPS** model provides for two Vestry liaisons for each of the six main strands of our ministry, **S**teewardship, **W**orship, **E**vangelism, **E**ducation, **P**astoral Care, and **S**ervice, with each of our parish ministries falling under one of these strands. Obviously, this approach is going to require some adjustments in our thinking, but we believe that this structure should enable us to support those ministries of ours that are flourishing and to invigorate those that are lagging (*details on p. 11*).

One of the themes that arose during our retreat was the **Passing the Peace as a barometer of parish health**. It's funny how pews and aisles form barriers that we feel we can't overcome. Since the retreat, other Vestry members and I have made a conscious effort to "get out of our comfort zone," moving throughout the sanctuary to extend God's peace to friends and visitors. I challenge you to join the Vestry in getting out of our comfort zones and enlivening this part of our worship.

The big news from the retreat is that **we unanimously decided to combine the 9:00 and 11:15 Eucharists on a trial basis, starting on April 28 and running through September 22**. One of the themes that emerged in the Holy Conversations is the need for more opportunities for fellowship on a weekly basis. It's said that when a church has multiple services it has multiple congregations. I think we can agree that that's the case here at Grace. We feel that moving from three services to two will help build this fellowship, starting with an honest-to-goodness actual coffee hour! As with all changes, the angels are in the details. The Music Director, the Worship Committee, and the clergy will work to ensure that the combined service respects the best aspects of the 9:00 and 11:15 services.

I hope you had the opportunity to attend the Holy Conversations Father Gary conducted last month. I enjoyed hearing what drew our parishioners to Grace, what they see as Grace at our best, and what they want our church to be in the future. These recollections of our communal experiences inspired many of us to consider the future we want for Grace Church. The striking thing is how many people's best memories of Grace involved a warm, friendly personal greeting or welcome. Let's build on these memories and ensure that Grace remains the warm and giving community we know it to be. (*Learn more about our Holy Conversations on p. 11.*)

Finally, I want to share what came out of one of Father Gary's exercises for us during the retreat, in which he asked each of us to rewrite one line from the Lord's Prayer. While no one is going to argue for its inclusion in the next edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*, this prayer does uniquely represent us. It is my pleasure to share this with you:

Our Trinity,
Outside of this universe that is familiar to us,
May we speak your name with respect and honor,
May Heaven descend on us,
Guide us to do what pleases You,
In our world and in the cosmos.
Give us what we need to get through this day.
We mess up constantly, yet you forgive us;
What we can't forgive is the darkness we hold in our heart, dimming our love and light.
Keep us safe from all that draws us away from You.
Support our resistance to unholy ways
Because the world we live in, and the energy you give into it, should be used in your name for love and beauty forever.
We have faith.

Grace Ministries in Action

"Grace Ministries in Action" spotlights reports from our ministry leaders, keeping us informed about their programs and ways in which each of us can get involved. If you have questions, ideas or comments about a ministry, please contact that ministry's leader directly. They would love to hear from you.

MINISTRY LEADERS

ADULT FORMATION: Greg Townsend,
gwtownsend@outlook.com

ALTAR GUILD: Jackie Schauer,
jacq.schauer@gmail.com

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: John
Woodson, jlwoodson@aol.com

CHILD FORMATION: Mark Silvers,
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CHOIRS: Rusty McCredie,
rebscape@att.net

COMMUNICATIONS: Eric Howell,
eric_howell@att.net

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW):
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FELLOWSHIP: Sally Withers,
sallywithers@gmail.com

FINANCE: Joe Aull, jaull@charter.net

FLOWER GUILD: Mary Israel,
tobarranged@bellsouth.net

HEALING MINISTRY: Jeanne Robertson,
jrobertson38@me.com

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

NEWCOMERS:

OFFICE MINISTRY: Chal Vaughn,
chalhugh@gmail.com

OUTREACH: Kim Hayes,
kimhys53@gmail.com

PASTORAL CARE: Cliff Albertson,
clifford.albertson@verizon.net

PUBSING: Monty Wooten,
montywooten@bellsouth.net

STEWARDSHIP: Greg Townsend,
gwtownsend@outlook.com

TAIZÉ: James Cannon,
imjcannon@frontier.com

YOUTH MINISTRY: Jenna Sharrits,
jenna@wncyouth.org

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

WORSHIP: Clergy

ADULT FORMATION. Our Adult Lectionary Bible Studies Class (LBS) continues on Sundays, 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. in the parish hall, facilitated by Fr. Bob and Doug McClellan. You're welcome to join in.

