

### Grace Episcopal Church

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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

#### Spiritual Direction Sessions

Wednesdays, 1-3:00 p.m. Appointment required

For information about accessing livestreaming, see page 2.

# to each a ministry

September 2020

# A Message from Rev. Milly

Welcome! That is the word I would use to best describe how I feel having (finally) arrived at Grace Episcopal Church as your new rector and priest. Welcome, the warm embrace of family. Welcome, the appreciation of being known and received. Welcome, the excitement of the unknown and

anticipation of what is to be.

"Welcome one another as Christ welcomed you".

To be welcoming is to open one's self in faith to a journey that lies ahead and cannot be known but nonetheless must be traveled.

To be wel-

coming is a stance of faith and courage.

And this is my experience over the last several months of discernment and now for the past several weeks in service. This welcome says more about you than it does of me. It tells me that you are open and curious and that you are sure of who you are.

I am so grateful for this welcoming because it will allow me to be me. This welcoming will create a space where my gifts of the Spirit can flourish and where I can discern, with you, your gifts, and in that place we can serve our God together.

Can we even imagine what our mutual ministry will be together? Can we allow ourselves to welcome change, to welcome new visions and new ministries and can we imagine welcoming new families and new energy in our parish life?

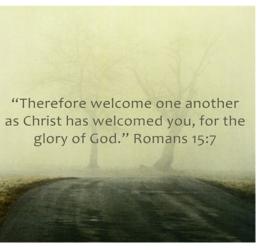
We are in an unprecedented time. And yet, welcome we will. Our inhouse worship may be suspended, but our welcome is not. We will continue to reach out and extend ourselves in service to each other and our neighbor.

We will look for new and exciting ways to show up for those in need and to be a voice for the oppressed. I can imagine the work we have to do, together, in our own home: the work to keep our church building fresh and inviting, the work to grow our out-

reach and our prayer ministries, the crucial work of reaching out to our youth and providing support to parents and children alike. All of these opportunities will be grounded in the great capacity of Welcome! that Grace Episcopal Church exemplifies.

This welcome to each other and to our neighbors is a welcome that extends beyond our church building. This welcome is a welcome to "encounter the empowering and life-giving presence of the living God" ... that is our mission as a church. You have shown me that this mission is far from being suspended but is alive and growing in our midst.

Thank you, Grace. Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you, to the Glory of God.

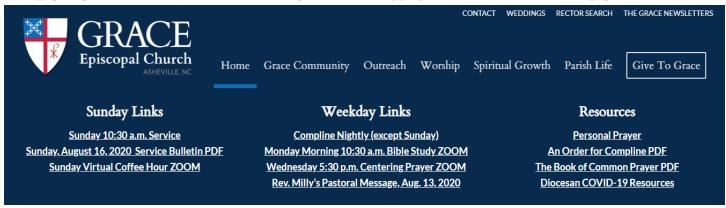


The COVID-19 virus continues to impact our world. In the effort to safeguard our own well-being and the well-being of others, we have found new ways to gather as the Grace Church family. Technology has opened up many avenues. Shared here are the services, meetings and activities about which we currently have information. We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more.

<u>Currently Scheduled in September</u>

Date and Time	Service, Meeting or Activity	Location	
Nightly Except Sunday, 8 PM	Compline *	Facebook Videos	
Sundays, 10:30 AM	Sunday Holy Eucharist Service *	YouTube Channel	
Sundays Following Worship	Virtual Coffee Hour	Zoom Meeting	
Mondays, 10:30 AM	Monday Morning Bible Study	Zoom Meeting	
Wednesdays, 1-3:00 PM	Personal Spiritual Direction (details on p. 3)	Church Sanctuary	
Wednesdays, 5:30 PM	Centering Prayer	Zoom Meeting	
Thursdays, 8:00 AM	Women Walking the Way (details on p. 3)	Beaver Lake	
Thursdays, 10:30 AM	Rector & Lay Leadership Meeting	Zoom Meeting	
Thursdays, 5:00 PM	Q&A with Rev. Milly (details on p. 3)	Facebook Live	
Thursdays, 6:00 PM	EfM (beginning September 10; details on p. 4)	Zoom	
Tuesday, September 1, 4:30 PM	Outreach Meeting	Zoom Meeting	
Wednesday, September 2, 5:00 PM	YMCA Mobile Market (all welcome)	Church Parking Lot	
Wednesday, September 9, 10:00 AM	TEAM Meeting	Zoom Meeting	
Saturday, September 19, 3:00 PM	Baptism	Facebook Live	
Monday, September 21, 5:30 PM	Vestry Meeting	Zoom Meeting	
Sunday, September 27, 12:30 PM	Pumpkin Unloading	Church Lawn	
	* BULLETIN AVAILABLE	Grace Website	

