



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

May 2020

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
10:30 a.m. - Rite II
Live-Streamed

Gospel Bible Study
Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Live-Streamed

Compline
Monday-Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
Live-Streamed

Centering Prayer
Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
Zoom

Healing Prayer
A Healing Prayer Service and
Eucharist is offered on
Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.
Live-Streamed

For information about accessing live-streaming, see page 3.

A Message from Fr. Gary

Dear People of Grace,

The following is shared from one of my weekly "Grace Gatherings" notes:

I hope that each of you is staying safe and healthy. These times where we find ourselves almost "locked" away to stay safe can be stress-filled and full of anxiety. I counter this as best I can by remembering who I serve: A Resurrected Lord. Our Resurrected Lord is Jesus Christ and He wants the best for us and always provides what we need.

Sometimes that can be the rub...the things we think we need. Many times I find myself drifting from the only thing I need—Jesus—and find myself veering off course towards the things of human origin. Might you find yourselves in this boat as well? I recall a recent conversation and follow-on story from a wonderful priest friend of mine:

She told me that last week her family presented her with a gift of little white wireless earphones (called airpods) meant to make her life better—this is really what they said. They meant a better life in the sense that her efficiency would improve because she could take a call, or listen to a book or a podcast with her hands free as she simultaneously walked the dogs, or cooked dinner, or folded laundry, or as she actually attempted, dab paint on some door trim that has been relentlessly beaten up by her child (who will remain nameless). She shared that she had been meaning to take a paint brush to that trim for more than a year.

Airpods tuck neatly inside the ear, held in place by the curl of the lobe—hands free, no wires to untangle and maneuver. She popped them in, turned on her book, and went to the basement for the paint and a brush—ready to improve her life. Five minutes into this better life, one of the airpods fell from her ear into the bucket of paint. "Like

that," she said, "my potential for a better life was swallowed."

We are living the season of Easter, celebrating resurrected life—this is not a celebration of something outside of ourselves, as in the celebration of someone else's birthday or anniversary or graduation. When we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are brought into the celebration of the resurrected life that also resides in us. We celebrate the Risen Christ by celebrating the Christ within—manifesting it.

Jesus did not spend his life trying to get people into heaven but trying to make heaven, right here on earth, all around us—he was all about a better life in the present moment. His last public act before he died was turning over the tables in the temple. He wanted something new and better for this world.

If your inbox is anything like mine, every day finds numerous opportunities promising to make my life better—there are amazing book groups, and incredible writing groups, and intentional meditation groups, and online yoga and martial arts. There are numerous things to buy and new technologies that promise to make our life better. I don't know about you but I can look at my home router and see over 20 devices connected and I don't know what half of them are for. There are opportunities to give and support and participate. Each opportunity is appealing, and I see something better for myself and the world in each one. I am also aware that we can lose the Christ for trying to find the Christ... (can you say 20 connected devices).

A new friend of ours placed something on our stoop the other day—it came in a brown bag without any promise that it would improve our lives... only the promise that it is bread—and that it will feed and nourish us.

Let us pray: *Blessed One, as we yearn for what is better, keep us mindful of what makes us whole. Amen.*

**"Alleluia,
Christ is Risen!
The Lord is Risen
Indeed.
Alleluia!"**

Pentecost: Celebrating the Gift of the Holy Spirit

This year, Pentecost falls on Sunday, May 31. As this edition of the TEAM newsletter is being published, we have no way of knowing what church will look like on that date. Perhaps we will be gathering together again for worship. Perhaps not. How we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit will be determined by COVID-19. But pandemic or not, we will join Christians worldwide and CELEBRATE! Thanks be to God!



The Pentecost window at Grace

Following the celebration of Easter, Christians look forward to Pentecost. Pentecost is a Christian festival celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to his disciples to help them in their faith and in continuing their work of establishing the church and spreading the Gospel.

The date of Pentecost varies every year as it takes place fifty days after Easter. The word "Pentecost" comes from the Greek word "pentekoste," which means "fiftieth." This year, Pentecost is Sunday, May 31.

The significance of Pentecost lies in the baptism of the disciples with the Holy Spirit. Jesus made the promise in John 14:26 saying, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." After dying on the cross and being resurrected, Jesus reappeared in front of the disciples to prove He was alive and well. He told them to wait in Jerusalem.

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were waiting in an upper room in Jerusalem, bonded in prayer together, when they heard the sound of a strong wind inside the house. This was the Holy Spirit and they were filled with it. They were given the gift of tongues. Immediately, Peter began his ministry, while the other disciples also spread the word, giving way to the birth of the church.

Today, Pentecost Sunday is a celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit. This holiday unites Christians everywhere, reminding us that we, too, can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and be witnesses to the ends of the Earth.

About Pentecost:

- Pentecost Sunday marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles.
- Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days after Easter.
- The Bible records the Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13.
- Pentecost comes 10 days after the Ascension of Jesus Christ.
- Pentecost is also known as "the birthday of the Church".
- Pentecost fulfills Jesus' promise to send the "Counselor" and "Spirit of Truth" in John 16:5-15.
- Pentecost launches the large-scale spreading of the Gospel after Jesus' ascension. Acts 2:41 records that after Peter spoke to the crowd after receiving the Holy Spirit, some 3,000 people were baptized.
- The Pentecostal movement derives its name from the New Testament event in Acts 2.
- Jews also celebrate Pentecost, but not for the same reason as Christians. The celebration by Jews of Pentecost is to observe God giving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai 50 days after the Exodus. The Pentecost in Jewish tradition takes place 50 days after Passover.
- In Western Churches, Pentecost is usually represented with the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.

