



# the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

October 2019

## Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue

Asheville, NC 28804

828-254-1086

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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

8:00 a.m. - Rite I

10:30 a.m. - Rite II Family &  
Choral Service

### Healing Prayer

Every Sunday at 10:30 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

On the third Sunday of each  
month at 8:00 p.m., a Taizé service  
is 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.

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

A new school year is in full swing, the  
change of seasons is upon us, fall is in the air.  
And so, an appropriate question is, "Where is  
Jesus in your lives as parishioners of Grace as  
well as members of our community here in  
North Asheville, Weaverville, Leicester and all  
the other communities we call home?"

Many of you who have been at Grace for  
years may shudder at the thought that Grace is  
a smaller church than  
it used to be. But it's  
the truth. Church  
attendance is decreasing all across the nation;  
yet, at the same time, we have much to offer a  
hurting and broken world. These two opposing  
views place us in a position of great tension. We  
are realizing the challenges we face as a smaller  
church with regards to time, money, and resources.

During this time of transition, as we  
shine a light in some of the dark corners of our  
past, we are beginning to realize some of the  
real challenges we face. Here at Grace, we are  
facing the challenge of figuring out how God  
is calling us to live, move and have our being  
in our community. It seems that volunteering  
for needed positions as well as becoming involved  
in certain ministries lack enthusiasm.

I remember, as a young parent, hearing  
some of our more "established" parishioners  
say "We have done our time; it's time for the  
younger people to take over." This might seem  
logical to some, but is it what God is calling  
you and me to do or be? We are all on this  
Christian journey, and as Brian McLaren  
writes in *A Generous Orthodoxy*, "we are all  
unfinished Christians." A Senior Warden from  
my past shared with me some of her mother's  
advice about belonging to a smaller church,  
"When you take off one hat, you need to ask  
yourself what new hat am I going to pick up?"

In the article "Oversized Expectations,"  
The Rev. Kyle Childress writes, "I remember a

young family that visited one Sunday morning.  
Several people in our church knew them and  
had invited them. I was excited. They were  
new to town, looking for a church, had two  
small children, and both adults were active with  
environmental issues, something our congregation  
is heavily involved in. But when I went to see  
them in a follow-up visit, they said, 'You have  
a good church, but a person has to work too  
hard to be a member of your church. We don't  
have time to work that hard.' They ended up  
joining a much larger church.

## "Where is Jesus in your lives as parishioners of Grace as well as members of our community...?"

Their criticism was valid. It does take a lot  
of work to be in a smaller congregation.  
Many people visit a smaller church thinking  
that it will be simple and quaint, when  
the truth is, life in smaller churches is complex.  
Members of a smaller church have multiple  
roles and responsibilities. Many activities and  
ministries are multigenerational, both because  
the church is too short-handed to do otherwise  
and because it is endemic to being a smaller  
community."

In smaller churches we need everyone to  
serve. Everyone is responsible. It takes all of  
us to prepare and bring food and eat together.  
Old and young people, parents and children,  
singles and couples sing together, break bread  
together, pray together and play together. It  
is not simple; it is not polished and certainly  
not glitzy. It is loud, chaotic, and complex,  
at times dysfunctional and emotional, but it  
is who we are at this stage of our Christian  
journey, it is who we are and who we have  
been called to be.

It is also coming to that time in the year  
when we ask for your help and assistance with  
dedicating your time and treasure, so we can  
continue the journey toward becoming what  
God is calling us to be.

So, in the upcoming months when you  
are asked to take on a ministry or help others  
accomplish a ministry, serve on vestry, prepare  
a meal or something else, take a look in the  
mirror and see which hat you are wearing.