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 links near the top of our homepage at graceavl.com. To join a Zoom meeting, just click the appropriate link on the Grace homepage.



Some of our other meetings will also continue via ZOOM. Your host will email an invitation and instructions, a link will be posted on the web site, 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, it is still possible to join with just audio.

# Parish News, Updates & Reminders

LABOR DAY MONDAY. On Labor Day Monday, September 7, the church office will be closed. The Monday Morning Bible Study Zoom meeting at 10:30 a.m. and Monday's Compline service at 8:00 p.m. will continue as scheduled. Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday weekend.

PRAYING TOGETHER. Weekly on Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Rev. Milly will be holding open spiritual direction sessions for individuals or couples in the Grace sanctuary. This is a time to receive pastoral care and to let yourself rest in the comfort of our sacred sanctuary space. Masks and social distancing are required. Please email Rev. Milly at Rev. Milly 4Grace@gmail.com to schedule your time with her.

WOMEN WALKING THE WAY. Women of Grace, please consider joining Rev. Milly for a weekly walk at Beaver Lake. This time together (while socially distancing and wearing masks) will be devoted to deep listening to how we as women walk the way of Jesus in the world and in our community of Grace. No need to register or even email Rev. Milly, just show up Thursday at 8:00 a.m. in the Bird Sanctuary parking lot just past the North Asheville Library at 1030 Merrimon Avenue, going north.

**Q&A WITH REV. MILLY.** Got questions for Rev. Milly? Send them to Rev.Milly4Grace@gmail.com by Wednesday, and she will answer them live on Facebook at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday. This weekly Q&A session,

when there are questions to address, is a great way to get to know our new rector Milly and learn more about Grace Church.



**ROOTED**. Growing into who God created us and calls us to be begins by being Rooted: Rooted in faith, rooted in Jesus, rooted in family, rooted in community. This being "Rooted" is what allows human-beings to gain a sense of belonging and worthiness and it is from that place that we, as humans, have the ability to love and serve our neighbor and God.

Our "Rooted Ministries" will encompass our outreach to new families, our welcome of new families and pastoral programs for families, including the building again of the Youth Program.

If you have a heart for welcoming new families, for teaching Spiritual Parenting formation, for youth ministry, for hosting a virtual Grandparents 20/20 Zoom call, for creating materials to share with new families, or if you have an idea for what new member families might need, please contact Rev. Milly. She will be sharing more about how we will develop and implement these programs during the next six months...so be on the lookout!

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." (Colossians 2:6-7)

ORDER OF ST. LUKE. Unfortunately, with the ongoing risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus, we do not know when the Mountain Chapter of the Order of St. Luke will again be able to gather at Grace Church. We will let you know when we are able to resume our meetings.

Please consider joining us for our annual Healing Winds Conference, September 25-26. This will be an online virtual event via Zoom. The Rev. Dr. Sharon L. Lewis will be our keynote speaker. She is the founder and Executive Director of Amazing Love Healing Ministries. This year's theme is "Lighting the Fire in Your Soul." The conference will include worship, a generational healing service, and prayer ministry. There is a program fee of \$25, which contributes to an honorarium for Dr. Lewis and to the cost of the Zoom connection. Scholarships are available.

