



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

Fall 2022

Grace Episcopal Church

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www.facebook.com/graceasheville

or www.facebook.com/grace.church.718689/

The Grace TEAM
is published quarterly.

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Rite II

In-person and
virtual on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/graceUTvideos>

Gospel Bible Study
Mondays, 10:30 a.m., Zoom

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

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

On-Line Access. Go to www.graceavl.com and look for links near the top of the page to most of our online services and bulletins and access to parish-wide Zoom meetings. For some Zoom meetings, reference the email invitation you may have received from the meeting Host.

Welcome back, Grace Family!

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over! I hope that each of you were able to find deep rest, new adventure and abundant joy this summer season. I say welcome back, but truly I found abundant joy in seeing most of you throughout this season at church. We had a blessed few months together enjoying the PubSing Band, some guest preachers, a few fun conversation sermons, playground committee adventures, solar panel planning, and meeting so many new friends and new families!

I enjoyed my summer as well. Even though I did not get away for a long summer trip, I really found joy in tending to home, reading good books, taking care of neighborhood children, a few weekend getaways, so much good live music and spending time with friends, including a trip to see Naomi, and some long time friends from back in my social work days coming to spend the weekend in Asheville. I was truly blessed to find rest and comfort in all of these ordinary pleasures.

Continued on page 3

Reflections from Fr. Mike

Dear Grace Family,

On August 15th, I celebrated my one year anniversary as the new Associate Rector at Grace. The milestone has given me an opportunity to reflect on my time with you all thus far, and goals for our future together.

While I've been struck by myriad memories and learnings, I keep being brought back to one axiom that was often repeated during seminary. In the midst of an education that was far often theoretical rather than practical, this one statement was repeated enough times for me to remember it several years later. The advice went like this—don't change anything in your first year at a new church. These words are meant to act as a regulator for the intrepid priest who dives head first into a new job, full of ideas, and perhaps full of an unchecked sense of ego. It's not terrible advice; it's wise to observe, to sit, to listen, and to discern before enacting (or suggesting) changes. The problem is that it's not really possible in practice. Our

lives and our institutions are constantly in some state of flux. And frankly, they should be.

This year has been full of changes and "firsts" for me. I have officiated my first church wedding, my first funeral, assisted in baptisms and confirmations, and preached the first Christmas Eve and Easter services of my still green career. We've led and facilitated groups and committees together, held countless forums, and laughed and shared wisdom in Bible studies. And in the course of each of these things, I've changed. I hope that you've changed, too. I pray that our church has changed. I have felt the love and grace you have all shown me in my first year of ministry here. You have shepherded me through many firsts, with kind and patient hearts. For that I offer you my deepest thanks. Here's to many more firsts, and many more changes in our ministry together.

Thank you,
Fr. Mike

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The Pumpkins are Coming!

It's that time again! What makes the iconic Grace Pumpkin Patch so important to so many?

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Are You Ready to Vote Faithfully?

Learn more about the Poor People's March on Washington and how it intersects with upcoming elections.

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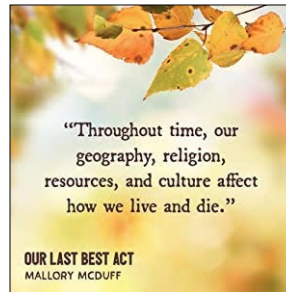
Death & Dying Conference at Grace

A topic many wish to avoid, this conference holds space for both the difficulty and the liberation of entering the conversation.

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Pig Pickin' Time!

Hungry for great fellowship, foot-stompin' music and dee-lish pork barbeque with all the fixin's? This is where you belong!



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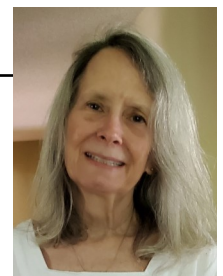
From the TEAM Editor

FORTY YEARS AGO, AS A BRAND-NEW MEMBER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, I discovered the *Grace TEAM*. What an incredible resource! Not only was I new to Grace; I was new to the Episcopal Church. The *TEAM* connected me. I found out what was happening. It introduced me to ministries and invited me to get involved (Did you know that TEAM is an acronym for **T**o **E**ach **a** **M**inistry?). It addressed my questions or suggested who I needed to contact for answers. The *Grace TEAM* was like an open door welcoming me into my new church family.

Forty years later, I now have the privilege of being its editor, and in that role, let me take a little space to tell you about what I would call an "old-new" vision for its continued publication. Old because the *TEAM* will still inform and connect and welcome. New because of several things:

1. The *TEAM* will be published quarterly instead of monthly, more like a magazine than a newsletter.
2. Content will be more story-related. In other words, while specifics like calendars and other more data-driven detail will be showing up by email in "This Week at Grace" and in the Sunday bulletin announcements, the *TEAM* will focus more on the histories, the people and the reasons behind what's happening at Grace.
3. And best of all, it is my hope that through this process, we'll have opportunities for the Holy Spirit to speak *through* us as we tell our stories and *to* us as we hear those stories from others.

