



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

January 2021

A Message from Rev. Milly

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 live-streaming, see page 3.



*Perfect Light of revelation,
as you shone in the life of Jesus,
whose epiphany we celebrate,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy. Amen*

Dear Good People of Grace,

Blessed Epiphany to you all and Happy New Year! As we begin a new year, it is traditional that we make resolutions or set intentions for changes we wish to make in our lives or in our living. The new year can invite us into a process of evaluation and contemplation. Perhaps we look back and take stock of how our living has impacted those we love most. Perhaps we evaluate our spiritual practices and look forward to deepening those practices or trying new ways to ground our spiritual lives. Whatever we discover, it seems that new beginnings generate a deep desire to become our best selves and live our best lives. Setting intentions and having goals that come out of deep discernment is a way we honor God for granting us this precious life. In this process we are not seeking perfection, but the Perfect Light of Revelation.

This is also the gift of our season of Epiphany. “Epiphany” is Greek for “Manifestation.” In this season, we celebrate Jesus’s epiphany that he was indeed God incarnate. In this season of Epiphany, we look at Jesus’s identity, how he saw himself and how others perceived him, and how God continually made Godself Manifest through Jesus.

Epiphany is also a time for us to seek the Perfect Light of Revelation... yes, about who Jesus is, but also about who we are. Epiphany is a time for us to see how the love of Christ is being manifested in our living and to become, as the prayer above states, “beacons of truth and compassion,

enlightening all creation with acts of justice and mercy”.

During this season of Epiphany, we at Grace will be electing new vestry members and working toward replacing our literal roof, while also shoring up our spiritual foundation with brave leadership and intentional strategic actions. We will continue to build and equip the Pastoral Care Team and care for each other through pastoral ministries. We will be taking stock of what the needs of Grace are for Spiritual Formation, for both adults and children and youth, during this time while we are not physically together. And we will be discerning what it means to be a “True Outreach” Church—asking you, the congregation, and the Outreach Team, “Where is God calling us to invest our hearts by building relationships and sharing our resources so that we can indeed create opportunity for justice and mercy?”. In all of this intentional action, we are seeking the Perfect Light of Revelation asking who God is calling us to be, in this time and season.

Let this be our prayer as we move forward into a new year and into a new season: God of all Epiphanies, shine in us and through us. We have a great light here at Grace and the world needs all of us to shine brightly. Let us seek together, discern deeply and then continue to reveal boldly to this world how the love of God is being made Manifest within our living and in our lives here at Grace Episcopal Church.

Blessed Epiphany and Peace,

Rev. Milly

Events at a Glance

A Quick Review of the Month



THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GRACE CHURCH is Sunday, January 10, beginning with the 10:30 a.m. live-streamed Holy Eucharist service. At 11:45 a.m., our worship will be followed by a Zoom meeting during which time we will hear reports, thank Vestry members who have served faithfully over the past three years and elect incoming Vestry members.

Although 2020 was a year unlike anything our church family has ever experienced, it was also a year of creativity, innovation and determination in the face of unimagined limitations. So let's gather on January 10 to celebrate and give thanks for all our blessings and all that we have been able to accomplish! Be watching for details on joining the meeting.


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, 12-1:00 PM	Pastoral Care Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Wednesdays, 1-3:00 PM	Personal Spiritual Direction	Church Sanctuary
Wednesdays, 5:30 PM	Centering Prayer	Zoom Meeting
Thursdays, 8:00 AM	Women Walking the Way	Beaver Lake
Thursdays, 10:30 AM	Rector & Lay Leadership Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Thursdays, 6:00 PM	EfM	Zoom Meeting
Monday, January 4, 4:30 PM	Outreach Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, January 6, 5:00 PM	YMCA Mobile Market (all welcome)	Parking Lot / Foyer
Sunday, January 10, 10:30 AM	Annual Meeting begins during worship *	YouTube Channel
Sunday, January 10, 11:45 AM	Business Meeting following worship	Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 10:00 AM	TEAM Meeting	Zoom Meeting
Monday, January 18, 5:30 PM	Vestry Meeting	Zoom Meeting
	* BULLETIN AVAILABLE	Grace Website

How to Access Online. For online or 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 the Grace homepage, graceavl.com. To join a Zoom meeting, just click the appropriate link.

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.

KEEPING US ALL CONNECTED. Much of the information we share with parishioners is done online. Our worship is streamed on YouTube. "This Week at Grace" is sent every Friday as an email. Special reminders and notices are also sent via email. But not everyone is connected to this electronic avenue of communication. Do you know members of our Grace family who don't use or have access to the internet? If so, please call the church office and let us know. This will allow us to use other forms of communication to keep these dear members of our family connected, too.