If you would like more information or assistance in registering for the conference, please contact Brenda Pagán; Registrar, Healing Winds Conference; 828-989-9626 (Cell); bp-registrar@hotmail.com. We hope you will join us as we continue to serve the Lord in the healing ministry of Jesus. Blessings!

PUBSING HIATUS CONTINUES! Our PubSing is suspended until further notice. It seems that singing can contribute to the spread of the coronavirus. We hope to gather again soon. Until then, stay safe and well. For more information, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114.

# Parish News, Updates & Reminders

(continued)

EfM CLASSES RESUME THIS MONTH. EfM Classes for the current class of six participants will be restarting on Thursday, September 10 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. This class has survived through the challenges of starting a new class/program (recruiting, mentor training, registration, etc.) and the COVID-19 Pandemic!



Educate Yourself for Ministry Through EfM. EfM is a comprehensive, four-year program sponsored by the School of Theology at the University of the South. It's geared for providing the participants a better understanding of the Christian Tradition, the Bible, our Church History, and being a Christian in today's world.

Year One of the program is about the Old Testament and Year Two covers the New Testament. Year Three focuses on Christianity/Church History. Year Four is an integrative year that covers Anglican ethics, living in today's world as a Christian, and continues the process of our personal and global theologies as Christians. EfM is not a straight Bible Study. You can find out

more details about the program, curriculum, and readings for all four years at the website: <a href="http://efm.sewanee.edu/">http://efm.sewanee.edu/</a>.

Nancy Walters and Chris Jaquette are the Co-Mentors for the Grace EfM group. Chris was trained on campus in Sewanee to be an EfM Mentor during Summer 2019 and Nancy just completed her Mentor training online via Zoom from a Sewanee trainer in July.

A new class will be starting in January 2021. Most or all of the current class will be continuing and moving on to the Year Two curriculum in January, so we would like to encourage new members to join and bring the group up to 10-12 members.

We urge you to learn more about EfM by looking at the information on the Sewanee website, and then talking with Nancy, Chris or current/former EfM class members or graduates of the program.

Also, to accommodate everyone's busy schedules and today's transitions, you don't need to attend the course for four straight years. You can take one year at a time and you can also take time off between the classes. We will decide in September and again in January 2021 how we will hold classes (in person or virtually) based on guidance from the Bishop, the CDC and participants' preferences.

Please consider joining this enriching fellowship and personal growth program at Grace!

# Welcome to Angel — Our New Sexton!

Randy "Angel" Stoudt is an Asheville native who walks in this community with integrity, honesty and loyalty. Angel embraces life through spirituality and love, always. He strives to do his best; be the best man, volunteer, advocate, and person he can be. He is thorough, efficient, dedicated and a man of strong faith. Angel has a deep love for his family of friends who are living through the housing crisis and have been faced with the struggles of homelessness; he can relate on a personal level. Angel puts his heart and soul into the BeLoved Street Medics. As a lead medic for almost four years, he has made sure his peers have life-saving supplies and feel seen and loved. He has served on the Asheville City Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee for several years. He also assists with lawn maintenance, kitchen work, and food pantry resources at Haywood Street Congregation. Angel is a man of deep integrity and makes sure he provides his skills and dedication to the community every single day.

The world is better because of Angel!

Angel will be working at Grace on a part-time basis. Currently, he is planning to be at the church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings. If you have a request for Angel, we ask that you send it to

Valerie at grace.church.asheville@gmail.com. Angel can also be reached at his email address angel.graceavl@gmail.com. Let us welcome Angel to the Grace staff team!



# Parish News, Updates & Reminders

(continued)

"LESSONS FROM BABY MOSES," A VIRTUAL SERMON FROM ONE OF OUR OWN! The Grace Church family has been so blessed to watch Elly Withers mature into such a compassionate, gifted young woman. Daughter of Sally and David Withers, granddaughter of Georgi Bruce, Elly has been a special part of our story—as an acolyte, a world traveler and, most recently, through her work in New York at the offices of Episcopal Relief and Development.

We hope you will enjoy the following sermon from Elly and perhaps be inspired to lend your support to the important

work being done around the world by ERD.