The *Grace TEAM* has evolved over the decades. Even before I got here, it was an important source of information. It still is. I'm excited to see what happens next. I hope you are, too. Keep reading!



Kim Hayes

Message from Rev. Milly

(continued from cover page)

And now, we begin to look to the end of Ordinary Time and towards The Pumpkin Patch, All Saints Feast (including our Death and Dying Conference), new formation offerings, Grace Outreach Grants celebration, the installation of the solar panels and our new playground, and the seasons of Advent and Christmas! We are truly so incredibly blessed at Grace to be for each other and for our neighbors and all in worship of God!

So, as we celebrate being back together with the blessing of backpacks and gearing up for another year in school and church, let us give thanks for all we have, all we do, and who we are as this fun, energizing, inspiring Body of Christ called Grace!

Let's do this!

Peace,

Rev. Milly Morrow

My summer in a nutshell



From Our Senior Warden

CALLING ALL POTENTIAL VESTRY PEOPLE! It's getting close to that time of year where we need to elect a new slate of Vestry Members to replace the incredible ones who are rotating off. So, for those of you who aren't sure what I'm talking about, here's some helpful info:

What is a Vestry? According to Google, a Vestry is "A room or building attached to a church, used as an office and for changing into vestments." So are we losing three rooms, you ask?!! No, that's silly, because another definition is "A meeting of parishioners, for the conduct of parochial business." Whew! That makes more sense (not really). OUR Vestry is made up of 12 church members whose primary role is to "protect the stated vision of the parish" (and then we unofficially added "and try to have a lot of fun while doing it"). If you are on the Vestry, you serve a three year term. We meet once a month (usually the 3rd Monday of the month), and the meeting lasts no more than 1.5 hours. The meetings consist of making the yearly budget and making sure we stick to it as closely as possible; addressing any church issues that arise between meetings; continually thinking of ways to grow the church and make it as welcoming as possible; picking on Scott, our Junior Warden; and lots of other fun stuff like that. While on Vestry you are encouraged to be a liaison to a Committee of your choice, to make announcements on Sundays, and be a recognizable figure around the church.

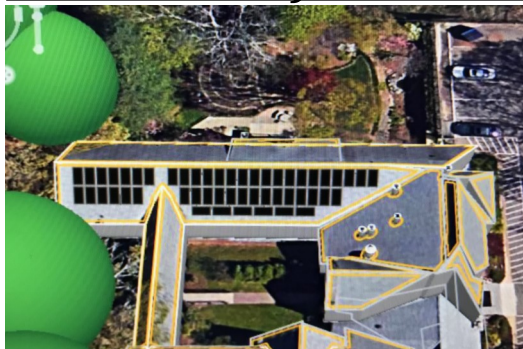
We will be looking for four new people to elect at our annual meeting on Sunday, December 11.

If this is something you think you'd like to be a part of, please give it some prayerful consideration and then let Reverend Milly know.



*Elaine Potter
Who said being the Senior
Warden was all work and
no play?*

From Our Junior Warden



Proposed solar panel placement

ACTIONS THAT SPEAK. This time of year is always refreshing as summer travel wraps up, school begins, and the days start to cool down. The summer months at Grace were filled with activity, growth, worship, work, and new members, and that momentum is certainly moving with us into the fall. The excitement for and financial support of the 2022 Solar Installation Project has been encouraging as we take steps to prepare the physical structures of the church for the future. There

is something really beautiful and inspiring about the overlapping timelines for the installation of solar panels and the installation of the new playground. Our actions speak louder than our words and I'm grateful for the care we are exercising now for the future generations of Grace.

With that, I would like to extend a huge thanks to The Playground Committee for all of their work to ensure the new playground design will be the best it can be. They have recently reviewed the plans and approved the proposal.

Grace Needs You! I would like to extend my gratitude for each one of you who have so willingly offered your skills, experience, and time to manage a project or join in to work around the church. I'm excited to announce the formation of a Building and Grounds Committee. This committee will be in addition to The Garden Guild and will work to support the Junior Warden's ongoing list of repairs and project coordination.



Scott McKenzie



Our Playground Committee at work!

You Know, the Church that Does the Pumpkins

THE PUMPKIN PATCH TRADITION. How do you direct people to Grace Church? Red doors? Stone church on the hill? Or maybe you say, “You know, it’s the church that does the Pumpkin Patch,” and you see the light come on. People know exactly what you’re talking about. The Grace Pumpkin Patch is a community tradition. Some of our members and neighbors have literally grown up with this annual fundraiser for Consider Haiti.