Peace & Blessings, Gary+

# Events at a Glance

## *A Quick Review of the Month*

**Sunday Fellowship**  
*Breakfast, 8:45 a.m., PH ; Coffee, 11:40 a.m., Courtyard*

**Choir and Bell Rehearsals**  
*Wednesdays: Bells, 6:00 p.m.; Choir, 7:15 p.m.*

**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*

**Friday Night Lights on the Lawn**  
*Fridays, sundown, front lawn*

**Outreach Committee Meeting**  
*Tuesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m., LI*

**YMCA Mobile Market**  
*Wednesday, October 3, 5:00-6:00 p.m., parking lot*

**Purls of Grace**  
*Saturday, October 5, 10:00 a.m., LI*

**Blessing of the Animals**  
*Sunday, October 6, 10:30 a.m., CH*

**Men of the Church (TBA)**

**Discernment Committee Meeting**  
*Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 p.m., LI*

**TEAM Meeting**  
*Wednesday, October 9, 10:00 a.m., OF*

**Order of St. Luke**  
*Thursday, October 10, 6:30 p.m., PH*

**Steadfast House Meal**  
*Friday, October 11, 6:00 p.m.*

**PubSing**  
*Sunday, October 13, 4:00-6:00 p.m.*

**Endowment Committee Meeting**  
*Monday, October 14, 5:30 p.m., choir room*

**Worship Committee Meeting**  
*Monday, October 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m., LI*

**ECW Fall Luncheon**  
*Saturday, October 19, 12:00 noon, PH*

**Taizé Worship Service**  
*Sunday, October 20, 8:00-9:00 p.m., CH*

**UNC Asheville Episcopal Christian Ministry Potluck**  
*Monday, October 21, 6:30 p.m., PH (details on p. 6)*

**Vestry Meeting**  
*Monday, October 21, 5:30 p.m., LI*

**Rummage Sale Set-Up**  
*Monday-Saturday, October 28-November 1, 9:00 -4:00*

**Choir Concert**  
*Wednesday, October 30, 7:00 p.m., CH (details on p. 4)*

Come to **Breakfast** every Sunday, 8:45-10:00 a.m. in the parish hall. During breakfast, around 9:20, join Fr. Gary or Fr. Bob for an informal chat about current events, theology, liturgy, or anything else that's on your mind.

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

Stay for **Coffee and Conversation** in the courtyard following the 10:30 service. In order to make this as welcoming as possible, families are encouraged to sign up as "hosts."

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.

Let your light shine every Friday night as you join others for **Friday Night Lights on the Lawn**. Bring a candle, a lawn chair, and be a sign of Christ's love in a troubled world.

Grace Church offers a **Holy Eucharist and Healing Service** on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. Healing prayer stations are also available at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service and at the Taizé service every third Sunday.

**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 **Order of St. Luke** Mountain Chapter meets Thursday, October 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall to continue with "Being Transformed by the Renewing of Our Minds (Romans 12:2)." We'll watch the healing journey of a young woman who suffered from lupus, kidney failure and heart disease. Through standing on the truth of God's Word, she made a complete recovery. We'll discuss how unbelief limits our possibility for healing.

All are welcome. One does not have to be an OSL member to attend. Please join us! You will bless us with your presence. We will not meet if the Asheville city schools are closed that day or will close early because of inclement weather.

Come join **PubSing**, an informal gathering on the second Sunday of each month to sing hymns, old-time gospel, and Americana inspirational music. We meet this month on October 13 at Zillicoah Beer Co., 870 Riverside Drive, Woodfin, 4:00-6:00 p.m. For details, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114.

*Continued above in next column >>>*

# Parish News, Updates & Reminders

**THE PUMPKINS HAVE ARRIVED! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** Thanks to all who helped unload pumpkins on September 29. Our "crop" is now out on the lawn, sales have begun and volunteer sellers are needed throughout the month! Remember, this is Consider Haiti's biggest fundraiser, and all proceeds go to medical clinics, community health agents, clean water, and sustainable nutrition in Haiti. Signing up to sell is easy. See below:



## PLEASE HELP US TEND THE PATCH!

**It's fun. It's a good cause. And it's a great way to introduce our neighbors to Grace Church.**

**We have a sign-up board in the foyer of the church.**

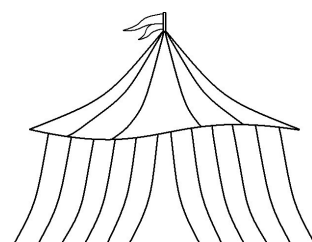
**Or you can sign up online in 3 easy steps:**

- 1. Go to <https://signup.com/go/WUouGwi>**
- 2. Enter your email address (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)**
- 3. Sign up! Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.**

**EASY!**

**GIFTS OF TENTS!** Sadly, the tent we used for years at the Pumpkin Patch didn't survive some bad weather last fall. The call went out for a replacement, and not one, but two tents are now available to use for outdoor events at Grace.

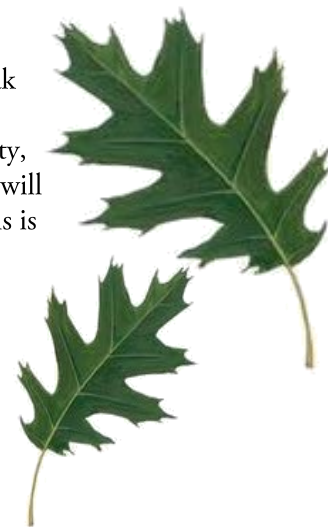
A resounding THANKS! goes out to Pat Walters and to the Men of the Church for their generous gifts of tents!