Parish News, Updates & Reminders



Wherever Our Treasure Is, There Also Is Our Heart Matthew 6:21
Discerning Our Resources
Pledging Our Best
Setting Our Hearts on the Path of God's Love

Names) _____ In thanksgiving for the grace of God and the ministries of Grace Church, I (we) make the following commitment of financial resources available to me (us) in 2021.
Address _____
E-mail _____
Phone _____
Signature _____

I (We) pledge to give a total of \$ _____ in 2021.
I (We) intend to make this gift on a (check one box) basis:
 Weekly Monthly
 Quarterly Annually (anticipated gift date _____)

This is not a contract, but a statement of my intentions. It can be adjusted at any time by calling the church.

HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR 2021 PLEDGE YET?

You still have time to pledge! If you haven't done so yet, please make your 2021 pledge by contacting the church for a pledge card or pledge online at <https://tinyurl.com/GracePledge>. Our Vestry is creating the 2021 budget based upon the pledges that have come in. Thank you so much to all who have pledged already.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PLEDGE ENVELOPES. Beginning in 2021, we are phasing out our use of pledge envelopes. We will provide envelopes in 2021 for those who request them, but the envelope numbers will not be used for tracking giving. We will, instead, use the name provided on the check.

Please notify Valerie if you wish to receive pledge envelopes for 2021 and they will be provided.

WELCOME BACK, ORDER OF ST. LUKE! The OSL Mountain Chapter will meet via Zoom on Thursday, January 14. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end no later than 8:30 p.m. There will be an opportunity to share updates and to receive prayer for concerns. We will also begin a new program series, "Fundamentals for Receiving and Praying for Healing." We welcome your participation; one does not have to be an OSL member. If you would like to participate and are not on the Mountain Chapter email list, please send an email to mtn_osl@yahoo.com. We will send you a link for the Zoom meeting.

HAPPY NEWS FROM EVA ANDRES. Before their move to Knoxville, many of us knew Eva Andres. She cooked for the Tuesday morning Men's study group (known there as Chef Eva), helped out on grounds projects and assisted in the nursery. Now, we are delighted to share some happy news! Eva and Jason Harp are the proud parents of a brand new baby girl, Saoirse. They wanted everyone to know we are welcome to stop by any time for a visit. Congratulations, Eva, Jason and Saoirse!

TABERNACLE MINISTRY ROLL-OUT. In last month's *TEAM*, Rev. Milly shared plans for the creation of a Tabernacle Ministry. Great news! Our tabernacle groups are in place and if you haven't received one already, you can be expecting a call from the "guide" in your group in the next few days.

Tabernacles, made up of 7-10 people each, will provide all who wish to participate a weekly opportunity to gather by Zoom to create relationships, meet needs and stay connected with other members of the Grace family. Those who do not have access to Zoom or the internet may request a weekly call. You'll be contacted soon. Please take part.



PRAYING TOGETHER. Weekly on Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Rev. Milly will be holding open spiritual direction sessions in the Grace sanctuary for individuals or couples. 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.Milly4Grace@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.

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,
mhswwjak@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, ckauill@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 Comp-
ton, 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,
cliff.albertson@verizon.net

PUBSING: Monty Wooten,
montywooten@bellsouth.net

SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY: Lorie Tola,
lorie.tola@gmail.com

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.



ALTAR GUILD AND FLOWER GUILD. Thank you, members of the Altar Guild and Flower Guild! Our church was just beautiful this Christmas! Your ingenuity and artistry were a blessing to all who worshiped Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



CHOIRS. Thank you, too, to Jim Cassarino, Cathy Adkins, musicians and members of the choir! Your music filled our sanctuary and our hearts.



OUTREACH. The 2020 Angel Tree project was an undertaking like never before. With a daunting list of seventy local foster children in need of Christmas gifts in the middle of a pandemic, it would have been so easy to say "Let's just cancel for this year and hope we'll be back to normal next year." But thanks to so many people of Grace, canceling just wasn't an option. Who knew what could be safely accomplished with online shopping, gift cards and curbside pick-up? To those of you who sponsored Angels and shopped for them; to those who donated so generously, allowing others to shop on your behalf; to the incredible Outreach shoppers, themselves; and especially to Cheryl Deyton and Courtney Booth, the Angel Tree coordinators—thank you so very much. Seventy happy children received gifts this Christmas!