This year, beginning when **the big truck rolls in on Sunday afternoon, September 25**, and continuing through the month of October, the Pumpkin Patch tradition comes alive once again! Volunteers gather to unload the pumpkins—and yes, come prepared for some sweaty, dusty, heavy lifting—but with enough able-bodied helpers and plenty of wagons and wheelbarrows, the job goes fast. We unofficially broke the Grace unloading record last year, and the plan is to do it again this time.

Next, with a front yard full of pumpkins and gourds of every size, color and shape, it’s time to sell some pumpkins! Shoppers will actually start showing up while you’re still unloading! And they keep coming. You meet some of the most interesting people. Lots of children with their parents and grandparents. People who want to know more about Grace and Consider Haiti. People who have bought their pumpkins at Grace for years and those who stop by for the first time. Tons of people with cameras. If you’re “tending the Patch,” you meet them all. To sign up for your shift(s), [click here](#) or find the link and QR code on the next page.

And of course, there’s an important reason for all this pumpkin business. Every penny we net (last year it was a whopping \$13,683) goes to Consider Haiti and the work they do providing medicine and supplemental food, medical attention as needed, clean water filters, and of course, goats for sustainable nutrition to children and their families in Montrouis, Fond Baptist, and Ivoire, Haiti.

FROM CONSIDER HAITI!

Many thanks again to the Grace Episcopal community for hosting the Pumpkin Patch. As most of you know, the Patch is our single biggest fundraiser of the year and all proceeds go to our programs in Haiti. Again – thank you for your continued support! We know we are making a difference in the lives of children and families in Montrouis, Fond Baptist, and Ivoire, Haiti.

Please Consider Haiti and consider volunteering a small amount of your time.

Shearon Roberts,
From the Board



About Our Pumpkins



FROM FARM TO TRUCK TO CHURCH!

Have you ever wondered where all those pumpkins come from?

- The pumpkins (43,000 pounds of them last year!) are grown, harvested and shipped by a family-owned, 75-year

-old organization called “Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers.” Originally, they were grown right here in North Carolina, but after suffering damages during Hurricane Hugo, the farming operation was relocated to the Navajo Indian Reservation in Farmington, New Mexico. In cooperation with the Navajo Nation, the organization grows 1,200 acres or approximately 2 square miles of pumpkins and employs over 700 Native American workers during the harvest months of September and October. They also have a full-time off-season New Mexico staff comprised entirely of Native Americans. Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers offices are still located in Greensboro, North Carolina.

- **There is no financial risk to Grace Church and Consider Haiti.** A profit is guaranteed! The pumpkins come to us on consignment, no upfront costs, no product to pay for. We are not responsible for any unsold pumpkins. Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers absorbs any loss due to spoilage, breakage or theft and in return, they receive a percentage of what we sell. As they put it: “It’s a wonderful partnership of trust!”
- Pumpkin pricing is pre-set by Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers. The more pumpkins we sell, the bigger our percentage of sales becomes. Last year, we sold a total of \$34,207.83 worth of pumpkins. Consider Haiti netted 40% of that amount—a record-setting \$13,683.13 !
- **Grace Church receives no part of the proceeds from the Pumpkin Patch.** The entire amount supports the work being done by Consider Haiti, a local organization that Grace has proudly partnered with for approximately fifteen years. The Pumpkin Patch is Consider Haiti’s biggest fundraiser of the year.
- Learn more about Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers at <https://www.pumpkinsusa.com/>
- Learn more about Consider Haiti at <https://www.considerhaiti.org/>

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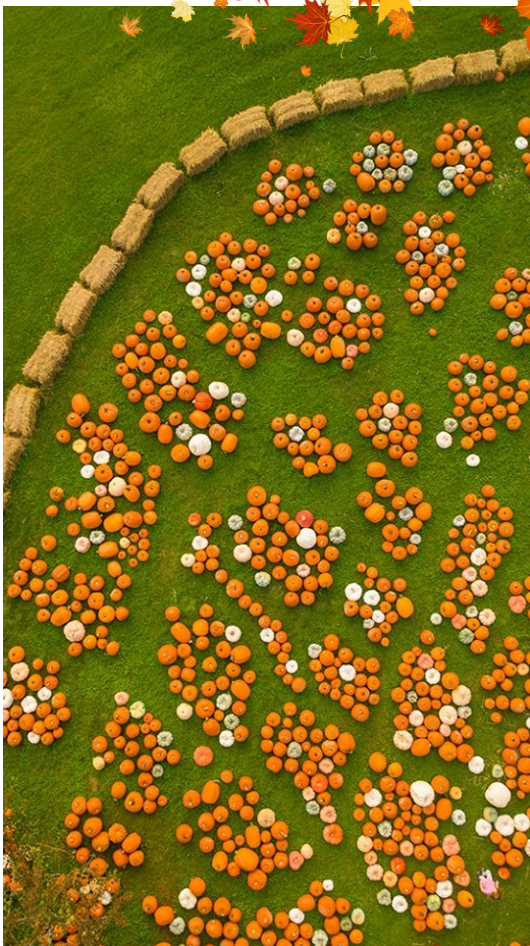
Patch Volunteers Needed

NOW THAT YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PUMPKIN PATCH, you're probably wondering what you can do to help out. And there are plenty of opportunities. Take a look. See where you fit in.