**INITIAL "SERVICE TIMES EXPERIMENT" SURVEY UPDATE.** Our survey on service time changes is now complete. We appreciate all the responses we received. Although we have not had time to fully ascertain the results, what we have seen reflects a willingness of the congregation to continue with two services as long as we consider two points: 1) Look at the possibility of moving the 10:30 a.m. service to an earlier time, and 2) design the later service liturgy to incorporate more of the former 9:00 a.m. service features.

The Worship Committee and Vestry will now study the results and propose a path forward. We thank you for your participation.

**OUR PRIZE-WINNING OAK!** We are excited to announce that one of our venerable oak trees overlooking Merrimon Avenue has been chosen as a "Treasured Tree" by Asheville Greenworks. This award will help us preserve and protect our oaks and "raise awareness of the diversity, sensitivity and importance of the tree canopy" according to the Treasured Tree committee. We will receive a plaque and certificate as well as consultation on protecting the health of the tree. If this is a ministry you might be interested in taking part in or in donating to, please contact Sally Withers or Kathleen Griffin for more information.



## OCTOBER DATES FOR THE ASHEVILLE EPISCOPAL YOUTH MINISTRY.

Check the dates! Mark your calendars! Don't miss a minute of the fun this fall!

October 6, 2:00-4:00 p.m., we join St. James and the Black Mountain community for a Blessing of the Animals in Black Mountain town square! Bring the family and your pets!

No youth meeting on October 13.

October 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m., we'll enjoy a meal together and then play some games. Meet at St. Mary's for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Food will be provided.

October 27, 1:00-3:00 p.m., we'll be meeting at Grace for a great program!

5:00-6:30 High School Dinner and Conversation location is TBT



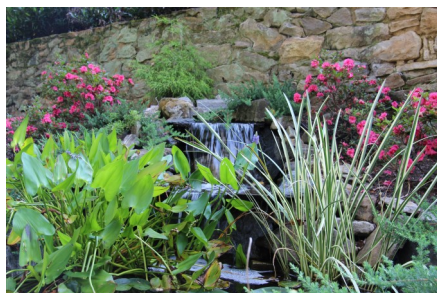
# Parish News, Updates & Reminders

(continued)

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS!** In October, people all over the world will celebrate the feast day of the Patron Saint of Animals, Saint Francis of Assisi. It's customary that, in remembrance of St. Francis' love for all creatures, animals come to church for the "Blessing of the Animals." At Grace, we will welcome our animal friends for that special service on Sunday, October 6, at 10:30 a.m. All pets are welcome, but please consider the wisdom of bringing aggressive animals. Large animals are also welcome but must be led (for example, horses must not be ridden). Clean-up aids and water will be available.



**GRACE GETS AROUND!** Now that we have our new Grace t-shirts, let's show them off! Capture photos of you or others wearing their shirts at Grace events, on vacation, downtown or anywhere, and we'll spotlight them in an issue of *The Grace TEAM*.



**THE NEW GARDEN GUILD!** When given the care it needs, the landscaping at Grace is breathtaking. In this new ministry, volunteers will "adopt" a specific planting area on the church grounds and be responsible for its care and maintenance. Basic long-handled tools (rakes, brooms, shovels) and a garden cart for transporting weeds and mulch will be provided. Volunteers can bring their own hand tools (trowels, cultivators, clippers or trimmers) and work gloves. The Garden Guild coordinators will provide guidance and support. For more information, contact coordinators Kathleen Griffin (828-337-8241) or Jackie Schauer (828-337-9441).

**SPRING ROAD TRIP!** Spaces are reserved for Grace March 20-22, 2020, at the Valle Crucis Conference Center in Valle Crucis, NC, for a Spring Retreat getaway. Shake off the winter blahs! Come enjoy the rustic setting of Valle Crucis and get to know your parish family a little better. The cost is \$158 per person and includes all meals. To reserve your spot, a 50% deposit is due by Friday, November 15. For more information, contact Elaine Potter at [elaine@graylineasheville.com](mailto:elaine@graylineasheville.com).



