



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

June 2020

Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
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Visit us online at

www.graceavl.com &

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.

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

Writing these monthly articles has become difficult during the pandemic. I write to you each week and discuss the events and times we are in and how the Spirit of God is with us, even now. So what do I say after all that?

As I write this, we are still in the Season of Easter; however, this Sunday is Pentecost, when we receive the Holy Spirit and we move into the Season after Pentecost, that long (26-week) season of green.

So, maybe we should revisit where we have been. For the past seven Sundays, we have heard the words, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen" and the response, "The Lord is Risen indeed, Alleluia." Easter is the season of resurrection, a time of joy, of rebirth, of making, seeing, and realizing new things...new lives, new relationships, new paths, and new growth.

Easter is a season where we, as Christians, should pump our fists in the air and shout, "Yes, Yes, Yes!" (YES, even in this time of pandemic and stay-at-home orders). YES is what Easter is all about. God's "YES" to humanity, as God grants to us the gift of immortality. God's "YES" to Jesus and all Jesus taught us about the meaning of life. God's "YES" to the victory of life over death, love over hate, faith over fear, hope over despair. Everything about Easter says, "Yes, Yes, Yes!"

Maybe a short synopsis is in order. First of all, Easter is an act of God. God raised Jesus from the dead, says the Apostle Peter. Easter is an act of God. We benefit from Easter, but we did nothing to bring it about. Earthquakes, on the other hand, are an act of nature, not an act of God. Or when peo-

ple who have the love of Jesus in their hearts go to far off lands suffering from devastation, that again is an act of God. Easter is also a summons to grateful living. We have God's favor. God has rolled away the stones of fear and death. Now it is our turn to live as Easter people (into Pentecost and the entire year), to let our lives say, "YES!" to the new day that is before us and the people we will meet each day.

With this YES in mind, my time with you is drawing to a close. It may not be this month or the next but it is coming. I will be moving into a new type of YES. Chris and I will be moving into full retirement (although we all know a priest never fully retires). When it is my time to leave you, I will do so with a little sadness (you know I have come to love you deeply) and with great joy that you all said YES to me serving as your Interim Rector.

We have been on a wonderful journey together for almost two years. You have welcomed and loved Chris and me as one of your own and we are extremely grateful. You have been through much with my "Pastoral Disruption" leadership style and we have listened to the Spirit. We have done great work and I believe that we have accomplished the work that I was called here to do for Grace, for God and for you. It is now time for someone new, someone with new gifts and passions, to lead you on into the next chapter in your story. I know it will be a great journey.

Although this will probably not be my last "TEAM" article, this just felt like the thing to write about: the YES of God, the YES of Jesus, the YES of Grace and the YES of Gary.

Peace, Blessings, & Love,

Fr. Gary+

"...this just felt like the thing to write about: the Yes of God, the Yes of Jesus, the Yes of Grace and the Yes of Gary."

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 June

Date and Time	Service, Meeting or Activity	Online Location
Nightly Except Sunday, 8 PM	Compline *	Facebook Videos
Sundays, 9:30 AM	Christian Formation: The Way of Love (5/31, 6/7)	Zoom Meeting
Sundays, 10:30 AM	Sunday Holy Eucharist Service *	YouTube Channel
Sundays after Service	Virtual Coffee Hour	Zoom Meeting
Sundays, 4:00 PM	Christian Formation: Discussion of Sunday Lessons	Zoom Meeting
Mondays, 10:30 AM	Monday Morning Bible Study	Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 5:30 PM	Outreach Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, June 10, 10:00 AM	TEAM Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Wednesdays, 12:15 PM	Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing *	YouTube Channel
Wednesdays, 5:30 PM	Centering Prayer	Zoom Meeting
Monday, June 15, 5:30 PM	Vestry Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Thursdays, 10:30 AM	Rector & Lay Leadership Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Thursdays, 6 PM	Education for Ministry ~ EfM	Zoom Meeting
	* BULLETIN AVAILABLE	Grace Website

Technology—We’re Getting the Hang of It!

HOW TO ACCESS WORSHIP SERVICES AND MEETINGS. For live-streamed Services and Offerings, bulletins, booklets and links to Bible Study, Christian Formation classes and other meetings, you will find buttons near the top of our website at graceavl.com. To join a Zoom meeting, 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.

Invitation to Christian Formation Classes

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER FOR STUDY.