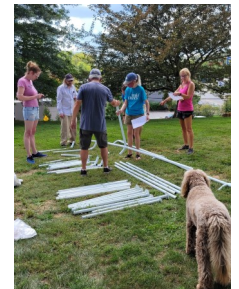
- ◆ **Needed, eight volunteers to help put up the Pumpkin Patch tent** on Saturday, September 24, at 10:00 a.m. No prior experience or engineering degree necessary. A modicum of strength and a happy heart would be helpful. *If you can help fill this important need, please call or email Katherine Kaderabek, (katherine@beverly-hanks.com, 828-712-1334).*
- ◆ **For unloading day, no sign up needed. Just show up** at the church around 1:00 p.m. If possible bring your own wheelbarrow or wagon. You might also want to bring a snack. Consider Haiti will provide water. Remember, the more workers we have, the faster we get it done!
- ◆ **Volunteer "Patch Tenders" will can sign up online to sell pumpkins** at <https://signup.com/go/KhSbVju> or scan this handy QR code with your smart phone camera:



**A special thanks to
Katherine and Todd
Kaderabek for
heading up the 2022
Pumpkin Patch
project!**



Courtesy of Hummingbird Aerial Imagery



Great news! Billy and his tractor will be back to help us unload!



Tent Builders

Are You Ready to . . .



*Cast your vote, not on a partisan basis, not based on your biases, but vote your values.
Vote the values of human dignity and equality. Vote the values of the rock on which this country was built.
Vote.*

-Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

“Democracy May Not Exist . . .



BUT WE’LL MISS IT WHEN IT’S GONE is the title of an intriguing book by Astra Taylor, and it seemed so appropriate, we couldn’t help borrowing it for the title of this upcoming adult forum at Grace.

This past June, when Tahani Sticpewich and Kim Hayes participated in the **Poor People’s March on Washington**, their goal was to distill what they learned and bring something home to share with *everyone*. You’ve probably already heard little bits and pieces about the long bus ride, the amazing crowds, the great speakers and music—but what you haven’t heard much about is **what that march really wanted to say to Americans, us included**. “Democracy May Not Exist But We’ll Miss It When It’s Gone,” is that story, and we want to share it with you. Then, we invite you to consider your own stories.

What are your personal voting experiences? Do you know your candidates and what their core goals are? Do you know how to talk to people about voting? Do *you* have a story about voting? How do you think Jesus would vote? What does it mean to “Vote Faithfully”? What does it mean to you when Bishop Curry says:

“It is a Christian obligation to vote, and more than that, it is the church’s responsibility to help get souls to the polls.”

“DEMOCRACY MAY NOT EXIST BUT WE’LL MISS IT WHEN IT’S GONE”

*Stories from DC: A conversation about activism, advocacy and the importance of getting out the vote
Sunday, September 25, 9-10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall
Join us. All are welcome.*

Churches, as nonprofit organizations, must follow certain guidelines when participating in elections. Churches may not campaign, openly or otherwise, for or against candidates for public office. IRS guidelines permit houses of worship to involve their members in the political process through education, voter registration, and candidate participation in town halls.

Death & Dying Conference, November 5-6

LEGAL, MEDICAL, SPIRITUAL ASPECTS OF DEATH & DYING. Join us at Grace Episcopal Church on Saturday November 5, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. for a full day of sessions, and come back Sunday, November 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m. for liturgy, followed by conference sessions from 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Mallory McDuff, author and lecturer, will be our keynote speaker during this conference in which we will explore the legal, medical and spiritual aspects of the process of death and dying. We will also hear from experts about legal planning for death and from theologians who will speak about understanding death and dying, about spiritual care of those who are dying and about ministering to those who are grieving.

Death and dying is a topic some of us wish to avoid. Here we will seek to hold space for both the difficulty and the liberation of entering this conversation with our whole hearts and minds.

Watch for details in your weekly emails from Grace!