From our online newsletter hold down the CTRL key and click the photo above to view Elly's virtual sermon: "Lessons from Baby Moses"

A NOTE FROM SALLY AND DAVID. David and I are sharing this sermon our daughter Elly wrote recently as part of the amazing opportunity she has to work in New York for Episcopal Relief and Development.

Some of you may remember Elly as an enthusiastic acolyte and thurifer for the 11:15 service at Grace. Or for her work with the Diocesan Youth Council. Or for the incredible year she spent in Panamá with the Episcopal Young Adult Service Corp, thanks in part to support from Grace.

After two years working as St James' Program Director in Hendersonville, Elly, now 27, is living and working full time in New York City. Writing sermons to support the wonderful work that ERD does with children, women, climate and disaster relief is just one of Elly's many responsibilities as Church Program Associate.

We are very proud of her accomplishments and are so happy to share this with our Grace family, who have nourished and cared for four generations of the Withers/Bruce clan since 1972.

Sally

# <u> Urban Garden Being Refreshed</u>

We thought you would enjoy these photos of a wonderful work in progress. An article and more photos will be in the October *TEAM*.



Crushed stone now fills the space within our labyrinth. The stones marking the pathway through the labyrinth will soon be replaced.



A tranquil place of rest, meditation and repose, the Urban Garden holds the interred ashes of many beloved members of our Grace family.

## **Grace Ministries in Action**

#### MINISTRY LEADERS

ADULT FORMATION: Greg Townsend, gwtownsend@outlook.com ALTAR GUILD: Interim: Shannon Townsend, gstownsend@att.net. Buildings and Grounds: Jim Compton, j.t.compton@gmail.com CHILD FORMATION: Mark Silvers, mhswjak@hotmail.com CHOIRS: Rusty McCredie, rebscape@att.net Communications: Eric Howell, howell.eric.r@gmail.com **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, jerobertson38@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 Townsend, gstownend@att.net STEWARDSHIP: Greg Townsend, gwtownsend@outlook.com Taizé: James Cannon, imjcannon@frontier.com WEDDING MINISTRY: Elaine Potter, elaine@graylineasheville.com; Cheri Potter, Cheripotter82@gmail.com Worship: The Rev. Milly Morrow, rev.milly4grace@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.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.** It's time to say thank you to all who continue to care for our facility and grounds even when we are not present. Chris Jacquette, thank you for refurbishing and repainting our iconic red front doors. Pat Walters and crew, thank you for all the work you did to help Rev. Milly get moved in to her office. Also, thank you to Pat for getting the outside door to the organ room reconstructed. Don Hawkins and a variety of helpers have been working tirelessly in the Urban Garden, refreshing our labyrinth and the garden area where the ashes of our saints of Grace are interred. Check out a few photos on page 5, and look for more on this project in the next issue of the *TEAM*.

Our thanks to each of you, named and unnamed, for your hard work.

**FELLOWSHIP.** If you haven't zoomed in for "Virtual Coffee Hour" yet, you've been missed! It happens every Sunday following the live-streamed worship service at 10:30 a.m., and all you need to do is click the "Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Zoom" link on the Grace homepage, graceavl.com, and follow the prompts to join a Zoom gathering of the Grace family.

FLOWER MINISTRY. We continue to seek a volunteer to schedule our monthly flower donors. Although we are not worshiping in person at this time, our livestreamed services from the sanctuary are made more meaningful by the beautiful flower arrangements that this ministry continues to provide through the generosity of parishioners. The flower donor scheduler is responsible for making sure a donation is received for each Sunday of the month and that information about those donors is submitted to the church office to be included in church publications. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Marzy Israel, tobearranged@bellsouth.net, or the church office.