1. We will complete our journey through Presiding Bishop Curry’s “Way of Love” series. We have watched and discussed **Turn:** Pause, Listen and follow Jesus; **Learn:** Reflect on Scripture each day; **Pray:** Dwell intentionally with God each day; **Worship:** Gather in community to thank, praise and draw near to God; **Bless:** Share faith and unselfishly give and serve. Over the next two Sunday’s we will watch and discuss **Go:** Cross boundaries, listen deeply and live like Jesus and **Rest:** Receive the gift of God’s grace, peace and restoration. We will gather Sundays on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 10:15. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89034980436>

2. Also on Sundays at 4:00 p.m., we will discuss the lessons and homiletical response from Sunday morning. Normally, we study the scriptures before we hear the Sunday message. This new format allows us to hear the scriptures and listen to the homily and then think about their meaning in Jesus’ time and most importantly in the times we are living. We hope this new offering gives new and exciting insight into God’s word. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82239701324>.

Parish News, Updates & Reminders



THE SEARCH IS ON FOR 2020 GRADUATES! Attention all Grace parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles! Are there high school or college graduates in the family this year? If so, we'd like very much to recognize them and add our congratulations. We're just as proud of them as you are and feel that, especially with so many graduation ceremonies being postponed or cancelled, they really do deserve a special shout-out from the Grace family.

Send us some information on who the graduate is, your relationship to them, what degree or diploma they are graduating with and from where, and what their future plans are if they've decided. Feel free to include a photo if you like.

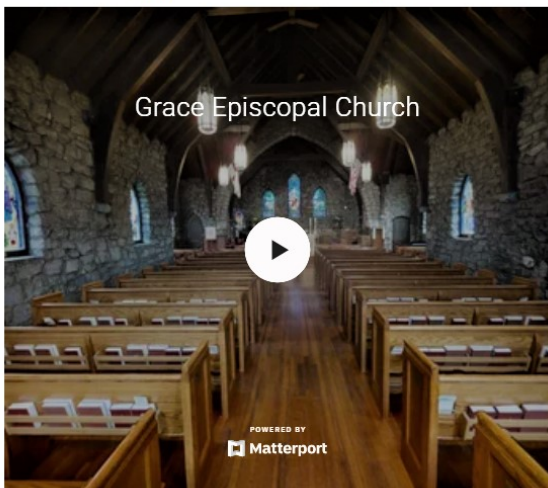
To submit information for the July *Grace TEAM*, email grace.church.asheville@gmail.com or call the church office, 254-1086, extension 10, and leave a message.

ON-LINE GIVING OPTION NOW AVAILABLE AT GRACE! On-line giving makes keeping up with your pledge and donating to special Grace programs secure and easy from the comfort of your own home. Simply go to the Grace web site homepage, graceavl.com, and click on "Give to Grace" near the top righthand corner of the page. From there, follow these easy steps to give:

- Click "Donate Now By Clicking Here."
- From the donation page, select from the following funds: 2020 Pledge, Altar Guild, Building Use, Endowment, Open Offerings or Outreach.
- Once you have selected a fund, enter the amount you wish to give and, if you wish, you may further specify how you want your donation to be used in the memo box. (Note that, for an Outreach donation, a "Note" box appears where you can indicated the outreach program you wish to support.)
- To complete your donation, just follow the prompts to enter your credit card or bank account information. An optional 2.5% can be selected to help cover the church's processing cost.
- Finally, click the "Donate!" box and your donation is on its way!



Enjoy Our 3D Sanctuary Tour



A VIRTUAL VISIT TO GRACE CHURCH! How long has it been since you visited the Grace Church sanctuary? If you're like most of us, you've missed it, and you're right—nothing can totally replace being there in person. But now, with our new on-line "3D Sanctuary Tour," you can enjoy taking a peak whenever you wish.

Go to our homepage, graceavl.com, scroll down to the 3D Virtual Tour and click the arrow at the center of the photo to begin. Check the view from every angle, see the floorplan, use the "dollhouse" view. You can zoom in or out, move from place to place, check dimensions (great if you're planning a wedding in the future), and if you have one, you can even use a virtual reality headset to experience the very next best thing to really being there!

Take the tour! Have fun with it! And be sure to say thanks to vestry member Scott McKenzie for the hard work he did to put our 3D tour together for us.

Don't forget Dad on Father's Day
Sunday, June 21!