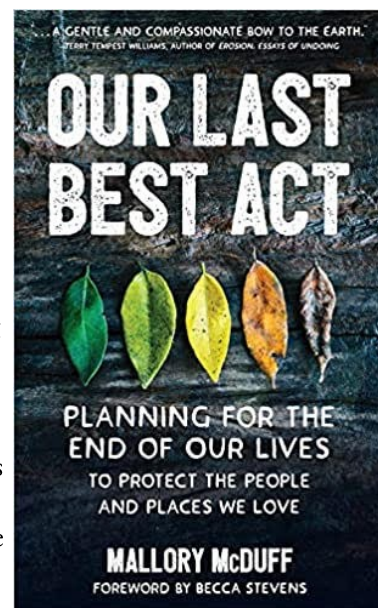


INTRODUCING MALLORY McDUFF. Mallory discovered the field of Environmental Education as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Central African Republic, where she saw the critical importance of integrating local communities in conservation. Growing up in Fairhope, Alabama, she watched her parents connect their spiritual beliefs to environmental stewardship by actions such as giving up driving and even trash for Lent. Mallory is the author of three books examining the intersection of spirituality and the climate crisis: *Natural Saints* (OUP, 2010), *Sacred Acts* (New Society Press, 2012) and *Our Last Best Act* (Broadleaf Books, 2021). Learn more about Mallory at <https://www.warren-wilson.edu/people/mallory-mcduff/>

OUR LAST BEST ACT. As we begin to contemplate death and to embark on practical planning for life's end, many of us long to leave a legacy beyond a transfer of money and property—one that ensures a sustainable earth for our loved ones, our communities, and generations to come. But where do we even begin?

With the sudden deaths of both of her parents, Mallory McDuff found herself in a similar position. Utterly unprepared both emotionally and practically, she began to research sustainable practices around death and dying, determined to honor their commitment to caring for the earth. For McDuff, an educator and environmentalist, what started as a highly personal endeavor expanded into a yearlong exploration and assessment of green burials, aquamation, green cemeteries, home funerals, and human composting.

In *Our Last Best Act*, McDuff bridges the gap between environmental action and religious faith by demonstrating that when the two are combined, they become a powerful force for the greater good. Full of practical information and support, this book equips readers to make decisions for their own end-of-life planning.



In a world experiencing a climate crisis and a culture that avoids discussions about death and dying, this book opens the conversation about the choices we make--and how it's possible for our death to honor our values, create a sustainable legacy, and help to heal the earth.

Pig Pickin' Time, Saturday, September 24!

YOU'RE INVITED! Maybe you had such a good time last year, you can't wait to do it again this year. Or maybe you're new to Grace and this will be your first time. Or maybe COVID has kept you away for a while. Well, it's Pig Pickin' time once again, and the Men of the Church in collaboration with the Episcopal Church Women invite you to make this the year!

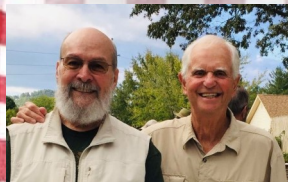
Saturday, September 24, beginning in the church parking lot around 5:30 p.m., gather up family and friends, and be sure to come with a hearty appetite for barbecue ribs, pulled pork, cole slaw, beans, desserts of all kinds, and drinks—soft and adult. But that's just the beginning. Monty Wooten and the famous PubSing Band will provide plenty of toe-tapping music that just might have you up swinging your partner. And of course, there's the fun of catching up with friends, introducing yourself to new Grace members and just kicking back to enjoy the evening.

Sound too good to miss? It is! Tickets available beginning at 5:30 that evening: \$15 for a regular barbecue plate, \$18 for a premium plate that includes ribs, and \$40 for a family of four. Also, if you're interested in taking some pulled pork home for later, quart and gallon bags will be available while they last. It would be a good idea to let Steve Birkhofer, Jack Frue, or Ron Sims know ahead of time.

And one last thing—volunteers to help with preparing the barbecue, set-up and take-down of chairs and tables, serving plates, or just lending a hand where needed would be greatly appreciated.

To volunteer, to put an order in for extra bags of pulled pork, or for additional details, contact the Pig Pickin' team: Steve Birkhofer (sbirkhof@unca.edu or goldenlane@charter.net), Jack Frue (jack@frue.net) or Ron Sims (ronjeannesims@charter.net).

Proceeds after expenses will be made available for community outreach and the immediate needs of the Parish. It's a 2-for-1 deal—great food and the money does good.



A NOTE FROM RON SIMS. After many years, I am reducing my involvement with the Pig Pickin', and Steve Birkhofer and Jack Frue are taking over the leadership roles. They are both very competent and experienced.

I would especially like to thank Jim Compton, who has always been there from the beginning to the end. Set up, cooking, clean-up, and take-down, Jim was there. My thanks to Steve Birkhofer and Jack Frue, vital parts of our cook team; Men of the Church for their committed support; the ECW for their delicious cakes and desserts; Monty Wooten and John Woodson and their groups for the wonderful music; all of the volunteers who helped serve the meals, set-up and take-down tables and chairs; and last but certainly not least, all of you who bought meals and/or quart and gallon bags of our BBQ pork. **Please continue doin' that!**



Ron has provided Pig Pickin' leadership for many years. Thank you, Ron, and we can't thank Ron without thanking his wife Jeanne, too. And thank you, Steve and Jack for stepping into leadership roles.