**HEALING MINISTRY.** We are not alone. God hears our prayers. If you or someone you love needs prayer, especially now in such unsettling times, you can reach out to a Grace prayer minister. Just go to our website, graceavl.com and click the "Personal Prayer" link at the top of the page to link with all the many ways we at Grace can connect with prayer. Contact someone from the list of **Healing Prayer Ministers**. They'll be glad to assist. Also available, the Parish Prayer List, the Parish Immediate Prayer Circle and the Order of St. Luke Intercessory Prayer Team. You may also connect with the Centering Prayer group that is meeting regularly on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**OUTREACH.** August Match-a-Month. More good news, Grace! With your July and August donations and our Outreach match, we were able to spend approximately \$700 on school supplies for area foster children, which will meet their needs for now! Additional BTS funds will be held in reserve for needs later in the school year. Thank you to everyone who supported this fund drive.

MANNA Food Bank is straining to meet the food needs for 100,000 people each month. Now, as schools are starting back up and families are struggling to find their footing in this new normal, MANNA is facing a serious shortage of volunteer support. If you're able to volunteer, please sign up for a shift on MANNA's website. Shifts are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. All precautions are being taken to guard the safety of all MANNA volunteers and staff.

## **Grace Ministries in Action**

(continued)

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!** All summer long, we have been in close contact with our pumpkin suppliers and members of Consider Haiti. Having a safe and successful Pumpkin Patch in the middle of a pandemic has been of utmost

concern for all of us.

We want you to know that the growers are following strict guidelines for handling their crop. Consider Haiti volunteers are working on ways to safely unload the truck (think **front-end loader!**). And we're working on a notouch, electronic method of payment that will protect both our pumpkin buyers and our volunteer sellers. The decision to have the Pumpkin Patch this year, with precautions, is supported by the Bishop's office.

We will need the physical help of those who feel they can for unloading and selling. We also encourage your financial support, even if you aren't able to attend in person. This is Consider Haiti's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds provide vital assistance to a vulnerable population in Haiti through

medical clinics, community health agents, clean water programs and sustainable nutrition programs.

Pumpkin Unloading
Sunday, September 27,
12:30 p.m.
Needed: family units who
have been quarantining together to work as unloading
teams. Also needed:
wagons & wheelbarrows!

(details to follow)

**SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY.** 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 Mother Milly — please contact Shannon Townsend, gstownsend@att.net or 828-713-5081.

SHEPHERDS

PASTORAL CARE REACHES OUT TO PARISHIONERS. In this time of social distancing and people staying home to avoid possible infection, we would like to remind you that we have a "Cards and Calls" ministry that can help those who are in need of a friendly call or a chance to talk with someone. If you know of anyone who would be cheered by such a call, please email the Pastoral Care Ministry leader Cliff Albertson, Clifford.albertson@verizon.net. He or one of the ministry volunteers will be happy to give that person a call.

## Ministry Opportunities



TREASURER POSITION OPENING. Your skills with numbers can be put to good use at Grace Church! Joe Aull, our treasurer, is stepping down after many years of excellent service, and the important ministry he vacates will need to be filled. If you have an interest in being the next treasurer at Grace Church, please contact Joe, jaull@charter.net, for a job description and details.

# MULTI-GENERATIONAL STREAMING TECHNICIAN OPPORTUNITIES. A critical

need now exists for "streaming technicians" to operate the cameras for our church-based services. Grace is blessed with a state-of-the-art audio video streaming system that is more vital now than anyone imagined it would be. It is a technology that has become our "new normal" and the sole way many folks are able to experience church in these social distancing times. Please prayerfully consider making an appointment to get a first-hand look into what makes the Sunday "live" service happen and possibly discover if you are called to this special ministry. And please note, this is a multi-generational ministry! This is a natural for young people with gaming skills. Youth and adults alike, please contact James Cannon or the church office to explore this exciting new ministry opportunity.

**LEAD DEPOSITOR NEEDED.** Anne Simmons, you have been such a gift to Grace Church! You will be greatly missed as you step aside from this important position in the church, not only by your team of weekly depositors, but by the entire Grace family. We now seek a responsible, organized, math-oriented person to take Anne's place. If you have these skills to contribute to Grace, please let Valerie know.

#### SEEKING A FLOWER DONOR SCHEDULER. This

special volunteer requests and schedules monthly flower donations, making making sure our flower arrangers have the resources they need to do their beautiful work . Thank you,

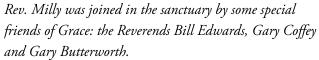


Mary Jane Westall for serving so faithfully for so many years. Please contact Valerie for details.