*The Valle Crucis Conference Center overlooks a peaceful, rural valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains, offering their ministry of hospitality to a diverse range of church and non-profit groups from around the Southeast. Many groups say being at Valle Crucis feels like coming home. Maybe it's the informal and inspirational setting, where groups easily build community, or perhaps it's those wonderful homestyle meals they serve. Learn more at [www.vvconferences.org](http://www.vvconferences.org) and sign up today!*



*Passing of the Baton*

**A NOTE FROM JIM CASSARINO.** Dear friends, I'm delighted to be a new member of the Grace Church community and to serve as your music director. It has been a joy getting to know you during the past few weeks and it has been an absolute privilege to work with the choir and our brilliant organist, Cathy. My adjustment to this new position has been seamless due to Mary Ann's care and assistance since my arrival. I can state, without hesitation, that the parish music program has been in the best of hands under her leadership during the past year. I'm looking forward to supporting congregational singing and integrating the choir in our liturgies in ways that will inspire and add to our worship experience. In closing, I wish to thank you for your generous and sincere hospitality and for the kindness that you have shown my family.

**AND MORE FROM JIM AND OUR CHOIR—A CONCERT!** The Grace Church Choir will commemorate the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls with an Evensong service on Wednesday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m. This prayerful service will offer scripture readings, congregational hymns, canticles, and choir anthems.

# 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:**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:** John

Woodson, jlwoodson@aol.com

**CHILD FORMATION:** Mark Silvers,

mhswwjak@hotmail.com

**CHOIRS:** Rusty McCredie,

rebscape@att.net

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Eric Howell,

eric\_howell@att.net

**ENDOWMENT:** Steve Birkhofer,

sbirkhof@unca.edu

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW):**

Cheryl Aull, ckaull@charter.net

**FELLOWSHIP:** Sally Withers,

sallywithers@gmail.com

**FINANCE:** Anne Jarema,

anne\_jarema@verizon.net

**FLOWER GUILD:** Mary Israel,

tobarranged@bellsouth.net

**GARDEN GUILD:** Kathleen Griffin (828-337-8241), Jackie Schauer 828-337-9441)

**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:** Fr. Gary Butterworth,

gary.butterworth@gmail.com

**ADULT FORMATION.** Adults have two Sunday options starting at 9:25 a.m.: "The Way of Love" in the downstairs conference room ([www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love#](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love#)) and the continuation of conversation with our clergy during breakfast in the parish hall.

**ENDOWMENT.** The Endowment Committee will meet Monday, October 14, 5:30 p.m. in the choir room upstairs. The agenda will include a review of the quarterly financial performance for the Endowment fund, deliberation regarding spending availability for 2020, and other related funds management issues.

Parishioners, these are open meetings. Please contact Steve Birkhofer ([sbirkhof@unca.edu](mailto:sbirkhof@unca.edu) or [goldenlane@charter.net](mailto:goldenlane@charter.net)) if you have questions or are interested in attending.

**ECW. Fall Luncheon.** Saturday, October 19, the annual fall luncheon of ECW will take place in the parish hall at noon. Mary Ann Warren and Cheryl Aull will provide meatloaf and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We will have a brief meeting to discuss the upcoming rummage sale! If you plan to attend, please sign up on the bulletin board in the church foyer or email Mary Ann at [maandwrw@gmail.com](mailto:maandwrw@gmail.com) by October 16. All women of Grace are members of ECW and are encouraged to come get to know your fellow Episcopal Church Women and enjoy a great meal!

**Rummage Sale.** The Annual ECW Rummage Sale will be held Saturday, November 2, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.. We have been collecting items all year, but there's plenty of room for more! Set up in the parish hall and the storage house to the left of the upper parking lot begins Monday, October 28, and continues all week with ECW members available 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. those days to accept your donations. Clean, gently used clothes, shoes, linens, toys, books or holiday items need to be delivered to the Parish Hall. If you have household or kitchen items, or used sports equipment, they should be delivered to the Storage House. Please remember we need items in good condition. We do not accept electronics, textbooks, encyclopedias or magazines. **We could really use able bodied help about 1:30 p.m. on the day of the sale to help break down the sale and prepare for a wedding scheduled for 5:00 p.m.** If you can help, please contact Cheryl Aull at [ckaull@charter.net](mailto:ckaull@charter.net) or Mary Ann Warren at [maandwrw@gmail.com](mailto:maandwrw@gmail.com). The rummage sale helps us recycle used or no longer needed items at an affordable price to those people less fortunate or simply looking for a bargain! It's a great time to volunteer and meet other parish helpers! Thanks to everyone for your support and contributions. The funds earned help provide scholarships for our youth to attend camp and youth conferences as well as funding projects to enhance our church facility and outreach!