Ron Sims

Grace Dates

Here's a look at some of the events and activities happening during this busy season. For details, be sure to check "This Week at Grace," your weekly Friday email, and the announcements in your Sunday bulletin.

"MEN OF THE CHURCH" WANTS YOU to come join the fun, fellowship and food! This group of contributing men at Grace meets every second Tuesday, 6-ish p.m. to 8-ish p.m. Meetings typically include fellowship, a nice meal, an assortment of beverages, and an opportunity to grow in both the Church and broader community. A small collection is taken at the end of the meeting to cover cost (typically \$15). Meetings are sometimes at members' homes, sometimes in the church parish hall. Beyond monthly meetings, the group is noted for staging an annual fundraising initiative for outreach. We hope you'll include us on your calendar this fall.

- ♦ September 13 at the home of Bill Warren.
- ♦ October 11 in the parish hall, hosted by Steve Birkhofer.
- ♦ November 8 at the home of Ron Sims.

And don't forget the Pig Pickin', hosted by the Men of the Church in partnership with ECW. See page 9 for more about this year's big event on Saturday, September 24.

VOTE faithfully

ADULT FORMATION: DEMOCRACY MAY NOT EXIST, BUT WE'LL MISS IT WHEN IT'S GONE. After all the pre-election hoopla ends, the decisions we make are ours alone, made in the privacy of the voting booth. Sunday, September 25, 9-10:00 a.m. in the parish hall let's gather for a discussion at the intersection of democracy and voting faithfully.

PUBSING. Come join us for our PubSing, an informal gathering on the fourth Sunday of each month to sing hymns, old-time gospel, folk music, and Americana inspirations. We'll meet on September 25 at Zillicoah Beer Company, 870 Riverside Drive, Woodfin, 5-7:00 p.m. Bring a chair for the outdoor event. For directions go to <https://www.zillicoahbeer.com/>. For more information contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net. Future dates and locations will be announced in your weekly newsletter, "This Week at Grace."



PUMPKIN PATCH UNLOADING. We'll see you in the church parking lot Sunday, September 25, around 12:00 noon to unload the pumpkin truck and set up for the annual Grace Pumpkin Patch to benefit Consider Haiti. For more information, see page 6.



THINK "ICE CREAM!" And save the date! Sunday, October 2, following worship, the Stewardship Committee will be unveiling this year's stewardship theme and "kick-off" with a yummy ice cream social. Your Stewardship Committee has been hard at work planning this year's campaign and incorporating your survey ideas. The campaign is a vital part of supporting the work of our Grace community! We look forward to serving you on Sunday, October 2, after the 10:30 service.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS. Sunday October 9, we celebrate the Feast of St Francis! Join us following the worship service for our Blessing of the Animals in the Pumpkin Patch! From noon to 1:00 p.m., clergy will be available for blessings and prayers (and maybe a few treats)!



(Continued on page 11)

Grace Dates

(continued)

20'S AND 30'S BIBLE STUDY meets every fourth Thursday, 6:00 p.m. at rotating local breweries. Come join Fr. Mike for fellowship and discussion on scripture. Here's the schedule for the rest of 2022: September 22, October 27, November 17 (one week early because Thanksgiving is on the 4th Thursday), December 15 (again one week early to avoid week of Christmas). Breweries to be announced. For more information, contact Fr. Mike at mike@graceavl.com.

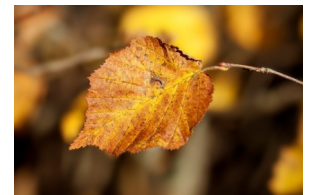


COMMUNITY PARTNERS BREAKFAST. Grace Church has launched a new program, in cooperation with agencies and providers in Asheville, for providing more comprehensive support for the homeless, elderly and poor who need food, clothing, shelter, health care and legal assistance. The goal of the cooperative program is to collectively advocate, educate and address both the root causes and social justice needed for meeting the growing needs in the Asheville community.

Currently, grant proposals are accepted from both current and new community outreach organizations. The deadline for receiving applications is September 15, and agencies whose proposals are accepted will join the Grace family for a **Community Partners Breakfast and kick-off on Sunday, October 23, following worship.**

Grace Grants are now accepting applications for partnership! If you are involved with or know of a local agency or program currently providing, or wanting to provide, support for the homeless, elderly and poor who need food, clothing, shelter, health care and legal assistance, visit the Grace web site: GraceAVL.com. At the top of the home page is a button for [Grace Grants](#).