May your celebration be a blessed one!

May God's Spirit fill you with peace, comfort and joy!

Events at a Glance

A Quick Review of the Month

The COVID-19 virus has impacted our world in many ways. In the effort to safeguard our own well-being and the well-being of others, we have been challenged to look creatively at how we gather as the Grace Church family. Although some things must be postponed for now, technology has opened up many avenues for continuing to “do church” at Grace. Shared here are the services, meetings and activities about which we currently have information. We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more.

Currently Scheduled in May

The following activities will be live-streamed:

- Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.
- Compline, Monday-Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
- Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing, Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.

The following activities will be conducted on-line using ZOOM:

- Virtual Coffee Hour, Sundays following worship
- Gospel Bible Study, Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

- Centering Prayer, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
- EfM, Thursdays, 6:00 p.m.
- Outreach meeting, Tuesday, May 5, 5:30 p.m.
- TEAM meeting, Wednesday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.
- Vestry meeting, Monday, May 18, 5:30 p.m.

Continuing as scheduled (watch for updates):

- YMCA Produce Truck, Wednesday, May 6, 5:00 p.m. (no volunteers needed)

Cancelations and Postponements

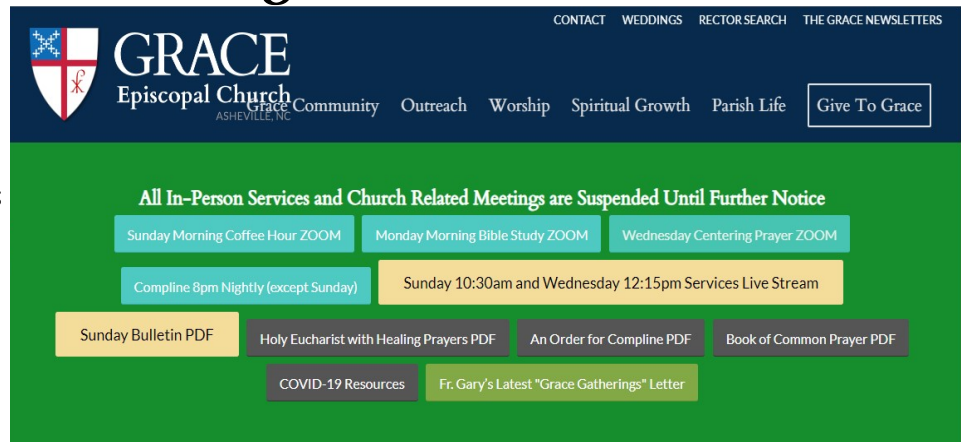
In compliance with CDC guidelines and in consideration of everyone’s continued good health, the following events, meetings and activities will not happen this month. We will keep you updated as things change.

- Memorial services for the departed have been postponed and will be rescheduled.
- Early Birds Men’s Book Study
- Choir/Bell rehearsals
- Men of the Church
- Purls of Grace
- Steadfast House Meal
- Taizé
- Newcomers Meeting
- ECW Derby Day
- PubSing
- Mountain Chapter of Order of St. Luke

Technology—We’re Making It Easier!

HOW TO ACCESS WORSHIP SERVICES BEING STREAMED LIVE.

With your computer, tablet or smart phone with access to internet, you can join Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m.; Compline, Monday-Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; or the Wednesday Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing at 12:15 p.m.; simply go to graceavl.com, and in the green banner at the top of the homepage, click on the appropriate box. PDF bulletins are also available for Sunday worship, Wednesday Eucharist and Compline.

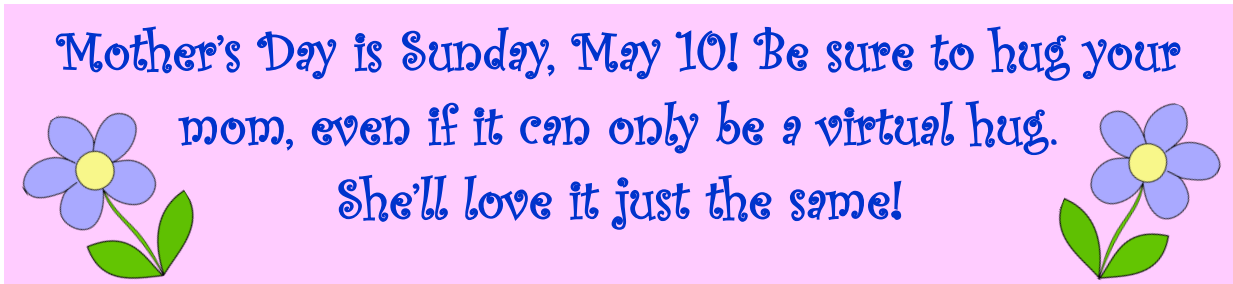


HOW TO ATTEND AN ON-LINE MEETING USING “ZOOM.” For Sunday Coffee Hour and Monday Morning Bible Study, just click the appropriate box on the Grace homepage. Some of our other meetings will also continue via ZOOM. Your host will email an invitation and instructions, or check your bulletin or Friday’s email for a Meeting ID and password to log in. Then go to <https://zoom.us/> and click “Join a Meeting,” put in the Meeting ID number, click “Join” and add the password you have been given. If you don’t have a camera, you can still join with just audio.