*Continued >*



# Grace Ministries in Action

(continued)

**FELLOWSHIP.** Lots of fun and fellowship recently. We thought you might enjoy a few photos.



*Three Holy Conversations in September turned the serious work of sharing our hopes for a new rector into three very "groovy" occasions.*

*Brunch, a Ministry Fair, a thank you to Mary Ann and a welcome to Jim Cassarino made for a lively Sunday morning on September 1.*



**OUTREACH.** If you'd like to learn more about any of the Grace outreach projects, current or upcoming, please get in touch with Kim Hayes (kimhys53@gmail.com) or any of the Outreach Committee members. Here are a few updates:

**Dinner with UNCA's Episcopal Campus Ministry.** Come help Grace welcome the ECM! Monday, October 21, we will host a **home-cooked potluck supper** for the ECM students and their leader Megan Cox. Serving family style using our round tables we want to have lots of parishioners come out and welcome these students. Just think back to your late teens, being away from home, and how important a welcoming meal was. It's really about the fellowship more than the meal. They'll come around 6:30 and have a meeting following. In addition to dinner, time permitting, we may offer a history/tour of the church and the windows. Watch for sign-up sheets and more details coming to a foyer in your church soon.

**Grace Feeds Lazarus Twice.** True to a recent Gospel reading, Grace has fed Lazarus twice in one week, first with the Pig Pickin' where four families of the Grace Community redeemed discounted tickets offered to them, and again with the forty bags of food collected and delivered to ABBCM, where one volunteer said: "Your food came in the nick of time...our shelves were almost bare."

**Steadfast House** is a community of single women, mothers with children, and female veterans. Currently located in North Asheville, their mission is to provide comprehensive services to help women and families move from homelessness to stability. Steadfast House provides programs that focus on education, training, personal skill building, and reintegration into communities. The program, supported by ABCCM, will soon move to the new Transformation Village. Grace Church has been providing a monthly meal to the residents of Steadfast House on the second Friday of every month. Typically, we have had three rotating teams of 2-5 people, who make, deliver, and serve a meal to the 35-45 residents of Steadfast House. Currently, there is a need for more volunteers to maintain our existing schedule of operations. This program will be changing with the move to Transformation Village in 2020. Volunteering for a cook team is a great way to serve and interact with this community of women and children! Children are welcome to volunteer with a parent or guardian.



**Produce Truck at Grace Beginning Wednesday, October 2.** Grace is teaming up with the YMCA to host a Produce Truck in the church parking lot distributing free fresh produce on the first Wednesday of every month, 5-6:00 p.m. In bad weather, we will use the foyer of our parish hall. In addition to fresh produce, healthy recipes and easy to understand information is often included. The produce is available to all who show up, with no questions asked. As we all know, access to fresh produce is often not available, especially to those on a limited budget. The YMCA offers free produce markets across five counties in WNC.

The "Y" provides the produce, tables to put it on, and "know how." Grace provides a few friendly faces to help set up and greet people. We need four to five volunteers each month for less than one and half hours. Larry and Lucy Bowen are coordinating with Grace and the "Y", and will be there monthly. If you would like to volunteer, or for more information, please email, call, or text them at lucyabowen@yahoo.com or 229-224-5891 or 229-224-5899.



**PASTORAL CARE.** Like a hug that someone can keep! Grace Church's prayer shawl ministry, **Purls of Grace**, starts back up Saturday, October 5, 10:00 a.m., in the library. All ages and skill levels, even newbies, are welcome, and if you want to learn, we can help you get started. Or if you used to knit or crochet and are a little rusty, we'll help you get back into it. We make simple shawls and lap robes for people in various situations who need to know someone is thinking about them. For more information please call Beth Woodson at 828-645-4293.

# From Our Discernment Committee Chair

Dear Grace Parish,

On behalf of the Discernment Committee, I want to again thank those of you who participated in the Church Assessment Tool (CAT) and the Holy Conversations. I believe we have collected some great insight and information which will help us build a clear parish profile representing Grace Church. Our committee is now working on that profile. We hope to present it to the vestry in the coming weeks.

Some of you have asked about the results of the CAT. I would anticipate the vestry will be reviewing the Executive Summary this month. Senior Warden Greg Townsend and I will present the key findings, hopefully in your November Team.

Thanks again for your continued support, prayers, and patience as we get closer to calling a new rector for Grace Church. We are right on schedule with the process prescribed by the diocese.