Parish News, Updates & Reminders

(continued)

YOUR SMILING FACE AT CHURCH. It must feel strange to Fr. Gary and Fr. Bob when they preach their Sunday sermons to a church where everything is there except—us! Well, although we can't be there in person, we *can* do something to let our clergy know we're there with them in spirit. See and be seen at church by sending your (headshot) pictures to Shannon Townsend (gstownsend@att.net) and she will print them and place them in the pews. Wouldn't it be great if next Sunday's sermon was given to a "full house?"



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 . See you next Sunday!

PUBSING. Come join us for our PubSing, an informal gathering on the second Sunday of each month to sing hymns, old-time gospel, and Americana inspirational music. It's likely the June PubSing will be canceled. There's a slight chance the event could take place. Check the Grace Church calendar closer to the date at www.graceavl.com/parish-life/calendar/ to determine whether the event will be held. Coronavirus permitting we'll meet on June 14 at Zillicoah Beer Company, 870 Riverside Dr., Woodfin from 4:00-6:00 p.m. For more information contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114.

ORDER OF ST. LUKE. Hopefully, the Coronavirus will soon be sufficiently contained so that restrictions will be minimized. If Grace Church is again open for meetings on Thursday, June 11, the Mountain Chapter of the Order of St. Luke will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall to continue their focus on "Being Transformed by the Renewing of Our Minds" (Romans 12:2). We'll view the DVD Healing Journey of a young woman battling severe and mysterious ailments which were ultimately diagnosed as late stage Lyme Disease. She went in a wheelchair to a Charis Bible College session of Healing School and began walking after hearing that God wanted her well.

All are welcome. One does not have to be an OSL member to attend. Please join us! You will bless us with your presence.

CAMP HENRY HOPING TO OPEN JUNE 28. Everyone at Camp Henry is busily preparing for an amazing season of summer camp, and they can't wait to play, sing, laugh, and pray with you beginning June 28! The safety and health of campers, staff, and community are their highest priorities and they are committed to following guidelines from state and national resources, including the American Camp Association (Camp Henry's accrediting body). Be on the lookout in coming weeks for more information on ways they will provide a safe summer camp experience for children, youth, and families.

Please note that plans are contingent upon the state allowing camp to open. All signs point to yes right now, but things could change. Keep watching for updates about any changes that impact the ability to operate camp this summer. If camp must remain closed, full refunds will be offered.



Even Miss Lola the donkey takes the Shepherds' Ministry seriously as she faithfully watches over her flock at Warren Wilson College. (photo by Sally Withers)

CALLED TO BE A SHEPHERD. We may be self-quarantining and adhering to social distancing mandates, but we are NOT alone. Let's make sure no one in our Grace family 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, gstownsend@att.net or 828-713-5081.



Grace Ministries in Action

MINISTRY LEADERS

ADULT FORMATION: Greg Townsend,
gwtownsend@outlook.com

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Pat
Walters, pwalterspa66@icloud.com

CHILD FORMATION: Mark Silvers,
mhswwjak@hotmail.com

CHOIRS: Rusty McCredie,
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COMMUNICATIONS: Eric Howell,
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ENDOWMENT: Steve Birkhofer,
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EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW):
Cheryl Aull, cknull@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,
j Robertson38@me.com

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

NEWCOMERS: Pat Walters,
pwalterspa66@icloud.com

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

OUTREACH: Kim Hayes,
kimhys53@gmail.com

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

PUBSING: Monty Wooten,
montywooten@bellsouth.net

SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY: Shannon
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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

“Grace Ministries in Action” continues to spotlight 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.

ADULT FORMATION. Adult Christian Formation Opportunities in our “New Normal.” With many of our parishioners becoming more comfortable with technology and because meeting together at church is still not possible, we have decided to restart some formation programs virtually. Initially we will have two programs, both offered through Zoom. See page 2 for complete details about these programs and how to join in.

CHOIRS. As we learn to praise God in new ways, we at Grace are so grateful to Jim and Elise Cassarino and Cathy Adkins for participating in our live-streamed services and providing the music that is such a vital part of our worship. Thank you, Jim, Elise and Cathy, for helping us find our voices in praise—even from home.



FELLOWSHIP. Zoom in! Every Sunday, following the live-streamed worship service at 10:30 a.m., you are invited to join our “Virtual Coffee Hour.” Simply click the “Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Zoom” box on the Grace homepage, graceavl.com, and follow the prompts to join a Zoom gathering of the Grace family.

HEALING MINISTRY. The healing prayer ministry is alive and well at Grace. We are so blessed to have a number of ways we can communicate with Jesus. Probably, for most of you, that would be your own personal prayers. Those prayers are vital for personal mental health. The length does not matter. God hears and responds to all prayers, even the simple one-word prayer, “HELP!”