Rev. Milly's First Sunday at Grace!

On Sunday, August 9, the Rev. Milly Morrow was welcomed into the Grace Church family. We thought you would enjoy a few photos of the "virtual" celebration of our new rector's first Sunday. Thank you to all who contributed to the special day.











## Our Prayer List

<u>September</u>

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.

<u>For Parishioners</u>: Chris Carson (son of Martha & Randy); Nancy Clark; Cheryl Deyton; Cuyler Dupree; Eva Dupree; Dorothy Engel; Eunice Ferguson; Doug Haldane; Marzy Israel; Marion Mayfield-Johnson; Shari Lane; Don and Ann Lewis; Nancy Porter; Sonny Rawls; Jeanne & Ray Robertson; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Corinne Spencer; Rita Spragg; Sydnor and Kelly Thompson; Mickey Trinite; Judy Warner; Katie Warren; Don Wills; Pat; Chrissy.

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: Henny Caldwell; Bobbie Eblen; Ed Denison, Straudia Luedtke; Rita Lyda; 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): Jacob Blake; Carolyn Brown (friend of Ray & Jeanne Robertson); Deane Brown (brother of Barbara Wilcox); 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); Suzanne LaCour (friend of Becky and Bill Smith); Jennifer Martin (friend of Diane Wilkey); Bob Noble (brother of Walt Noble); Janice Orson (friend of Rusty Herman); Joanne Poston (sister-in-law of Corinne Spencer); John Schnedl (nephew of Walt & Joyce Noble); Alice Smith (friend of Don Wills); Sherry Tenney (sister-in-law of Barbara Wilcox); Danny & Leslie Wagner (friends of Lorie Tola); Allison Waigand (daughter of Jennifer Witt); David Wills and his EMT colleagues (nephew of Don Wills); Lee Zak (president of Eva Dupree's alma mater Agnes Scott College); Charlotte (daughter of Pam Stein); Patricia (friend of Kathleen Griffin).

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; Charlotte (daughter of Pam Stein); 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.

For Protection from COVID-19: Protect all who have been or are being affected by this virus spreading around the world. Be with those who are sick and those who are caring for them. Be with those who have died. Be with those people who we often have ignored in the past, who are now proving to be our heroes: grocery store workers, baggers, cashiers, those who stock the shelves; pharmacy workers and pharmacists, truck drivers who ensure the goods and supplies we need are delivered. Be with our Healthcare workers, nurses, doctors, those who cook, clean and do the laundry. Be with the scientists and researchers who are working on a cure so that this virus may be eradicated.

This is one of many prayer lists. Please go to <u>www.graceavl.com/spiritual-growth/prayer-ministries/</u> for more opportunities to request prayer. Also get permission from anyone you would like to add to this list and contact Kathleen Griffin at 337-8241 or <u>ekcgriffin7@gmail.com</u> or the church office.

## September Anniversaries

		_
Al and Julia Anne Dawson	2	
Patrick and Nancy Walters	2	
John and Beth Woodson	7	
Larry and Lucy Bowen	13	
Brett and Suzy Young	15	
Monty Wooten and Cheryl Deyton	20	
Robert and Bonnie Kistler	21	
Eric and Karen Howell	25	

# September Birthdays

$\simeq$	Optombo. B		44
1	Pat Anderson	16	Emeline Scales
1	John Cort	17	Angie Cullen
2	Oscar Starnes	17	Patricia Hargrove
3	Hannah Evelyn Booth	17	Carole McClellan
3	Michael Racine	20	The Rev. Bob Reese
3	Zane Whitner	20	Beckett Southwell
3	Beth Woodson	21	Pat Davis
4	Julia Anne Dawson	23	Glenn Haller
4	Naomi Green	23	Alice McKenzie
4	Judith Hoy	24	Bailey Frue
5	Justin Butterworth	24	Cameron Frue
5	Garrett Greene	25	Peggie Carey
5	Marla Woeckener	25	Maya Bell
7	Lynda McCredie	26	Annika Brock
12	2 Devin Engelbrecht	26	Elaine Potter
12	2 James Engelbrecht	26	Valerie Rains
14	The Rev. Alex Comfort	26	Rita Spragg
14	í Charlie Scales	30	Holden Israel
14	í Mark Silvers	30	Don Martin