PASTORAL CARE. The Pastoral Care Team at Grace meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at noon. Our weekly tasks are to pray for all people on our prayer list, to make regular phone calls to those on the prayer list, to visit when possible those who are homebound or in need of care, to connect through cards of celebration or sympathy, to bring the Eucharist (when safe and possible) to those who request the sacrament, to be aware of and provide for the basic needs of those among us who are struggling with transportation, food, clothing or assistance. We invite you to reach out to us with any pastoral care needs you or your family may have. We also invite any among you to join us in this work if God is calling you to extend yourself in care of your neighbor. To contact the Pastoral Care Team, please either call Rev. Milly at 828.772.1429 or email the Pastoral Care team at Pastoralcare4grace@gmail.com.



Introducing EPPN Action Alerts

If you visit [“Outreach” on the Grace Church web site](#), you’ll find an interesting statement: *“Social justice is the step we take from short-term crisis intervention to long-term solutions, from responses solely of the heart to responses of both heart and mind. The Grace Church outreach committee is working toward projects and activities that help and advocate – for safe and affordable housing; for enough food for everyone; for affordable and adequate healthcare; for sanctuary for those living in fear; and for respect and equity for all.”*

The **EPISCOPAL PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK (EPPN)** is a grassroots effort of The Episcopal Church’s Office of Government Relations (OGR) to educate, equip and engage individual Episcopalians in federal public policy advocacy from a faith-based perspective using trustworthy information.

Over the next several months, in the *TEAM* and in “This Week at Grace,” you’ll be seeing regular updates and “Action Alerts” from the EPPN—ways for Episcopalians like us to get involved and live in to our vision as the people of Grace. We hope you will find them both informative and inspirational. Below is some recent information from the OGR newsletter that might give you insight as it introduces you to the work of the EPPN:



- ◆ [Support International Relief for COVID-19](#). So far much of the discussion among negotiators has focused on domestic needs—and rightly so. However, this pandemic has reminded us it is also important for the U.S. government to work with other countries to ensure resource availability and to share technical knowledge on how to defeat this global health threat. Click [Action Alerts | Episcopal Church](#) to contact your elected officials.
- ◆ [On Federal Executions](#). In light of recent developments for federal executions, EPPN highlights the statement of the Episcopal Church on the same topic from 2019.
- ◆ [Human Rights Day](#). This past December 10th was the annual commemoration of Human Rights Day, which is our opportunity to acknowledge the work done to address human rights and commit to pursuing the work left to be done. The Episcopal Church offers two reflections, [one focused on COVID-19](#) and [one challenging all Episcopalians to recommit to this important work](#).

Be watching for more information. Or to sign up for EPPN Action Alerts that will come directly to your personal email, visit the [EPPN registration page](#).



EPISCOPAL
PUBLIC POLICY
NETWORK



ACTION ALERTS

THE GRACE FAMILY ALBUM

"The Grace Family Album" will be featuring people you've known for years and people you'll be meeting for the very first time. Here are the first of many! Enjoy getting to know your family, and if you have suggestions for future issues, please let us know.



James Cannon

JAMES CANNON has been a special member of Grace for many years. At early Sunday worship, James served at the altar as a verger, and after worship, took communion to homebound parishioners; as a member of the Outreach Committee, his caring heart has shown itself in too many ways to count. James has guided our Taizé service and established "Friday Night Lights." As a creative designer, photographer, and printer, he created the dedication labels for our new prayer books, played a pivotal role in developing our new web site, which he continues to update, and is currently the amazing streaming technician behind our Sunday services on YouTube. When his dog Macy bounds into the building, we know James is with us, too.

"...he immediately put me at ease with his smile... he was wearing a mask for sure, but his eyes were smiling." *Ali Schaefer*

"James personifies a servant leader." *Elaine Potter*



Charlotte Chiott

CHARLOTTE CHIOTT is known for much more than her famous rum cake! She is instrumental in getting out our Sunday bulletins, fills in for our church administrative assistant, helps proofread the *TEAM* and serves (so patiently) as treasurer for the flower/altar guild. Charlotte is as involved in the church as was her delightful mom, Margie Nash. Outside the church, she and her sister Cindy have been active with Meals On Wheels, and Charlotte regularly visits an old friend, George (95). Last but not least, the Chiott family is indeed blessed with a caring and dedicated Matriarch! Charlotte and Travers are parents to four amazing children and ten grandchildren.