But we have other resources at Grace to help us connect to our heavenly Father, too. If you go to our website, graceavl.com, click on the purple “Personal Prayer Available” box at the top of the page. This will take you to a link listing all the many ways we at Grace can connect with prayer.

- First up is a paragraph labeled “Healing Prayer Ministers Are Available to You!” Here you will find the names and numbers of our own Grace healing prayer ministers who will pray with you over the phone. Please remember that they are waiting for your call!
- Second is “Parish Prayer List” which tells you how to get any of your prayer needs listed in our Grace bulletin and for your prayer needs to be prayed for on Sunday morning.
- Third is “Parish Immediate Prayer Circle” which is our own Grace parish intercessory prayer team who will pray daily for your needs.
- Fourth is “OSL Intercessory Prayer Team” which is a team of people, located all over the eastern United States who will pray for two months for your particular needs.
- Fifth is “Centering Prayer” which is a group of contemplative people who use silent prayer as a technique to communicate with our Lord. Anyone is welcome to join this group.

Please don’t feel alone or worry that we have suspended the prayer ministry. It is alive and well at Grace and all you need to do is reach out. Give yourself that blessing today.

Continued >

Grace Ministries in Action

(continued)

OUTREACH. Thank you to everyone who has helped the Grace Outreach Committee respond to needs in our community during the pandemic! Your financial generosity and in-kind contributions have allowed us to give more generously to local helping agencies who are operating on the front lines where needs are greatest. Here is a giving update. Most recently, thanks to a gift of \$1000, we have given \$500 to the Southside Kitchen/Give a Share and \$500 to Church of the Advocate. Coming up, an additional gift of \$500 will allow us to purchase non-perishable food items and baby supplies for the Asheville City Schools Family Resource Center. We also thank you for getting your “GO” box donations turned in. Look for a total in the July “TEAM.”

Room In the Inn has Moved. Homeward Bound has signed an agreement with the City of Asheville to house sixty unsheltered men and women in hotel rooms at the Red Roof Inn in west Asheville, as part of their continuing community response to COVID-19. Homeward Bound staff will continue to operate onsite and provide daily needs, like case management, meals, transportation to appointments and other supportive services as needed. All of the RITI ladies and existing shelter clients from Harrah's Cherokee Center are now moved and settled in comfortably. Each person now has their own private room, comfy bed and can continue to safely shelter in place. The remaining rooms will be filled by Homeward Bound's most vulnerable clients who remain unsheltered, with priority going to those who are 65 and older with chronic health conditions. Grace Outreach will keep you updated if and when needs arise.

YMCA Mobile Market. Beginning June 1, the YMCA produce truck will move back to their "normal" mobile market operations. Neighbors will be required to wait in line 6-feet apart and everyone will be highly encouraged to wear masks. Hand sanitizer will be available to all participants before they pick out produce. Grace Church will continue to host the truck in our parking lot on the first Wednesday of each month, and volunteers are welcome to come help, but note that volunteering is a decision you should make based on your age, health and any other concerns you might have about safely gathering. For more information, contact Lucy Bowen, lucyabowen@yahoo.com.

Feeding the Creativity. The Asheville Art Museum is collecting and sending out art kits to Asheville City School students who are receiving free meals through the district's food pick up sites. Their goal is to provide an opportunity for creativity to be fostered through access to art materials. A \$10.50 donation covers the cost of three art kits, which will be distributed to 1,600 at risk children. A check may be mailed to the Asheville Art Museum, PO Box 1717, Asheville, NC 28802, or by calling Kristi McMillan at 828-253-3227, extension 122.

A Match a Month! Lastly, Grace Outreach wants to match your gifts! Please read on and get involved with this matching gift summer project:

The Grace Outreach Committee continues its focus on feeding and helping the homeless and the jobless in our community. Among them are many who have lived with food insecurity for a long time. Now, however, due to COVID-19, those numbers are swelling with people who have never faced hunger and need before. We, as a community of Christ, are in an excellent position to help these people by supporting the agencies and organizations best equipped to not only put food on their tables, but to serve their needs in many other ways, as well.

Already, donations have been made by Grace Church to Manna Food Bank, ABCCM, Homeward Bound/Room In the Inn, Church of the Advocate and Southside Kitchen/Give a Share in support of the feeding programs they have put into place. Now, with concerns that the impact of the pandemic will continue through the summer, Grace Outreach would like to keep on giving as much and as often as possible. With your support, our new project, “A Match a Month,” can make that happen.