ALTAR GUILD. Two reminders: (1) **The Altar Guild quarterly meeting** is Saturday, March 30, 10:30 a.m. And (2) **Church spring cleaning day** will be Saturday, April 6, 9:00 a.m. to noon. We are inviting the entire Grace congregation to participate as we complete the cleaning of the church.

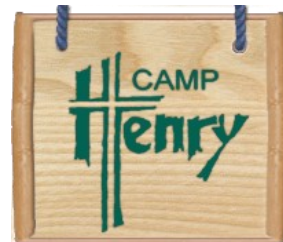
CHOIRS. We are so delighted to have our own Mary Ann Warren in place as our interim Director of Music. As Ned, in his parting comments assured us, our adult choir and bell choir will be in good and capable hands. Mary Ann's education, her professional experience and her musical talents make her the perfect person to guide our music programs as we begin our search for a new Director of Music. Thank you so much for your willingness to serve in this special way, Mary Ann.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN. Are you beginning your spring cleaning? Please don't forget the ECW. We will gratefully accept your donations of gently used, clean clothes, books (no text books), sports equipment, and household items for our annual rummage sale. This year the rummage sale date is Saturday, November 2. In preparation for the sale, there will be members of the ECW available to receive your donations at the "storage house" (located to the left of the upper parking lot) from 9:00 a.m. until noon on the following Saturdays: March 30, April 6, June 29, August 31 and September 28.

Additional dates to save. The annual ECW Derby Day Luncheon and meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4, at noon in the parish hall. Be sure to wear your favorite Derby Day hat! Also, save Saturday, October 19, 12 noon, for our fall luncheon and meeting! All women of Grace Church are members of ECW and are encouraged to join the fun and fellowship of these events!

Camp Henry Partial Scholarships Available. ECW has partial scholarships available for children of Grace Church who would like to attend Camp Henry this summer. The amount available is \$175 per child. If you are interested please contact the ECW Treasurer, Mary Ann Warren, at 252-5783 or maandwrw@gmail.com by **March 15**.



FELLOWSHIP. The Ceilidh is coming! Saturday, March 9, 6-9:00 p.m., gather in the parish hall for food, music, dancing and fun. Details on p. 3.



OUTREACH. Gifts To Grace Outreach During Lent. As mentioned in last month's TEAM, you'll find "GO" boxes in the pews Sunday, March 3, and we encourage you to take one home and commit to making a daily contribution to it. The filled boxes will be collected the Sunday before Easter. Your "Gifts to GO" will then be divided between two programs that address the impact hunger can have on learning for young children. Locally, we will create an after-school snack fund for Jones Elementary School.

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Grace Ministries in Action *(continued from p. 6)*



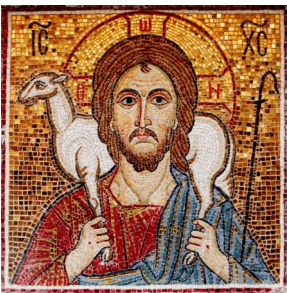
Globally, we will contribute to ERD's "Nurture and Nourish the Earliest Learners" project, where gifts provide parent/caregiver support & learning groups that promote behaviors like healthy eating and family play to help kids develop cognitive, language, social, emotional and motor skills. With your help, we can help little ones here and around the world!

ABCCM Food Drive a Success! JOB WELL DONE, GRACE! Thank you all for contributing to the ABCCM Food Drive with your food donations and also for helping load/unload the van with the food. As the Grace family, we delivered 72 bags of food with about 550 items that will help feed men, women, and children in Asheville

and Buncombe County. Perhaps one of the volunteers at ABCCM said it best: "You sure do have a giving church." Amen to that.