With Love in Christ,

Paul Vest and your Discernment Committee



*(l-r) Kim Hayes, Mark Silvers, Cliff Albertson, Derek Edwards, Elaine Potter, Paul Vest (chair), Lorie Tola and Sally Withers*

# From Our Senior Warden



*Greg Townsend  
Senior Warden*

One year ago, I wrote you about how busy a year we had had, and how much lay in front of us. So where are we, a year later?

Father Gary Butterworth approaches his one-year mark as our interim, a year spent helping us look at who we are and, as he says, “shining the light in corners we have neglected over the years in the past” and helping us identify our needs and aspirations as we move forward in the discernment process.

Paul Vest is leading the Discernment Committee in their work of expressing and identifying who we are as we search for a new rector.

We have a new web page almost ready to roll out.

We’re about to update the look of our parish hall and foyer to contemporary standards with new paint, window treatments, doors, and technology to help us tell our story.

We’ve explored moving to two Sunday services and found opportunities for fellowship with breakfast and coffee hour. We’ve just reached the end of our trial period of two Sunday services and are reaching out to you for your thoughts on what our Sunday schedule should be.

Jim Cassarino has joined us as our new Director of Music and we welcome his family—wife Elise, daughter Celeste, and son Peter—to Grace Church, to Asheville, and to the South.

And once again, we’ve covered—or will soon cover—our yard with pumpkins, as sure a sign of fall here as anything.

This year, we’ve started a different approach to building our church budget. Instead of building the budget to limit our ministry, we’ve asked ministries to share their vision for the future with the Vestry. Instead of thinking of how we can pare our vision down to fit our budget, let’s create a vision that inspires us to give.

This month, we kick off our fall stewardship campaign, “Shining Christ’s Light, Sharing Christ’s Love, Making God’s Love Visible.” In Matthew 25, Jesus tells us “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” I invite you to join us as we work towards a Grace Church where we live up to Jesus’s charge to us.

*“For it is in giving that we receive.”*

*St. Francis of Assisi*

# Our Prayer List

October

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**; **Maria Mason**; **Gael Paschall**; **Nancy Porter**; **Sonny Rawls**; **Beth Stahl**; **Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder**; **Rita Spragg**; **Kelly Thompson**; **Pat Walters**; **Katie Warren**; **Don Wills**.

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: **Henny Caldwell**; **Straudia & Mel Luedtke**; **Rita Lyda**; **Marion Mayfield-Johnson**; **Tom Paine**; **Cal Remmers**; **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): **Carolyn Brown** (friend of Ray & Jeanne Robertson); **Melinda Franks** (sister of Becky Smith); **David & Suana Gentry**; **Dick Graham** (friend of Don Wills); **Joseph Heavens** (husband of Valerie Heavens); **Judy Hinman** (sister of Barbara Wilcox); **Walt Justice** (friend of Don Wills); **Toni and family** (friends of Don Wills); **Janice Orson** (friend of Rusty Herman); **Joanne Poston** (sister-in-law of Bill & Corinne Spencer); **Gayle Ray** (friend of Valerie Heavens); **LeighAnne** (friend of Elaine Potter); **Lisa & Stan**.

For Those Who Have Died and their Families: **Ruth Oliver Bell** (family member of Bill & Becky Smith); **Joyce Malley** (sister of Kathleen Griffin); **Phyl Mathias** (friend of Don Wills).

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); **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); **Patricia** (friend of Kathleen Griffin).

For Those in the Episcopal Church: **Michael** (our presiding Bishop); **José** (our Bishop); **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 [gkcgriffin7@gmail.com](mailto:gkcgriffin7@gmail.com) or the church office at [grace.church.asheville@gmail.com](mailto:grace.church.asheville@gmail.com).*



Our condolences and prayers go to the friends, family and loved ones of Ruth Oliver Bell (family member of Bill & Becky Smith); Joyce Malley (sister of Kathleen Griffin); and Phyl Mathias (friend of Don Wills).