Beginning this month, every outreach donation you make to Grace that is directed to “Match” (in the “Note” box when you give online or on the memo line when you give by check) will be given to an agency selected by the Outreach Committee based on areas of greatest and most immediate need. The amount raised by donations each month, up to \$300, will be matched by Grace Outreach.

We encourage you to help with your donations. We also invite you to suggest agencies that might benefit from these funds. Every dollar counts. Let's not let COVID-19 stop us from giving!

Our Prayer List

June

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; Cheryl Deyton; 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); Jayne Bowersox; 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 Fredericksen (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 Schnedl (nephew of Walt & Joyce Noble); Alice Smith (friend of Don Wills); John Stephenson (friend of Doug McClellan); Kathy Thomas (friend of Doug & Carole McClellan); Allison Waigand (daughter of Jennifer Witt); David Wills and his EMT colleagues (nephew of Don Wills); 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 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.

June Anniversaries

Bill and Sue Dismukes	3
Steve and Pat Parker	4
Robert and Cheri Potter	5
Garrett and Darragh Greene	6
Jane and Hobart Whitman	7
Randy and Martha Carson	10
John and Vicki Sanderson	15
The Rev. Alex and Kippy Comfort	20
The Rev. James and Sharon Rains	21
Greg and Shannon Townsend	22
Grace Allendorf and Levi Godfrey	23
Bill and Becky Smith	23
Joe and Cheryl Aull	25
Eric and Sarah Wood	27
Scott and Marcella Carter	28

June Birthdays

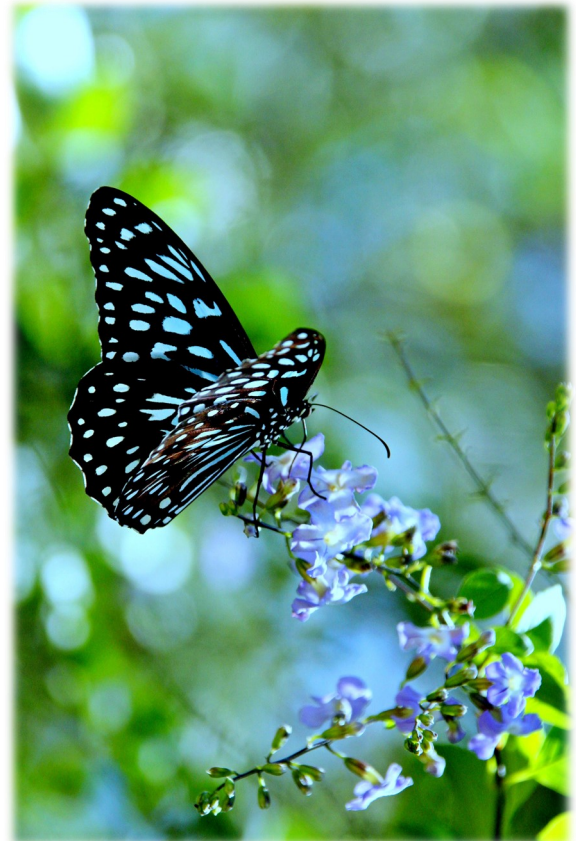
1 Kendall Beasley	16 Tony Wilkey
1 Bill Edwards	18 Randy Smith
1 Harriette Oxford	18 Elizabeth Turner
2 Emma Plank	19 Joyce Milling
3 Steve Booth	20 Andrew Dahm
3 Levi Godfrey	21 Hayden Israel
3 Heather Path	23 Joan Aldrich
4 Straudia Luedtke	24 Christy Bennett
8 Zoe Davis	24 Nicholas Sanderson
8 Matt Engelbrecht	25 Cathy Adkins
8 Sally Withers	25 Winnifred Greene
9 Wade Elder	25 Aubrey Southwell
9 Sean Green	26 Neil Bowen
10 Courtney Booth	26 Darragh Greene
11 Allyn Aldrich	26 Steve Parker
11 Adaire Thompson	26 Jeanne Robertson
11 June Thorne	27 David Withers
12 Chloe Lyda	28 Terry Ellington
13 Nancy Smith	28 Jenny Knapp
14 Georgia Hamrick Snead	28 Anne Simmons
14 Robert Townsend	29 Deb Pegel
16 Sam Lyda	29 Mickey Trinite
16 Hugh Vaughn	