"I Needed Clothes and You Clothed Me!": ABCCM is asking everyone to please donate men's clothes for its clothing room which supports people in crisis. All items of clothing are welcomed. Please bring your donations to church and put them in the box in the foyer by **March 11**.

Steadfast House Cooks Still Needed. On the second Friday of each month, one of three cook teams from Grace Church has been preparing a meal for residents of Steadfast House, a ministry of ABCCM, which provides transitional housing to women, mothers with children, and female veterans in need. Currently, volunteers are needed for one of our teams to help prepare the meal and serve it to the residents. If you would like more information about this fun and fulfilling ministry, please contact Cheryl Deyton at (828)-337-9065 or cherylpersonaldeyton@gmail.com.



PASTORAL CARE. Cliff Albertson has taken on the coordination of the Pastoral Care ministry and is hoping for additional volunteers to help with one or more of the following ministries: Feed My Sheep, Friends in Christ, Cards and Calls, Prayer List, and Purls of Grace. If you can help, please email him at Clifford.albertson@verizon.net.

New Ministry Needs

Fr. Gary has spoken about his belief for the need of two ministries: A Shepherd Ministry and a Newcomer's Ministry. No one has volunteered to lead those ministries so Fr. Gary thought he might take a few words to describe them in further detail.

SHEPHERD MINISTRY. At Grace, there is currently no structured process to receive feedback, needs, desires, etc. from our parishioners and we have no process to keep in touch with parishioners who are drifting or have drifted away. This is where the Shepherd Ministry comes in. The ministry involves a coordinator and maybe 20-25 people who are each willing to be a parish liaison for five parish families. These 20-25 people become personal liaisons from the parishioners to Grace Church leadership. By doing this we can hear concerns, respond to pastoral needs and follow up with folks we haven't seen for a while. Once a month contact is best. If you are interested in leading or heading up this ministry, please let Fr. Gary or Sr. Warden Greg Townsend know.

NEWCOMER MINISTRY: Grace has had a Newcomer Ministry in the past, but it has been dormant for a good while now. We need a Newcomers Ministry to welcome, greet, orient and incorporate visitors and guests into the life of the parish. This can be done any number of ways and we hope the new leader will work with Grace Leadership to develop new and exciting ways to do this. Think back to what brought you to Grace Church; most likely it was because of a personal one-on-one interaction that developed into a valued relationship. Christ calls us to share His Good News with all who come through our doors. If this is a passion of yours, please consider volunteering for this ministry. Please contact Fr. Gary or Sr. Warden Greg Townsend.

Our Prayer List

March

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: Chris Carson (son of Martha & Randy); Nancy Clark; Ed Denison; Eva Dupree; Eunice Ferguson; Mary Hayes; Mary Israel; Gavin Knapp; David Knisley; Shari Lane; Lynda McCredie; Maria Mason; Joyce Noble; Gael Paschall, Nancy Porter; Sonny Rawls; Cal and Nancy Remmers; Ray Robertson; Beth Stahl; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Rita Spragg; Don Wills; Katie Warren; Marla Woeckener.

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

For Others (names will stay on the list for six weeks; call Kathleen Griffin or the office to keep names on the list for a longer time): Claudine Boggs (sister of Walt & Joyce Noble); Jeff Boggs (nephew of Walt & Joyce Noble); Cindy Golliher (friend of Gael Paschall); Hortensia Garcia (friend of Gael Paschall); David & Suana Gentry; David Jr., Maria, Victoria & Jessica Gentry (son and family of David Gentry); Debbie Gentry & Danny Hall (sister & brother-in-law of David Gentry); Warren Gillespie Sr. (friend of Barbara Wilcox); Warren and Sheila Gillespie (friends of Barbara Wilcox); Laura Krueger (granddaughter of Liz Krueger); Joyce Malley (sister of Kathleen Griffin); Aldina Reilly (friend of Gael Paschall); Stacey Stern (friend of Gael Paschall); Daniel (grandson of Jeanne & Ray Robertson).