THE DEATH & DYING CONFERENCE is scheduled for Saturday November 5, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m. for liturgy, followed by conference sessions from 12:00-3:00 p.m., featuring keynote speaker Mallory McDuff who, with other experts, will guide us in an exploration of the legal, medical and spiritual aspects of the process of death and dying. See more about this conference on page 8, and watch for details to come.



ADVENT WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOP. The first Sunday of Advent is November 27. The Advent wreath-making workshop is a time-honored tradition at Grace and will follow that Sunday's worship.



OUR ANNUAL MEETING will follow worship on Sunday, December 11. Are you curious about what has happened at Grace Church over the past year? This is your opportunity to find out. Everyone is encouraged to gather in the parish hall to elect new Vestry members; to hear reports from clergy, our wardens and our ministry leaders; to discuss our budget; and to spend time with our Grace family. Please make a note on your calendar today.

EVERY WEEK; ALL WELCOME:

- ♦ Monday Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., on Zoom. Find the link to join on the [Grace website](#) homepage.
- ♦ Women Walking the Way, meet Thursday mornings, 8:00 a.m. at the Beaverlake Bird Sanctuary Pavilion, north Merrimon Avenue.
- ♦ Taizé style worship, Tuesday evenings, 6:00 p.m., in the church sanctuary.
- ♦ Praying together with Rev. Milly for individuals or couples Wednesdays, 1-3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. By appointment.
- ♦ Centering Prayer, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Find the link on the [Grace website](#) homepage.

REMINDER

These "Grace Dates" and more, plus event details, can be found on the Grace website calendar and listed weekly in the Friday email, "This Week at Grace (TWAG)," and in your Sunday worship bulletin.

If you aren't on our email list yet, please contact us at office@graceavl.com

GRACE MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

ADULT FORMATION:

The Rev. Milly Morrow, milly@graceavl.com

ALTAR GUILD:

Shannon Townsend, gstownsend@att.net

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Scott McKenzie, JuniorWarden@graceavl.com

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP: Patrick Mahon, 404-375-4737

CHILD FORMATION:

CHOIR:

Rusty McCredie, rebscape@att.net

ENDOWMENT:

Steve Birkhofer, sbirkhof@unca.edu

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW):

Cheryl Aull, ckauill@charter.net

FELLOWSHIP:

FINANCE: Tara Lonneman,

Tara265@gmail.com

FLOWER GUILD:

Pat Davis, dpatdavis@aol.com

GARDEN GUILD:

Kathleen Griffin (828-337-8241),

Jackie Schauer 828-337-9441)

GRACEFUL GREETERS:

Diane Wilkey, thewilkeys@gmail.com

HEALING MINISTRY:

Interim: Karen Compton,

comptons0292@gmail.com

MEDICAL ADVOCACY MINISTRY:

Jeff Russell, jeffkr46@gmail.com

MEN OF THE CHURCH:

Jim Compton, j.t.compton@gmail.com

NEWCOMERS:

The Rev. Milly Morrow, milly@graceavl.com

OFFICE MINISTRY: Jill Stevenson,

office@graceavl.com

OUTREACH:

Fr. Mike Reardon, mike@graceavl.com

PASTORAL CARE:

Cliff Albertson, clifford.albertson@verizon.net

or pastoralcare@graceavl.com

PUBSING:

Monty Wooten, montywooten@bellsouth.net

SHEPHERDS' MINISTRY:

Lorie Tola, lorie.tola@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP:

Louise Wernicke, lcwernicke@aol.com

TAIZÉ:

James Cannon, imjcannon@charter.net

WEDDING MINISTRY:

Katherine Johnson, Weddings@graceavl.com

WORSHIP:

The Rev. Milly Morrow, milly@graceavl.com

Grace in Action

Here are a few of the projects underway.

2022 COOPERATIVE GRANT INITIATIVE. Grace Church has launched a new program, in cooperation with agencies and networks in Asheville, for providing more comprehensive support for the homeless, elderly and poor who need food, clothing, shelter, health care and legal assistance.

The goal of the cooperative program is to collectively advocate, educate and address both the root causes and social justice needed for meeting growing needs in the Asheville community.

Currently, Grace is reaching out to both its current and new community outreach organizations, inviting them to submit a proposal for grants which can be used to help the people the organizations are serving.

The grant application is available by clicking [here](#) and is due by September 15, 2022.

Agencies whose proposals are accepted will be invited to a kickoff and celebration breakfast at Grace on October 23, 2022.



GRACE CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP.

Rosalyn Carter reminds us that caregiving provides both challenges and opportunities. Participating in a caregiver support group will help you turn challenges into blessings. It will also help you avoid burnout, lessen stress and be uplifted by compassionate hearts in a confidential setting. The group meets at 10:30 a.m. the first and third Thursdays of each month. Patrick Mahon, a caregiver for five years, facilitates and can be reached at 404-375-4737, or chat with him in the coffee area after Sunday worship.