# September 2019 Ministry Schedule

| <b>8:00</b>      | <b>October 06</b> | <b>October 13</b> | <b>October 20</b> | <b>October 27</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Verger</b>    | James Cannon      | James Cannon      | James Cannon      | James Cannon      |
| <b>Chalistic</b> | James Cannon      | Susan Robinson    | James Cannon      | Jack Frue         |
| <b>Usher</b>     | Tom Barr          | Johnny Robinson   | Steve Jones       | Ed Duncan         |

| <b>10:30</b>        |                                    |                               |                                 |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Verger</b>       | Chip Coon                          | Lorie Tola                    | Chip Coon                       | Lorie Tola                   |
| <b>Acolyte C</b>    | Maya Bell                          | Jonah Silvers                 | Carsten Path                    | Laura Ellington              |
| <b>Acolyte G</b>    | Daphne Urquhart                    | Eric Howell                   | Kate Young                      | Nola Ellington               |
| <b>Acolyte E</b>    | Aleena Bennett                     | Ellie Silvers                 | Daphne Urquhart                 | Lisle Ellington              |
| <b>Lector 1</b>     | John Woodson                       | Cliff Albertson               | Rusty McCredie                  | Hugh Vaughn                  |
| <b>Lector 2</b>     | Beth Woodson                       | Jenny Thomas                  | Robert Green                    | Vicki Vest                   |
| <b>Intercessor</b>  | Larry Bowen                        | Nancy Walters                 | Don Lewis                       | Anne Simmons                 |
| <b>Presenters</b>   | Woodson Family                     | Jenny Thomas<br>Nancy Walters | Green Family                    | Hugh Vaughn<br>Vicki Vest    |
| <b>Chalistic 1</b>  | Charles Carter                     | Nancy Walters                 | Don Lewis                       | Cliff Albertson              |
| <b>Chalistic 2</b>  | Kimberly Kneier                    | Mark Silvers                  | Greg Townsend                   | Ann Robinson                 |
| <b>Ushers</b>       | Paul & Vicki Vest                  | Ed Woeckener<br>Alternate     | Will Israel<br>George Davis     | Elaine & William Potter      |
| <b>Healing Team</b> | Louise Wernicke<br>Tricia Hargrove | Allyn & Joan Aldrich          | Marzy Israel<br>Corinne Spencer | Sonny Rawls<br>Karen Compton |

|                             |                        |                         |                         |                            |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Scripture - Lesson 1</b> | Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4  | 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c    | Genesis 32:22-31        | Sirach 35:12-17            |
| <b>Scripture - Lesson 2</b> | 2 Timothy 1:1-14       | 2 Timothy 2:8-15        | 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5      | 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18      |
| <b>Counters</b>             | Steve Birkhofer        | Martha Boyette          | Sally Withers           | Georgi Bruce               |
| <b>Depositors</b>           | James Cannon           | Judy Bohan              | Chal & Hugh Vaughn      | Anne Simmons               |
| <b>Flower Arrangers</b>     | Newton                 | Newton                  | Israel - Bowen          | Israel - Bowen             |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Group 1:<br>Oct 5 - 11 | Group 2:<br>Oct 12 - 18 | Group 3:<br>Oct 19 - 25 | Group 4:<br>Oct 26 - Nov 1 |

## 7:00 PM Taizé

|                                 |  |  |                            |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Verger</b>                   |  |  | James Cannon               |  |
| <b>Lector &amp; Intercessor</b> |  |  | James Cannon               |  |
| <b>Healing Prayer</b>           |  |  | Amy Trees<br>Debbie Thomas |  |

## October Anniversaries

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Travers and Charlotte Chiott   | 5  |
| Steven and Lisa Birkhofer      | 12 |
| Elaine Potter and Annika Brock | 12 |
| John and Rhian Chastain        | 13 |
| Gary and Christina Butterworth | 14 |
| Wayne and Laura Parton         | 14 |
| Steve and Nora Jones           | 16 |
| Katie and David Warren         | 16 |
| Doug and Terry Ellington       | 17 |
| Sean and Teesha Johnson        | 24 |
| Bill and Mary Ann Warren       | 25 |
| Watson and Meghan Jordan       | 26 |

## October Birthdays

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Lelia Cort         | 16 Robert Porter         |
| 2 Roger Snyder       | 16 Will Schierhorn       |
| 4 Jack Westall       | 19 Bobbie Eblen          |
| 5 Steve Jones        | 19 Greg Townsend         |
| 6 Corinne Spencer    | 20 Becky Hannah          |
| 8 Grace Green        | 20 Paul Urquhart         |
| 8 Bonnie Kistler     | 21 Caroline Jordan       |
| 8 George Stein       | 22 Anne Jarema           |
| 8 Shannon Townsend   | 23 Miles Beasley         |
| 9 Martha Boyette     | 23 Christina Butterworth |
| 9 Georgi Bruce       | 23 Angela Hall           |
| 9 Ann Robinson       | 23 Mary Hayes            |
| 9 Laura Snyder       | 24 Peggy Grimes          |
| 10 Jonah Silvers     | 24 Anna Hamrick          |
| 11 Finn Southwell    | 25 Jeremy Cress          |
| 13 Caleb Cain        | 25 Elizabeth F. Krueger  |
| 13 Graham Hunter     | 26 Robert Potter         |
| 13 Amy Lyda          | 27 Maggee Anderson       |
| 13 Daphne Urquhart   | 27 Earl Leininger        |
| 14 Cecilia Cassarino | 29 Cleo Doran            |
| 14 Maggie Green      | 30 Jacob Haller          |
| 15 Rob Oxford        |                          |