NOTE: New ZOOM security features provide added protection for users. Our meetings are password protected. Our meetings are not recorded. And because Grace meetings are generally small, participants are easily recognized. The meeting host can block or eject an illegitimate participant.

Parish News, Updates & Reminders

WANT TO KNOW IF AN EVENT IS HAPPENING? Check the online church calendar on the Grace website, graceavl.com/ under the Parish Life Tab. www.graceavl.com/parish-life/calendar/ will let you know if an event is scheduled for a zoom meeting, or if it is to be live-streamed on YouTube or Facebook Live.



THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY. The church office will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Perhaps it would be a good day to not only remember those who have and continue to serve in our military, but to also remember and give thanks for the nurses, doctors, researchers, cashiers, stockers, meal preparers and all who are on the front lines of this new and invisible battle.

PENTECOST AT GRACE. Our hope is that we at Grace will celebrate Pentecost on the first Sunday we all come back together for worship. At this time, there is no clear idea when that will be, but we will keep everyone updated. See p. 2 for more about this great Christian celebration.

DREAMING OF SUMMER! NEWS FOR YOUTH. I don't know about y'all, but I am dreaming of summer. Long days full of warmth and sunshine. Lighting bugs and the smell of cut grass. Music festivals and back yard games with friends. Maybe you are like me and this is what is keeping you going while stuck at home. If so, then listed below are a few activities to look forward to this summer. I hope that dreaming of summer helps bring joy during these anxious times.

Blessings,

Eden Lewis, Diocesan Missioner for Youth and Young Adults



CAMP HENRY!

Camp Henry offers every participant an experience of the Living God in an environment of unconditional love, imagination, and engagement. Camp sessions are available June 28 through July 25. CHOS and LAMP are available in July. Learn more at <http://www.lakelogan.org/camphenry/>

Scholarships for Grace campers are available! ECW voted last October to provide scholarships up to \$200 per child. Depending on the number of children who apply, they may be able to provide more support. For more information, contact Cheryl Aull, ckauill@charter.net.



COLD MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL AT LAKE LOGAN, August 14-15

Cold Mountain Music Festival features top-notch musical talent, amazing local food & drink vendors, family-friendly activities, and more all in one of the most pristine settings imaginable. Tickets are \$40-\$75 for a two day pass. Get details at <https://www.coldmountainmusic.org/>

TOWEL CAMP MISSION TRIP, JULY 22-26, 2020

Towel Camp mission trip is sponsored by the Church of the Transfiguration in Saluda, NC. Mission work will take place in the Saluda area and will include projects such as yard work, painting, and deck work. Adventure activities as well as meals and lodging at Camp Wayfarer are included. Cost is \$350. Open to grades 9-12. Contact Rev. Chip Broadfoot, broadfoot.chip62@gmail.com with questions.

Parish News, Updates & Reminders

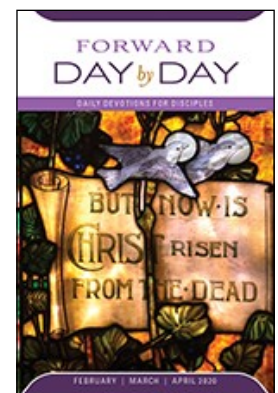
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PUBSING. Due to COVID-19, PubSing, an informal gathering on the second Sunday of each month to sing hymns, old-time gospel, and Americana inspirational music, is on hiatus until word comes from Grace Church that all services have been resumed. Be watching for updates, or for more information, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114.



SUNDAY MORNING VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR. ZOOM is fast-becoming the world's favorite way to stay in touch during the COVID-19 epidemic. People are enjoying virtual dinner together, virtual happy hour, virtual book groups, virtual business meetings—and now, you can reconnect with your Grace Church family with **Virtual Coffee Hour!** Every Sunday morning following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, usually around 11:30 a.m., connect via ZOOM. Just go to the web site, graceavl.com, click on the “Sunday Morning Coffee Hour ZOOM” button and join in . A big virtual hug is the next best thing to being there. See you next Sunday!

FORWARD DAY BY DAY AVAILABLE. “Forward Day by Day” May, June and July issues are available. To receive yours by mail, please email grace.church.asheville@gmail.com or call Valerie at the church at 828-254-1086, extension 10, and leave a message. Let her know you'd like a booklet in the mail. Remember, if we don't have your current address, be sure to include it in your message. Having your current address, phone number and email address on file is so important, especially right now.



THE NEW SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY. Email, telephone and the US Postal Service are still options for communicating when you can't do it in person. We may be self-quarantining and adhering to social distancing mandates, but we are NOT alone. We are still part of the Grace family, and staying in touch is so important right now. Let's make sure no one at Grace feels left out, alone or in need. Do your part to help us all stay connected. If you are willing to get in touch with 4-5 other members of Grace — just check in with them and, if necessary, relay needs, concerns or happy notes to Fr. Gary, please contact Shannon Townsend, gstownsendsend@att.net or 828-713-5081, and she'll be happy to help you connect.