GRACE MEDICAL ADVOCACY MINISTRY. Navigating the healthcare system can be a nightmare. But you don't have to journey through all the medical-speak by yourself! A team of experienced, committed Grace parishioners (Jeff Russell, Dodie King, Ginny Moser and Jennifer Witt) can help you find the resources and advice you need to make informed health care decisions for a loved one, a friend or yourself.

What are your needs? Could you or a loved one benefit from information about:

- ♦ Aging in place (how to make a home safe for living in later years)?
- ♦ End-of-life issues (death and dying, palliative and hospice care, advanced directives, a healthcare power of attorney)?
- ♦ Senior support (home healthcare, caregiver resources including care for the caregiver)?
- ♦ Healthcare provider and facility navigation guidance (locating a physician, questions to ask your physician and other providers, insurance questions, tips on using online resources)?

What skills could you bring to this ministry? Are you a medical professional, a social worker, an insurance professional?

If you need assistance or would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Jeff Russell at jeffkr46@gmail.com.



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Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church!



*We're so glad you're
here.*

BECOME A GRACEFUL GREETER!

Grace is bringing back an active greeters ministry, The Graceful Greeters, to help welcome parishioners old and new on Sunday mornings, and we would love to have you join us!

If you enjoy people, have been a greeter at Grace or at another parish in the past, have always wanted to be a greeter, or just want to learn more about this ministry, please contact Diane Wilkey, thewilkeys@gmail.com.

First impressions *do* count. Regular worshipers and visitors alike who are greeted with a smile, an introduction and the offer of assistance when they come through our doors appreciate and remember the warmth and kindness of that welcome. We hope you'll consider this fun and important ministry.

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE. Hello, everyone, and happy hazy summer! Your Endowment Committee has rebalanced its team with the addition of long time Grace member Todd Kaderabek rotating onto the committee and long-time Grace member Larry Harris rotating out.

Todd is well known in the Grace community and brings a successful business track record to the committee. Please congratulate Todd and feel free to refer to him as a reference person if you have questions regarding the Church's endowment.

Committee members Anne Jarema, John Chastain, Gael Paschall and Steve Birkhofer followed a general due diligence process in the search for a new committee member. For Grace community members interested in better understanding the proceedings of the Endowment committee, business meetings are held on a quarterly basis and are open to the Church community with the next meeting scheduled for early October.

Again, welcome to Todd, and many thanks to Larry.

Peace to All,
Steve Birkhofer & Endowment Committee Members.



Todd Kaderabek

Grace Budget Review

OVERVIEW: SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2022. September, October and November budgets each consist of the following: \$37,430.62 of Total Income (Contributions, Building/Admin) and \$39,248.21 of total expenses, resulting in a Net Loss (deficit) of \$1,817.59.

Endowment valuation will continue to fluctuate given the negative economic growth January-June. We will likely see a late year rally given a favorable outcome in the Fall election. Discussions with Parsec will continue into the coming months.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS 2022

- ♦ Solar Panels: Total Cost: \$55,520.17
- ♦ Play Ground: Est Total Cost: \$73,000

Additional budget information will be available on a monthly basis in the Friday email, "This Week at Grace."

In Parting. . .

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, MILLY MORROW! Women Walking the Way celebrated Rev. Milly's birthday Thursday, August 25 (just a couple of days early), with a surprise party in the bird sanctuary pavilion at Beaver Lake. Thanks, Vicki Vest, for the yummy yogurt parfaits, and of course, Milly's yogurt had a birthday candle in it. Here are a few photos we thought you'd enjoy.



ACCESSING IMPORTANT VOTING DATES AND INFO: Voting faithfully starts with some basics. Are you registered? If you've moved recently, do you know where your polling place is? Do you need a list of key dates? The League of Women Voters makes accessing important voting dates and information easy with:



Click the VOTE411 logo or scan the QR code with your cell phone camera to access all things voting in our area.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS! Students and teachers, God bless you as you return to school for another exciting year. We love you all.



AND ONE LAST REMINDER: Some of the features you are accustomed to seeing in your monthly issue of the *Grace TEAM* will now appear periodically in the weekly "This Week at Grace" Friday email and/or in your Sunday bulletin. Check in those places first for:

- ◆ Condolences
- ◆ The Ministry Schedule
- ◆ Monthly budget reports
- ◆ Flower and ambry candle donors
- ◆ Birthdays and anniversaries
- ◆ Prayers

As the *TEAM* transitions to a quarterly publication, we want to make sure all these important sources of information are still available to you in a timely manner. Please let us know if you have concerns or would like to make suggestions that will help us moving forward. Thanks!