For Those Who Have Died and Their Families: Fred Burnham (friend of Don Wills); Barbara Hardest (friend of Don Wills); Chris Hutt (friend of Lorie Tola); Mike Hutt (friend of Lorie Tola); Pam Vinson (sister of Monty Wooten).

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, Sarah Jane Wilkey (daughter of Diane and Tony Wilkey).

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 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 the environment; 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 gkcggriffin7@gmail.com or the church office at grace.church.asheville@gmail.com.

March 2019 Ministry Schedule

Service Time	Vergers	Acolyte C	Acolyte G	Acolyte E	Lector, Intercessor	Chalcists	Ushers	Healing Team	Coffee Hour	Scripture	Lesson
March 3											
7:45	James Cannon					James Cannon	Ed Duncan				
9:00	Lorie Tola	Daphne Urquhart	Lauren Kuykendall	Moir Stewart	L,I,P - Louise Wernicke, Cuyler Dupree	1. John Woodson 2. Nancy Walters	Will Israel Tom Barr	Louise Wernicke Patricia Hargrove	Micki Newton	Exodus 34:29-35	1st Lesson
11:15	Chip Coon	Cheryl Aull		Sally Withers	L,I,P - Jenny Thomas, Kristen Dusenbery	1. Charles Carter 2. Kimberly Kreier	Elaine Potter Rusty Herman	Pat Davis Karen Compton	Volunteer	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	2nd Lesson
March 6: Ash Wednesday											
12:00	Lorie Tola				L - Jeanne Robertson, Gael Paschall, P - Don Wills	1. Bill Warren	Elaine Potter			Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	1st Lesson
6:00	Chip Coon				L - Nancy Walters L,P - Susan MacDonald	1. Nancy Walters 2. Mark Silvers	(alternate)			2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	2nd Lesson
March 10											
7:45	James Cannon					Susan Robinson	Johnny Robinson				
9:00	Daphne Urquhart	Carsten Path	Tessa Path	Louise Wernicke	L,I,P - Robert Green, Green Family	1. Lorie Tola 2. Greg Townsend	Paul & Vicki Vest	(alternates)	Elaine Dephoue	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	1st Lesson
11:15	Chip Coon	Sally Withers		Grace Miller	L,I,P - Elaine Potter Rusty McCredie	1. Cliff Albertson 2. Sally Coburn	Ed Woeckner Bob Turner	Marzy Israel Corinne Spencer	Volunteer	Romans 10:8b-13	2nd Lesson
March 17											
7:45	James Cannon					Margaret Dahm	Steve Jones				
9:00	Lorie Tola	Laura Ellington	Nola Ellington	Liesl Ellington	L,I,P - Hugh Vaughn, Greg Townsend	1. Daphne Urquhart 2. Ann Robinson	Mickey & Tricia Trinite	Pat Davis Jane Whitman	Cuyler Dupree	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	1st Lesson
11:15	Chip Coon	Sally Withers		Eric Howell	L,I,P - Bill Smith, Nancy Remmers	1. Eric Howell 2. Bill Warren	Larry & LuAnn Harris	Sonny Rawls Karen Compton	Georgi Bruce	Philippians 3:17-4:1	2nd Lesson
Taizé 8:00 PM	James Cannon				L - Monty Wooten I - James Cannon			Fr Bob Reese (al ternate)			
March 24											
7:45	James Cannon					Jack Frue	Ed Duncan				
9:00	Daphne Urquhart	Zoe Davis	Aleena Bennett	Maya Bell	L,I,P - Barbara Wilcox, Jeanne Robertson	1. Lorie Tola 2. Greg Townsend	Derick & Wade Edwards	Jeanne Robertson Shari Lane	Paul Vest	Exodus 3:1-15	1st Lesson
11:15	Chip Coon	Cheryl Aull		Grace Miller	L,I,P - Don Wills, Kimberly Kreier	1. Don Lewis 2. Bill Spencer	Bob Turner Ed Woeckner	Marzy Israel Sonny Rawls	Mary Ann Warren	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	2nd Lesson
March 31											
7:45	James Cannon					James Cannon	Steve Jones			Joshua 5:9-12	1st Lesson
10:00	Chip Coon	Daphne Urquhart	Lauren Kuykendall	Louise Wernicke	L,I,P - Beth Woodson, John Woodson	1. Nancy Walters 2. Debbie Jones	Paul & Vicki Vest	Ann Robinson Brenda Haller	Micki Newton	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	2nd Lesson
Date	Counters	Depositors	Date	Flower Arrangers	Altar Guild						
3-Mar	Steve Birkhofer	James Cannon	3-Mar	Davis - Witt - Greenery	Group 1: March 2 - March 8						
10-Mar	Martha Boyette	Judy Bohan	10-Mar	Greenery on altar	Group 2: March 9 - March 15						
17-Mar	Sally Withers	Chal & Hugh Vaughn	17-Mar	Greenery on altar	Group 3: March 16 - March 22						
24-Mar	Georgi Bruce	Anne Simmons	24-Mar	Greenery - Jones will water	Group 4: March 23 - March 29						
31-Mar	Georgi Bruce	Steve Birkhofer	31-Mar	Dawson - Greenery refresh	Group 4: March 30 - April 5						