RUMMAGE SALE STILL ON THE CALENDAR! The 2020 ECW Rummage Sale is still set for Saturday, November 7, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. And although rummage sale drop-offs are on hold until further notice, since we've all had all this time at home for spring cleaning, plenty of donations are anticipated once they resume. So keep cleaning, sorting and gathering up your donations. As soon as it's possible, drop-off days will be re-scheduled. Remember, **the ECW is not able to accept electronics or medical supplies.** Below is a reminder of items they can take. As always, thank you for your generosity.

WHAT WE CAN ACCEPT

Clothing - clean, something you would want to purchase! No underwear please.

Books - (No textbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, condensed books, books that are written in or heavily highlighted, or magazines).

Office Supplies and arts/crafts kits or supplies.

Children's and baby items – toys, games, puzzles, sports equipment if in good repair.

Jewelry.

Small household and kitchen items – should be working and have all the parts!

Linens – please label size of sheets/tablecloths.

Christmas items.

Garden supplies and small garden tools.

Please save larger furniture items until the week of the rummage sale!

Parish News, Updates & Reminders

(continued)

GOOD NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE. Even now, in the midst of a pandemic, there is good news to celebrate! With our focus on helping the agencies that are feeding those in need during this crisis, we have recently sent checks to:

ABCCM (\$2000), Room in the Inn (\$1200) and MANNA Food Bank (\$1000). In the next few days, we will also send \$500 each to Church of the Advocate and Southside Kitchen/We Give A Share to support their feeding programs! Your generosity right now is making that possible! Thank you for your individual gifts and a special thanks to ECW and Men of the Church.



Meanwhile, there are more ways to help:

- Please keep filling your Lenten “GIFTS TO GO” BOXES in support of the ABCCM Medical Ministry. We will collect them as soon as possible or you can give online at abccm.org; click on “Give” and scroll down to “General Fund.”
- Because we were unable to bring gifts of food to church for the ABCCM FOOD DRIVE, we encourage you to make a cash donation to the ABCCM Crisis Ministry and designate it for food. Use the same online giving option as above.
- The YMCA PRODUCE TRUCK will continue to make a stop at Grace on first Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Right now, because they are pre-packing groceries for clients to pick up, they are in need of your plastic, paper or re-useable grocery bags. You can drop them off when the truck is at Grace on Wednesday, May 8.
- The week of May 3 is the week we were scheduled to host the women from ROOM IN THE INN. However, because of COVID-19, those women as well as others in Homeward Bound programs are being sheltered at Harrah’s Asheville Civic Center, where they are still in need of food and personal items. At any time, but especially during our May 3 week, you can help us collect the items listed below.

Single-serving packaged snacks such as muffins, cookies, crackers, chips, pretzels, granola bars, breakfast bars, breakfast sandwiches, and Pop Tarts.

Individual bottled/canned/boxed drinks, including juice boxes, soft drinks, Capri Suns and powdered drink mixes.

Single-serving packaged breakfast items such as oatmeal bowls, mini-boxes of cereal and grits packets.

Also needed, games, books, puzzles, magazines, hand-crafts, art supplies, coloring books, drawing paper and journals.

You can safely deliver your donations to the civic center (no contact with others required); just drop donations off on the tables set up in front of the civic center daily, 1-4 p.m. If you do need help with donating, don’t hesitate to contact Kim Hayes, kimhys53@gmail.com or 828-230-3777.

BACKPACKER UPDATE & THE ACS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER. Grace Backpackers have stayed busy during this COVID-19 crisis. Utilizing the food in our pantry plus orders we have been able to pick up from MANNA, we have been able to redirect our packing for Jones Elementary School, which is closed, and continue packing and delivering fifty bags of groceries per week to the Asheville City Schools Family Resource Center at Isaac Dickson Elementary School...

Our current funds will allow us to keep doing this until the end of May. At that point, our pantry will be empty and our funds for buying food from MANNA will be exhausted.

Normally, this would not be a bad thing at the end of May, which is also when school ends. This year, however, **the crisis is not going to end on the last day of school.** It is expected that Asheville City School students and their families will continue to suffer financial hardship and exceptional need throughout the summer. We can help provide some of the center’s most-needed items: **Household Items**, including diapers (all sizes), deodorant, dish washing liq-

uid, bar soap, toilet tissue, toothpaste, crayons/markers/colored pencils, craft supplies, wipes, laundry detergent, shampoo, feminine products, paper towels, toothbrushes, notebooks and construction paper. Also needed, **Non-Perishable Food Items**, including canned fruit, chicken, ravioli, tuna, beans and soup; granola bars, apple sauce, mac & cheese cups, pasta/ramen noodles, crackers, spaghetti noodles, Pop Tarts, oatmeal, mixed fruit cups, pasta sauce, rice, peanut butter, jelly, nuts, Spam, pancake mix, cereal/granola, Hamburger Helper, cookies, chips, powdered milk, juice boxes, fruit snacks and gummies.