"Charlotte lives her faith as much as anyone I know." *Marzy Israel*

"Her dedication and joyful expressions are always uplifting, a good friend, great listener, rum cake cook extraordinaire!" *Valerie Heavens*



Kim Hayes

KIM HAYES has been a member of Grace Church for almost four decades. Her earliest involvement as a "Grace Peacemaker" has evolved into an active role on the Outreach Committee that spans many years and many exciting projects. She has served on vestry, as the family service acolyte coordinator and as a member of the recent Discernment Committee, where she authored the Parish Profile. Kim also substitutes in the church office when Valerie takes time off and is the editor of *The Grace TEAM*, to which she brings her love of writing, design and photography.

"Kim's creative ability to capture the history, assets, vision, opportunities and beauty of Grace was inspiring and motivating for our Discernment Committee." *Paul Vest*

"...she is a committed and loving friend who shows up in the least expected times with just right thing to say or do." *Lorie Tola*



Lorie Tola

LORIE TOLA may not be ordained, but she is a beloved minister to Grace Church, able to find a balance between jumping in to do it all and hanging back to be a quiet supporter of others. On the Discernment Committee, Lorie served as chaplain and as a liaison with the vestry, also working tirelessly during that time to help build our new web site. She was instrumental in creating our verger ministry and is currently active with pastoral care. A friendly call from Lorie is the bright spot in the days of many members of our church family.

"When Lorie joined the church, she hit the ground running." *Elaine Potter*

"She has a servant's heart and works selflessly in our worship services and behind the scenes, reaching out to those who need pastoral support and care." *Doug McClellan*

Our Prayer List

January

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; Sally Coburn; Chip Coon; Cuyler Dupree; Dorothy Engel; Eunice Ferguson; Kathleen Griffin; Doug Haldane; Dodie King; Don and Ann Lewis; Carole McClellan; Nancy Porter; Elaine Potter; Sonny Rawls; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Rita Spragg; Sydnor Thompson; Abby, Robert and Lochlan Townsend; Mickey Trinite; Pat Walters; Katie Warren; 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; Bob Turner.

For Others (names will stay on the list for six weeks; call the office to keep names on the list for a longer time): Bruce Appeldoorn (friend of Kathleen Griffin); Becky Blaylock (friend of Kathleen Griffin); Deane Brown (brother of Barbara Wilcox); Jenna Kenner (friend of Sonny Rawls); Walt Deyton (father of Cheryl Deyton); Melinda Franks (sister of Becky Smith); Robin Fulk (niece of Charlotte & Travers Chiott); Veronica Litun (mother of Valerie Heavens); Sally Morrow (mother of Rev. Milly Morrow); Patricia (friend of Kathleen Griffin).

For Those Who Have Died and their Families: Tom Hatcher (friend of Nancy Clark).

For Those in Service to Our Country: Tommy & Danny Brown (grandsons of Ed & Marla Woeckener); 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, President-Elect Joe Biden, their Cabinets, 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.

Please go to www.graceavl.com/spiritual-growth/prayer-ministries/ for more opportunities to request prayer. Please get permission from anyone you would like to add to this list and contact the office.



*Our condolences and prayers go to the friends, family and loved ones of
Tom Hatcher (friend of Nancy Clark) and
Dee Long (cousin of Karen Compton).*

January Anniversaries

Lorie Tola and Vicky Enox	5
Robert and Maggie Green	10
Walt and Joyce Noble	14
Patricia and Keith Hargrove	20
Valerie and Joseph Heavens	22
Jeanne and Ron Sims	27
Ed and Marla Woeckener	31



January Birthdays

Rick Hayes	1	The Rev. Gary Butterworth	18
Mike Bohan	1	Bonnie Burhans	19
Jennifer Witt	1	Brady Blackburn	20
Matthew George	4	Alexander Sanderson	20
Lily Elder	5	Gavin Knapp	22
Annie Dephouse	5	Judy Bohan	23
Wade Edwards	5	Cade Wooten	23
Buddy Greenwood	10	Pete Kuehne	23
Kate Wrenn	10	Wayne Parton	23
Moira Stewart	10	Cheryl Deyton	25
Lindsay Kate Robinette	10	James Hopkins	26
Greg Plank	11	Kim Hayes	27
Win Webster	12	Emma Hall	27
Tsz-yan Snyder	13	Laura Ellington	27
Arlo Elder	13	The Rev. Jim Rains	28
Doug McClellan	14	Kathleen Griffin	29
Jennifer Thomas	15	Susan Robinson	29
Blakely Marla Whitner	15	Don Lewis	29
Angel Stoudt	16	Jim Siemens	31
Eric Wood	18	Billy Gray	31