March Anniversaries

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



March Birthdays

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

Special Gifts

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

The flowers are given to the Glory of God on March 3, by Cheryl Aull in thanksgiving for Joe's birthday.

Lent begins Sunday, March 10, and traditionally, throughout the Lenten season, Grace Church does not decorate the altar with flowers.

Thank You, Meg!

We are sad to announce that one of our nursery attendants, Meg Cook, is leaving Asheville to return to her home in New England. Meg's last Sunday will be March 3. She'll be missed by many Grace children and their parents, and we wish her all the best.

"Thanks so much for all your kindness and this opportunity! I am very grateful. I have enjoyed working with the church and the kids."

Meg



Meg and the three baby goats she recently helped deliver on the farm where she lives!



Our condolences go to the friends, family and loved ones of

Fred Burnham (friend of Don Wills);

Barbara Hardest (friend of Don Wills);

Chris Hutt and Mike Hutt (friends of Lorie Tola); and

Pam Vinson (sister of Monty Wooten).

Budget Update: December 2018-January 2019

Pledge receipts through the end of December totaled \$394,187, compared to projected pledges of \$353,610. Considering all income sources, income received for the year totaled \$419,534, while we projected income to be \$412,990. We ended the month and the year with a positive income variance of \$6,544.

Reduced expenses associated with Father Gary Coffey's retirement generated savings following his departure. These savings coupled with our positive income variance resulted in a healthy surplus. Prior to closing our 2018 fiscal year, the Vestry approved the transfer of \$23,144 to our reserve account, eliminating our surplus and closing the year with a balanced budget.

As the Vestry works to define and approve our 2019 budget this month, we gratefully acknowledge the 103 pledges committing to \$340,074 in financial support for the Parish this year. Through the month of January, we have received \$48,005 in pledges and other income while our expenses have totaled \$23,606.