## A Baptism in the Garden!



Join in celebrating our first outdoor baptism, Saturday, **September 19 at 3:00 p.m.** It will be a private service in the garden with family only, but it

will be live-streamed on Facebook, allowing all of us to join in and proclaim our support for this new member of the Body of Christ.

## **Special Gifts**

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Teresa Cantrell in loving memory of her husband Cecil Cantrell.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

- Marion-Mayfield Johnson in loving memory of her husband Edward (Mack) Johnson;
- Bill Coward in loving memory of his wife Sherry;
- Larry and Lucy Bowen in celebration of their marriage;
- Mary Israel in loving memory of her father, William F. Krause;
- Rusty Herman in loving memory of Ann Atkins Herman;
- Mary Ann and Bill Warren in loving memory of Lucretia Rhodarmer Warren;
- Cheryl and Joe Aull in thanksgiving for their many blessings;
- Valerie Heavens in loving memory of her father John H. Litun.



# **Creativity at Grace**

What are you doing these days? 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. If you have creations you would like to share in future issues of the "TEAM," please send them to grace.church.asheville@gmail.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.

So far, we've enjoyed poetry, painting, photography and video from parishioners and friends. So don't be shy. Let's keep the creative juices flowing and the artistic contributions coming in!



Vestry Approves Budget at June Meeting

After seven months of 2020, we have received pledged income of \$206,033; and income from all sources totaled \$272,969. Mission, Operational, Program, and Personnel expenses at the end of June 2020 totaled \$211,305 and were \$15,130 less than those forecast in the budget approved by the vestry in their June meeting.

The approved budget includes a small deficit, \$4758.25, but thus far in the year we are experiencing a surplus. The surplus is largely attributable to the receipt of our Paycheck Protection Program loan of \$34,900 and several one-time gifts received early in the year coupled with savings resulting from our limited operations.

The current health crisis has not yet affected our financial situation adversely. Parishioners have been generous through July and our expenses have been restricted with our confinement. We prayerfully hope that this positive trend will continue as we all adapt to a new normal.

	Statement of Activities - Grace Church Year to Date - July 2020					
		Actual	Budget	Variance		
Incor	ne:					
	Pledges	206,033	172,219	33,814		
	Open Offering	12,897	12,061	836		
	Interest	51	44	7		
	Misc.	53,988	39,254	14,734		
	Total Income:	272,968	223,578	49,390		
Expe	nses:					
	Outreach/Mission	18,667	24,821	(6,154)		
	Parish Programs	9,091	8,650	441		
	Operations	42,784	49,869	(7,084)		
	Personnel	140,763	143,096	(2,333)		
	Total Expenses:	211,305	226,435	(15,130)		
Incor	ne Less Expenses:	61,663	(2,857)	64,520		
	* some rounding variances					

## **Guidance for Grace**

WORSHIP, GATHERING, BEING THE GRACE FAMILY THIS SUMMER. The Grace Regathering Task Force has presented us with guidelines for worship, gathering and uses of the church facility over the summer months. COVID-19 has made us all more mindful of the risks of gathering, especially in the confined space of a church where 83% of the parish is over 55 years of age and 60% is over 65. The health and safety of this age group remain a top priority as we continue seeking ways to meet the needs of our entire church family. Here are a few key guideline highlights:

- Sunday worship, Compline and Monday Morning Bible Study will continue online as scheduled.
- All persons, including children, must wear a mask, maintain social distancing inside and outside and sanitize their hands upon entry into the building.
- Those with COVID-19 symptoms should stay home.
- Although clergy and staff will continue to primarily work from home, all are available by email.

Exercising restraint in re-gathering is how we best love one another at this moment in history. Your patience and understanding are a blessing.