Food or toiletry items may be purchased and dropped off between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday at the Family Resource Center at Isaac Dickson Elementary School (125 Hill Street, Asheville NC 28801). Please place donations on the loading dock by the side entrance. There is a designated area for donations marked by a sign.

Donations can also be made online through the Asheville City Schools Foundation website, <https://www.acsf.org/donate>. Financial support will be used to assist Asheville City Schools students and their families in getting the food and household items they need.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call (828) 350-6133 or call your school social worker directly, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Grace Ministries in Action

MINISTRY LEADERS

ADULT FORMATION: Greg Townsend,
gwtownsend@outlook.com

ALTAR GUILD: Jackie Schauer,
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BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Pat
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PUBSING: Monty Wooten,
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STEWARDSHIP: Greg Townsend,
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TAIZÉ: James Cannon,
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YOUTH MINISTRY: Jenna Sharrits,
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WEDDING MINISTRY: Elaine Potter,
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WORSHIP: Fr. Gary Butterworth,
gary.butterworth@gmail.com

Even when practicing personal distancing, we are still close to one another. Let's use this pause to recognize and thank those whose ministries are active right now and those who are waiting patiently to take action when the time comes. Join us in saying "thank you" and if you can help, please let a ministry leader know.

ADULT FORMATION. Thank you to the teachers who continue to stimulate our minds and spirits in new and fascinating ways. Although our adult formation classes are currently on hiatus, you are encouraged to take part in the on-line version of our Monday Morning Bible Study facilitated by Fr. Bob. Please know that the MMBS is open to everyone. Simply go to graceavl.com and click on the "Monday Morning Bible Study" button in the green banner at the top of the homepage.

ALTAR GUILD. The altar is still our focal point as we virtually come to the Lord's Table every Sunday. Thank you to those who continue to make it a worshipful and holy place.



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BUILDINGS & GROUNDS. An entire community recognizes the pretty stone church on the hill above Merrimon Avenue. The red doors are a symbol of welcome, peace, holiness and sanctuary. Thank you to all who work so hard to care for this place, our spiritual home.



CHILD FORMATION. Although our Atrium, the nursery and the playground are silent right now, we know our little ones are held in the hearts of their Sunday teachers and caregivers. We eagerly await a time in the near future when we will be together again. *See Jayne's message, p. 12.*



CHOIRS. Oh, how we miss the wondrous anthems you raise, especially in this Easter season. Thank you, Jim and Elise, for the simple and lovely music you offer instead, live-streamed during Sunday worship. You comfort us and, at the same time, make us so mindful of and grateful for the choir, the bells and Cathy's magnificent skills at the keyboard. We will raise a new song soon!

COMMUNICATIONS. Thank you to Gary, Valerie, James, Kim and all who are working to keep lines of communication open during the pandemic. Our web site, the Friday all-parish email, live-streamed worship, online meetings and classes and this newsletter all keep us close, even in our isolation.

ENDOWMENT. Over the years, we have invested in the future of Grace Church. Our thanks to those who continue to faithfully guard and grow those investments through good economic times and bad.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN. The hard work you do every year supports improvements at Grace, outreach, scholarships for Camp Henry and more. Thank you for all you do, and we promise to keep cleaning our attics and basements and gathering donations for this year's Rummage Sale. Your optimism is contagious!



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Grace Ministries in Action

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FELLOWSHIP. The breakfasts and brunches, the parties, the receptions and celebrations—we miss them all. Not having that fellowship makes us so keenly aware of how important the people are who make those things happen. We look forward to gathering again soon. And meanwhile, don't forget the "Sunday Morning Coffee Hour ZOOM" following worship. Just click the button on our homepage to join.

FINANCE. The lights stay on. The water keeps running. The bills get paid. Your pledge is just the beginning. How that gift is wisely budgeted and used is in the capable hands of our Finance Committee. Thank you for your careful and loving oversight.

FLOWER GUILD. Even now, as we participate in worship on our computers and phones, we still see and give thanks for the beautiful work of your hands that graces our sanctuary.



GARDEN GUILD. The gifts you have brought to our gardens and landscaping in the past and will bring again define our "church on the hill." You have never shied away from getting your hands dirty for Grace. Thank you for that.

HEALING MINISTRY. Even now, our Healing Prayer Ministers are available to us. If you would like prayer over the phone, you may contact ministry leader Jeanne Robertson or any of the Prayer Ministers listed in the Friday email and they will be happy to pray and intercede with you. Our thanks to these ministers for being with us and reminding us that we do not need to be face to face for Jesus to hear our prayers.



MEN OF THE CHURCH. Famous for, but not defined by, their monthly get-togethers, the Men of the Church are a resource we gratefully turn to for everything from manual labor to financial assistance. We look forward to this year's Pig Pickin' and sharing a beer with you all. You're awesome.

NEWCOMERS. Those who are new to Grace Church, those who have just recently tuned in to Sunday worship or evening Compline, those who want to know more—they will be welcomed. Even during this pandemic, even from a distance, our Newcomers Ministry will extend a warm welcome. Thank you for being the face of Grace.

OFFICE MINISTRY. A global pandemic has not stood in the way of Sunday bulletins, monthly "TEAM" newsletters, Friday emails and all the other things generated and coordinated through the Grace Church office. Thank you, Valerie, for your kind and gentle attention to all the details that keep us going.