Special Gifts

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Corinne Spencer in loving memory of her husband Bill.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God:

- ◇ by Pat and George Davis in loving memory of their son Mike and daughter Kelli;
- ◇ by Bobbie Eblen in memory of her husband Joe and her daughter Margie;
- ◇ by Charlotte and Travers Chiott in thanksgiving for their many blessings;
- ◇ by the Israel family in thanksgiving for fathers, grandfathers, and sons;
- ◇ by Louise Cate Wernicke in memory of her parents Louise Manget and Thomas M. Cate, and of her brother Thomas M. Cate, Jr.;
- ◇ in loving memory of Grace Walker and Phillip Alfred (Pete) Walker by their family.



Creativity at Grace!

As we have been sheltering in place all these weeks, many of us have been passing the time in creative ways—painting, taking photos, writing, sculpting, making music and more. This month (and possibly in the months to come), we are celebrating “Grace Creativity” by spotlighting some of our artists and their work.

If you have creations you would like to share in future issues of the “TEAM,” please send them to graceavl.com. While a paper copy of the newsletter may not be able to contain a musical or dramatic piece, we can always include a link to an MP3 or video.

This month, enjoy a beautiful gallery of water colors by Anne Jarema below and, on the next page, poetry by Kim Hayes.



*“Girl in the Botanical Garden”
Anne’s favorite!*



*“Morning at the Lake”
hangs in the new wing at
Memorial Health*



“Winter Birches”



*“Rain Reflections”
Won “Best in Show” this past February in a show at 310 Art.*

Please share your works of art with Grace at graceavl.com

Continued >

Kim Hayes has been writing poetry for many years. The two poems here, "Pentecost" and "The Acts" are timely reminders of the liturgical season we have just left and the season of discipleship we now enter.

PENTECOST

Consider the illusion of solidity:

that table, nothing but atoms hovering,
you as you lift a cup of tea, nothing but whirling quarks,
repulsed by one another;
yet still held together somehow...
held together by some holy binding breath
between particles.

I, with all of creation: tables, cups of tea, you..

wait on Pentecost,
wait for spirit,
charged and dancing,
to course down,
permeate, fill the spaces
in between.

And while I wait, I touch you,
and would fall through
were it not for spirit;
would sink into some
molecular soup of our
faces, limbs, and hearts..

were it not for spirit,
holy gravity,
holding us together..
and apart.

From the book "Leap," a collection of Kim's poems arranged and published by her good friend Carol Booth.

THE ACTS

Here is water..
and God from God, wading out,
wet, shining and pleasing.

Here is water..
don't just wash my feet;
wash all of me.

Here is water..
washing down with God's
blood,
from a dead man's side.

Here is water..
what is there to stop me
from being washed, too?

Here is water..
Christ-bearer, water-bearer,
go out into the world.

From the book "Winged With Longing for Better Things," a book of Lenten meditations written in collaboration with the Very Rev. Sylvia Sweeney.

Health Crisis Not Having Adverse Effect

After four months of 2020, we have received pledged income of \$134,822; and income from all sources totaled \$164,460. Mission, Operational, Program, and Personnel expenses at the end of April 2020 totaled \$116,368 and were \$16,098 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.

The vestry has not yet approved a 2020 budget and a budget comparison is not provided. A draft based on our

budget history was provided to the vestry as a starting point for their consideration. The draft budget that was provided includes a projected deficit of approximately \$17,000.

The current health crisis has not yet affected our financial situation adversely. Parishioners have been generous through April and our expenses have been restricted with our confinement. Additionally, thanks to the receipt of an unexpected gift and receipt of a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program authorized under the recent CARES Act we are in a much better position than anticipated. We prayerfully hope that this positive trend will continue as we all adapt to a new normal.

Your Vestry

Statement of Activities - Grace Church Year to Date - April 2020

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income:			
Pledges	134,822	97,511	37,311
Open Offering	11,648	6,892	4,756
Interest	30	25	5
Misc.	17,960	24,292	(6,332)
Total Income:	164,460	128,720	35,740
Expenses:			
Outreach/ Mission	7,159	14,183	(7,024)
Parish Pro- grams	5,001	6,617	(1,616)
Operations	22,545	28,517	(5,972)
Personnel	81,663	83,149	(1,486)
Total Expenses:	116,368	132,466	(16,098)
Income Less Expenses:	48,092	(3,746)	51,838

Some errors may occur due to rounding.