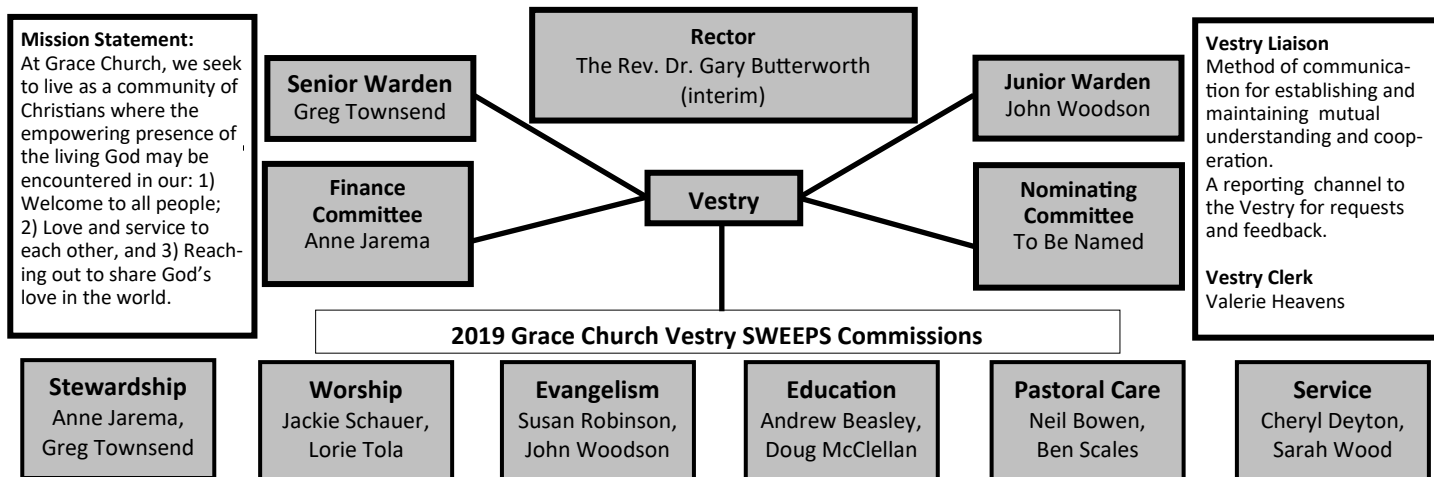
We continue to encourage prayer and attention to our stewardship efforts as we journey through this transition period for our ministries at Grace. -Your Vestry

Vestry Reorganization

Fr. Gary and the Vestry met for a working Retreat on February 2-3. One of the most exciting outcomes of the retreat was a reorganization of the Vestry. Over the years, it appears that our Vestry has lost its focus on being a liaison to the ministries and people of the church.

Reorganization centers on six areas: Stewardship, Worship, Evangelism, Education, Pastoral Care and Service. The Vestry is looking at all the ministries at Grace to populate each area. And finally, each Vestry member has volunteered for a specific area resulting in two liaisons per area.

The liaison's job is to be a point of contact and interface to the Vestry, a supporter and guide to each ministry and someone each ministry head can go to for resources, support, etc. Additionally, starting in July/August of 2019, ministry heads will be brought into the budgeting process so the finance committee and the Vestry know what the hopes and dreams, needs and requirements are of these ministries. This will allow Grace's budget to be "Mission Focused" vs. results focused. Below is a portion of a reorganizational chart that will be populated with ministry heads and presented in the days to come.



Transition Corner

Throughout this season of transition at Grace Church, it is important for you to know what is happening. The "Transition Corner" will help keep you updated about the latest activities over the coming months.

Fr. Gary finished his series of four Holy Conversations on Sunday, February 10. Sixty-two people participated in the conversations and shared their blessings, hopes, dreams for Grace Parish as we move forward into the next twelve months of discernment. Based on these conversations, Fr. Gary and the vestry have determined that Fr. Gary will work on four major goals during his remaining time with us. They are:

1. Educate, train, and develop a spiritual-based, fully functioning Vestry. Rather than a vestry focused only on the business of the Church, this will be a vestry also focused on the Spirituality of the Church: vision, leadership, vitality, structure, asset usage, etc.
2. Re-establish Small Groups: EfM, Alpha, Foyers, Coffee Hour, Study Groups, etc.
3. Help establish and support needed/new ministries and empower existing ministries: Shepherds, Newcomers, broaden Outreach, Youth Ministry, etc.
4. Fix Administrative and management issues: By-Laws, Policies, Procedures, Personnel, Financial Accountability, Building Use, Technology Refresh, Management of Resources, etc.

Spreadsheets of all the data collected will be posted in the foyer soon as well as posted to our website. Your ideas and comments are welcome.