OUTREACH. More now than ever, the Grace outreach ministry and the people who make up the Outreach Committee are called upon to care for those in need. Thank you for the creativity you have shown as we are called to "go out into the world" at a time when going out is so difficult and dangerous.

PASTORAL CARE. The need for a listening ear and a kind word doesn't go away because of COVID-19. We are so



blessed to have people among us who continue to call upon the sick and those who are alone.

PUBSING. Your monthly gatherings to make joyful music are a unique blessing that extends way beyond the walls of Grace Church. Thank you for being the soundtrack for so many events and activities. We hope you'll be getting the band back together soon.

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Grace Ministries in Action

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SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, teaches us to look after one another, to love one another. The new Shepherds' Ministry at Grace invites each of us to help care for the flock. Thank you to all who have volunteered to make calls and stay in touch with members of the Grace family.

STEWARDSHIP. The ministry of stewardship is more than a drive for pledges in the fall. Year 'round, we are reminded by those who guide this effort that our gifts of time, talent and money make so much possible. We are grateful for their hard work and commitment to Grace. Your encouragement inspires us to be Christ's church in the world.

TAIZÉ. You taught us to pause even before a pandemic *forced* us to pause. You have taught us that quiet times spent in communion with God can heal us, comfort us and strengthen us for the work to be done. Thank you, James, Monty, Judy and all who make the monthly Taizé service a blessing. We look forward to your return.



YOUTH MINISTRY. Thank you, Jenna, for shepherding our young people even now. We are grateful for all that you have done and for the love you have shared with us.



WEDDING MINISTRY. Elaine and Cheri and all who help and host the couples who come to Grace to be married, thank you. In this bittersweet pause, the weddings are on hold, but we know the time will come soon when our bells will ring and our red doors will be flung wide in renewed celebration.

WORSHIP. It's been a challenge to bring worship to God's people during this Coronavirus emergency. And yet, through new technology, sermons being preached to empty pews have, at least to our way of understanding, *miraculously* made their ways into our homes. And what important sermons they have been! Thank you, Fr. Gary and Fr. Bob. Thank you also to Deacon Jeannette, Christine, Elise and Jim for making worship a comfort in this time of stress. And thank you to our verger James, behind the scenes, directing the players. We will have church! There is always a way!



God bless each and every one of you for your ministries at Grace!

Our Prayer List

May

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; Angie Cullen; Cuyler Dupree; Eva Dupree; Dorothy Engel; Vicki Enox; Eunice Ferguson; Doug Haldane; Marzy Israel; Don and Ann Lewis; Gael Paschall; Alfonso and Shannon Ponce; Nancy Porter; Sonny Rawls; Beth Stahl; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Corinne Spencer; Rita Spragg; Sydnor and Kelly Thompson; Mickey Trinite; Pat Walters; Judy Warner; Katie Warren; Jane Whitman; Don Wills.

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: Henny Caldwell; Bobbie Eblen; Ed Denison, Straudia Luedtke; Rita Lyda; Marion Mayfield-Johnson; Tom Paine; Deb Pegel; Cal Remmers; 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): Joe Adams (friend of Lynda McCredie); Carolyn Brown (friend of Ray & Jeanne Robertson); Deane Brown (brother of Barbara Wilcox); Heath Davis (son of Chuck Davis); Melinda Franks (sister of Becky Smith); William Frederickson (brother of Barbara Wilcox); Robin Fulk (niece of Charlotte & Travers Chiott); Judy Hinman (sister of Barbara Wilcox); Laura Julian (daughter of Rusty Herman); Bob Noble (brother of Walt Noble); Janice Orson (friend of Rusty Herman); Joanne Poston (sister-in-law of Corinne Spencer); Sandra (Setzer) Rau (friend of Nancy Clark); John Stephenson (friend of Doug McClellan); Kathy Thomas (friend of Doug & Carole McClellan); Allison Waigand (daughter of Jennifer Witt); Franci Wolfson (friend of Nancy Clark); Angela (sister of Steve Booth); Isaiah (friend of Shannon Townsend); Jenna (friend of Sonny Rawls); Patricia (friend of Kathleen Griffin); Tammy (mother of Chance Wyatt).

For Those Who Have Died and their Families: Jerry Drum (brother of Nancy Clark); Evelyn Oberg Fields (mother-in-law of Don Lewis); Paul Noble (nephew of Walt & Joyce Noble); Mary Ida Sprague; Nancy Stephenson (friend of Doug McClellan).

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 & Tony Wilkey); Gus Whitman (grandson of Jane Whitman).

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.

Please get permission from anyone you would like to add to the list and contact Kathleen Griffin at 337-8241 or gkcgiffin7@gmail.com or the church office at grace.church.asheville@gmail.com



Our condolences and prayers go to the friends, family and loved ones of
Jerry Drum (brother of Nancy Clark),
Paul Noble (nephew of Walt & Joyce Noble), and
Nancy Stephenson (friend of Doug McClellan).