## Special Gifts

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by the Altar Guild and Flower Guild of Grace Church in honor of David Gentry.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

Sarah Burnham in memory of her mother Susan Barnes Burnham;

Bobbie Eblen in memory of her daughter Margie and her husband Joe;

Ed Duncan in memory of Dick L. Drake;

Mary Ann and Bill Warren in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary and in loving memory of their parents, Felcie and Junius Warren, and Andrew Marion and Abbie Jean Jowers Lynn;

Beth and Pat McKinsey in memory of Beth's brother Bill Murtiashaw; Beth's parents Eva Gary and Charlie Murtiashaw; and Pat's father Patrick McKinsey; also Kathy, Rock, and Morgan Thomas.



## Heartfelt Thanks

Every Sunday, we see their work. Quietly, prayerfully and with so much skill and artistry, the members of the Grace Flower Guild design the exquisite arrangements in our sanctuary. During holiday seasons like Christmas and Easter, the beauty of our place of worship is breathtaking.

Our heartfelt thanks to each of you—Marzy Israel, Julia Anne Dawson, Micki Newton, Nora Jones, Pat Davis, Mary Jane Westall, Don Wills, Charlotte Chiott, Jennifer Witt, Lucy Bowen and Chance Wyatt—for your dedication and the wonders your talented hands create.



## Well Done!

Congratulations to Grace Miller for making the LSU marching band and to Jonah Silvers for making the cross country track team at Asheville High.

*Let us know what your Grace young people are up to in school! We'd love to recognize their accomplishments in the TEAM.*

# Expenses Lower Than Expected for First 8 Months

Pledge receipts through the end of August totaled \$227,044 compared to projected pledges of \$228,049. Considering all income sources, income received for the period totaled \$296,604 while we projected income to be \$284,338. We ended the month with a positive income variance of \$12,266.

This positive variance is largely the result of a decision by the vestry to transfer a portion of a recently received bequest for funding the discernment process (\$10,000); using a one-time donation from a parishioner (\$10,000) received for operations; and transferring the savings from 2018 (\$23,144) to use for operations in 2019. These additions totaled \$43,144 and were included with income. In August, \$12,500 from the Endowment Fund in support of our shared youth missionary was added to miscellaneous income, further increasing our income surplus.

Expenses through the end of August totaled \$278,097 while we projected expenses to be \$290,611. These savings totaled \$12,514 for the first eight months this year.

As a reminder, the budget is \$9,410 in deficit to provide support for key programs even though projected income was unavailable. Thus far with income exceeding projections and with continued savings on expenses, it is likely that our deficit will be resolved. As we proceed through the year, we will continue to monitor and adjust to eventually eliminate this shortfall. In the meantime, parish financial reports will reflect an unbalanced budget.

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

## Statement of Activities - Grace Church Year to Date - August 2019

|                              | Actual         | Budget         | Variance        |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Income:</b>               |                |                |                 |
| Pledges                      | 227,044        | 228,049        | (1,005)         |
| Non-pledged Offerings        | 50             | -              | 50              |
| Open Offering                | 4,521          | 8,738          | (4,217)         |
| Interest                     | 64             | 46             | 18              |
| Misc.                        | 64,926         | 47,505         | 17,421          |
| <b>Total Income:</b>         | <b>296,604</b> | <b>284,338</b> | <b>12,266</b>   |
| <b>Expenses:</b>             |                |                |                 |
| Outreach/Mission             | 31,370         | 33,337         | (1,967)         |
| Parish Programs              | 6,598          | 16,745         | (10,148)        |
| Operations                   | 47,124         | 44,817         | 2,308           |
| Personnel                    | 193,005        | 195,713        | (2,708)         |
| <b>Total Expenses:</b>       | <b>278,097</b> | <b>290,611</b> | <b>(12,514)</b> |
| <b>Income Less Expenses:</b> | <b>18,507</b>  | <b>(6,273)</b> | <b>24,781</b>   |