Special Gifts

The Aumbry candle is given to the Glory of God by Georgi Bruce and David and Sally Withers in memory of Mary and George Royer and Stella and William Bruce.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

- ◆ Paul Melson in loving memory of his mother Charlotte Melson;
- ◆ Randy and Martha Carson in honor of their parents;
- ◆ the Herman Family in memory of Oz and Jo Herman;
- ◆ by Cheryl Deyton and Monty Wooten in honor of Cheryl's and Cade's birthdays;
- ◆ by Don Wills, in memory of Nancy and Cal Remmers, Samuel L Byrn III, the Clarks and the Wills' and my boys and in honor of Bradlee.



We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Nonbelievers,
 Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.
 Peace. We look at our world and speak the
 word aloud.

Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves,
 And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation:

Peace, My Brother.

Peace, My Sister.

Peace, My Soul.

From *Amazing Peace*,
A Christmas Poem by
 Maya Angelou.

Wishing you God's
 peace in this new year.



Forgiveness of PPP Loan Provides Cushion

After eleven months of 2020, we have received pledged income of \$308,500, and income from all sources totaled \$379,254. Mission, Operational, Program, and Personnel expenses at the end of November 2020 totaled \$330,532 and were \$25,285 less than those forecast in the budget approved by the vestry in June.

The approved budget includes a small deficit, \$4898, 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. Forgiveness of the PPP loan was approved by the Small Business Administration and subsequently by First Citizens Bank in late November, and we will not be required to reimburse any part of it, providing a substantial cushion for the remainder of the year.

The current health and economic crises have not affected our financial situation adversely. Parishioners have been generous through November and our expenses have been restricted with our confinement. We prayerfully hope that this positive trend will continue as we all adapt.

Statement of Activities - Grace Church				
Year to Date - November 2020				
		Actual	Budget	Variance
Income:				
	Pledges	308,500	270,630	37,870
	Open Offering	14,156	18,953	(4,797)
	Interest	79	69	9
	Misc.	56,519	61,685	(5,165)
	Total Income:	379,254	351,337	27,917
Expenses:				
	Outreach/Mission	35,254	39,004	(3,750)
	Parish Programs	9,547	13,593	(4,046)
	Operations	67,097	78,365	(11,268)
	Personnel	218,644	224,865	(6,221)
	Total Expenses:	330,542	355,827	(25,285)
Income Less Expenses:		48,712	(4,490)	53,202
* some variances due to rounding				

Preparing for the Next Generation

Doug McClellan

We are blessed at Grace to worship in an historic church that is the “beacon on the hill” in north Asheville. If we want Grace to continue offering God’s light and blessings to all, we must now make repairs and upgrades to our building, including the roof and the interior of the parish hall.

The challenges associated with the roof on our historic church building are several, including:

- ◆ the metal flashings along the perimeters of the roof where the roof meets the stone surfaces must be replaced and carefully sealed to prevent water from penetrating to the wood roof deck or to the inside surface of the rock walls;
- ◆ the exposed tops of the gable walls will need to be sealed to prevent water from working its way down into the walls; rather than capping these walls with metal, which is typically done, a new waterproof membrane will be installed underneath the capstones in order to maintain the historic look of the exposed capstones;
- ◆ the plywood surface underneath the shingles is buckling, creating a ripple-effect across the entire surface of the church roof; this is most likely due to improper installation when it was last re-roofed; and
- ◆ the shingles on all the buildings will be replaced with higher-quality shingles having a life expectancy of 45 to 50 years as opposed to the 25-year material currently in place.

We also need to upgrade our parish hall interior with fresh paint, new light fixtures and new window treatments. Replacing some or all of the tables and chairs with lighter-weight options to make set-up and take-down easier is also being considered. Drawings and specifications for the roofing project are now completed and the project is being advertised for bidding. Plans for the parish hall upgrades are still in process.

Some funding is already available from a grant from a parishioner, the Endowment and the Capital Reserve Fund. We also anticipate that we will need a funding campaign in 2021.

As we kick off this Capital Campaign, we will be sharing information and plans via Zoom, our e-newsletters and Sunday service bulletins. Please consider making your contribution this month before year end. It will give you a welcomed tax deduction for this year and also help the Vestry get a head start in finalizing the funding and getting our church home ready for the next generation. You may donate online or simply send your check to the church office. Also, please use “Roof Campaign” for your donation, so that you can claim your tax deduction.