May Anniversaries

Teresa and Cecil Cantrell	1
Alfonso and Shannon Ponce	21
Tom and Martha Bell	25
Allyn and Joan Aldrich	27
Adam and Aubrey Southwell	28
Giovanna and James Hopkins	30

May Birthdays

1 Doug Ellington	16 Ellie Silvers
2 Ann Burhans	17 Catherine Cullen
2 Derek Dephouse	17 Alyssa Jones
4 Brooke Plank	19 Ashley Ellington
4 Madison Plank	19 Shannon Wall
5 Charlotte Chiott	20 Lorie Tola
7 Karen Howell	20 Monty Wooten
7 Cal Remmers	21 Jennifer Clary
8 Lucy Bowen	21 Judy Rhodes
8 Jeannette Reese	22 Meghan Jordan
9 Charles Carter	24 Leeann Shearouse
10 Emma Butterworth	24 Nancy Walters
10 Sharon Stewart	25 Susan Smith
10 Jane Whitman	28 James Cannon
11 Joseph Heavens	30 Barbara Crownover
11 Molly Oxford	30 George Davis
12 Sydnor Thompson III	30 Sherry Siket
12 Jennifer Witt	30 Jeanne Sims
13 Annabelle Milling	31 Johnny Robinson
15 Patrick Bohan	

Special Gifts

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Rick and Kim Hayes in memory of their parents Lou and Bob Anslow, and Mary and Bill Hayes.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

Carol and Steve Booth in memory of David and Barbara;

Teresa Cantrell in loving memory of her parents Nyra and Bill Caton;

Ed Duncan in memory of Dick Drake and Hazel Keller;

Randy and Martha Carson in honor of their grandchildren Alex and Sofia Carson, and Jack and Grant Miller;

Kathleen Griffin in loving memory of Bob Griffin and of their life together.



Holy Week Gifts

Although we celebrated Holy Week and Easter differently this year, our sanctuary was still lovingly decorated. We are grateful to those who contributed in thanksgiving and in memory of departed loved ones.

For Palm Sunday:

The Aumbry Candle was given to the Glory of God by Jack and Mary Jane Westall in thanksgiving for the marriage of their daughter Mary Camille and David Sargeant, March 28, 2020.

The Rev. Jane Smith, who traditionally gives hot cross buns on Palm Sunday in memory of Marguerite Alexander, has asked that her contribution be kept for use in the future.

Palms were given to the Glory of God by the Drake and Duncan family in memory of Ruth Bryce and Mary E. Pritchard.

For Maundy Thursday:

The flowers were given to the Glory of God by Ed Duncan in memory of Helen Powers

A Message from Jayne

Dear Grace's church members:

Hello everyone! It's Jayne from Grace's nursery. Valerie has asked me to write up a piece for the newsletter. I am more than happy to do so! I miss your smiling faces, your children, conversing with the adults, and, of course, eating the yummy pancakes and sausage gravy.

I know that this time period has been difficult to endure during this horrific pandemic. It's been more than 6 weeks that we have been practicing "social distancing" and wearing masks when we are at the supermarket. Many of you are working parents and now have another job, tutoring your children at home. Many of our church members are at "high risk" and are fearful of going outside because they are vulnerable to this coronavirus. Children are out of school for the rest of the school year. It's a lot to take in and it can be very overwhelming, to say the least.

What I would like to offer you is this handout of tips for parents and some resources that will, hopefully, be of benefit to you and your children.

As I am writing this, I am sitting out on my porch. I am fortunate to have a beautiful, woody view. Someone is playing the flute in the woods and it is lovely! I would encourage you and your family to take time to make new memories during this period of isolation. What floats your boat? Maybe it's reading a book, taking a yoga or meditation class on line, or being on zoom with your friends. Whatever it is, be in touch with your inner heart! Cook with your children, take a walk in your neighborhood, check on an elderly neighbor.

Connect with nature, viewing the beautiful trees, flowers, sunrise or sunset over the mountains. Emerge yourself with the springtime outdoors in Western Carolina. It can nurture your soul. Exercising improves both your physical and mental states. Do some gardening, pray, sing, and dance. Make a puzzle, create an art project or organize your closets. Be mindful and eat healthy foods. An excellent app on your phone for meditation is called "Headspace." I have been using it since September of last year and it has really helped me with breathing, living in the moment, and being more mindful.

Stay safe! Looking forward to being back together at Grace soon..

Sending virtual hugs,
Jayne Bowersox

YouTube Channels For Elementary Students

Alphabet/Numbers:

- Alphablocks
- Numberblocks
- Numberjacks
- Patty Shukla Kids TV
- Jack Hartmann
- KidsTV123
- Have Fun Teaching
- Kiboomers
- Super Simple ABCs
- Teaching Independent Learners - NYS Module Videos
- The Singing Walrus
- Harry Kindergarten Music
- Dr. Jean
- Sesame Street

Brain Breaks:

- Go Noodle
- The Learning Station
- The Kiboomers
- Koo Koo Kangaroo
- Scratch Garden
- Kidz Bop
- Pancake Manor

Social/Emotional:

- Howardwigglesbottom
- The Wiggle Tales
- We Do Listen Foundation
- PlayKids
- Sesame Street
- Everyday Speech
- Scratch Garden
- PBS Kids for Parents

Relaxing/Calmng:

- Go Noodle - Flow
- Moovlee
- Cosmic Kids Yoga
- Relaxed Breathing Training, Version B Puffer Fish

Science:

- Crash Course Kids
- Sick Science
- SciShow
- WhizKidScience
- Lab360
- Science Max
- Peekaboo Kidz
- Blippi
- KidsTV123

Social Studies:

- Kids Academy
- Homeschool Pop
- Kids vs Life
- Kids Learning Tube
- SoulPancake

Speech:

- Speech Blubs
- Echo and Friends
- Scratch Garden
- Preschool Prep Company
- PhonicsStories
- Patty Shukla
- Jack Hartmann
- Turtlediary
- Alphablocks



@FlowerCityTeacher

HAVE YOU FOUND YOURSELF SUDDENLY SCHOOLING AT HOME? HERE ARE 6 TIPS TO HELP:

1

In the morning talk about what each person will focus on for the day, including the adults. Let children know what to expect for the day and when to expect it by reviewing a general schedule (nothing regimented) so children are aware of how the day will flow.

2

Take breaks and have some downtime. A fifteen minute break can do wonders for your patience and help you both get your focus back. Take a walk, enjoy a read-aloud, or practice some [mindfulness activities](#) to alleviate stress and get back on track.

3

Learning doesn't always look like a worksheet, book, or digital device, anything and everything can be a learning activity. [Cooking](#), [walking](#), [helping with household chores](#) or out in the yard, and other activities that build life skills can be great learning opportunities too. And don't forget to [play!](#)

4

Remember, you're not teaching 18 students, your pre-k to 2nd grader doesn't need to sit at the kitchen table for 6 hours of instruction!! 1-2 hours of academics is all that's needed for early learners, and so much is [learned through play!](#)

5

Be positive! This can be a stressful time for you and for your children. Try to think of this time at home together as a once in a lifetime opportunity, share with children that you're excited to spend more time with them. Enjoy the time together and make memories.

6

Take the learning outside, fresh air and sunshine always do a body good! Write letters and words in the driveway with sidewalk chalk and count with rocks. Take a walk in the evening with your child, reflect together on the day, listen to your child's thoughts and make tomorrow even better!

Budget Approval Dependent On Stewardship

After three months of 2020, we have received pledged income of \$102,178; income from all sources totaled \$121,174. Mission, Operational, Program, and Personnel expenses at the end of March 2020 totaled \$98,870 and were \$3,893 less than those forecast in the draft budget provided for the Vestry's consideration.

The 2019/2020 stewardship effort has provided 90 pledges totaling \$292,533 of the \$350,000 goal. A significant portion of the deficit in pledges (\$27,000) is attributable to our aging parish, as a number of our parishioners have moved to assisted living facilities, moved to be nearer family, or have passed away. While these changes are a normal part of parish life, we must also be addressing growth to replace those we have lost. As we move through 2020 and complete our journey through the discernment process, our leadership will be focusing on our parish life and health.

Until the stewardship process has been completed and a firm estimate of 2020 income is established, the vestry is unable to approve a 2020 budget. A draft has been provided based on our budget history. Over the past several years our annual expenses have totaled just over \$400,000. Using the expenses estimated in the draft budget, we are currently facing a short fall of approximately \$90,000. Much of this shortfall will be resolved with a successful stewardship effort. Additionally, the Vestry is looking at

other potential revenue sources as well as reviewing areas where cost reductions may be made.

As the next month goes by, many of the current questions will be resolved. With that accomplished a more definitive budget narrative can be provided.

Your Vestry

Statement of Activities - Grace Church				
Year to Date - March 2020				
		Actual	Budget	Variance
Income:				
	Pledges	102,178	73,133	29,045
	Open Offering	1,628	2,669	(1,041)
	Interest	23	19	4
	Misc.	17,345	5,763	11,583
	Total Income:	121,174	81,584	39,591
Expenses:				
	Outreach/Mission	10,738	13,376	(2,638)
	Parish Programs	4,502	5,638	(1,136)
	Operations	18,486	21,388	(2,902)
	Personnel	65,144	62,362	2,782
	Total Expenses:	98,870	102,763	(3,893)
	Income Less Expenses:	22,304	(21,179)	43,484
Some errors due to rounding.				

The Discernment Process Today

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VESTRY. In this Easter time of our resurrected Lord, your Vestry is pleased to give you an update on the Discernment Process for Grace Church. After many months of phone calls, in-person visits, deliberate evaluation, and countless prayers, the Discernment Committee has provided the Vestry with the names of the candidates who will move forward in the selection process to become our new Rector.

As of now, while taking into consideration the safety and well-being of our candidates during the pandemic as well as the importance of keeping the process moving, we are scheduling Zoom interviews with the candidates, which will be followed by face-to-face interviews the end of this month or early June. After these interviews are completed, the Vestry, guided by the Holy Spirit, will submit the name of our selected candidate to the Diocese.

The vetting process will conclude and a candidate will be announced following an interview with Canon Augusta and Bishop José here in Asheville.

Also, we're pleased to tell you Fr. Gary has agreed to stay with us until the new Rector comes on board.

We welcome your continued prayers for your Vestry and the candidates as they continue in the process of finding a new rector for Grace Church.

Yours in Christ,
The Vestry