



# GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena Vista, CO 81211  
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## Hurricane Harvey

*Persons, places, vistas we have seen*



Jesus said "love your neighbors." This was demonstrated many times during hurricane Harvey.

### SEPTEMBER 2017

#### From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about Grace Church.



Rev. Robertson

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#### Ministry Reports



People helping people during Hurricane Harvey.

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Bob Yinger reports on the last Council meeting and the finance campaign.

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Hurricane Harvey Relief

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## Happy Labour Day

*If all the cars in the United States  
were placed end to end,  
it would probably be  
Labor Day Weekend..*

*- Doug Larson*

## Catherine's Commentary

When I became a grandma this summer, you all celebrated with me. It was such great fun to share this life event with you. It was celebrating with you the week before my grandson was born that helped make the whole thing real to me for the first time. With your help, I began to understand who I was becoming.

Later this summer, you prayed with me when I had to have surgery. Your thoughts and prayers sustained me during a time when I was in need. I knew that my prayer shawl was filled with prayers in every stitch! Each of your cards, emails, and calls was a fresh reminder of your care. It has meant so much to me during this time of

recovery. It has made a difference!

Thank you. It makes a difference to have a community behind you when life happens, both for the celebrations and the challenges. What I know about our parish community is that this is just what you do - not only for me, but for each other and for so many others I don't even know about.

This is Grace Church. This is what it means to be part of this spiritual community. It's who we are. It's what we do. You bring a great gift of caring to those around you. Thanks for being you!



*Grace Church.... You bring a great gift of caring to those around you. Thanks for being you!*

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## Sharon's Column



During the month of September we talk about and examine giving to the Church. I know we don't like for preachers to bombard us with sermons dealing with money but it's one of the ways we live faithfully with God

We call this time of year an emphasis on "stewardship." What does that really mean? A "steward" is one who manages the affairs of a large household. The "steward" oversees the table in a household and also other "servants." A guardian or a manager could be another definition of a "steward." Paul says in 1 Corinthians 4:1 "So a person should think about us this way - as servants of Christ and managers of God's secrets." (This verse is from the Common English Bible.) Each one of us at Grace Church God's servants/"stewards" taking care of our household!

So for the month of September we think of ourselves as "stewards" who are commissioned to care for the household of God! Stewardship is our responsibility to

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## Church Council Report

by Bob Yinger, Chairman



The focus of the Council's work in August has been the 2018 church budget. We have undertaken a thorough review of each line item in consultation with all committee chairs, administrative workers, pastors, and Becky Arthur, who is

the Council Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. Our goal has been to carefully assess our past expenses and income and to begin to prepare a budget that will frame our stewardship responsibilities in the future. This work will continue into September and October as we solicit additional input from the Finance Committee and as we gain a clearer picture of projected income as a result of our 2018 stewardship commitments submitted in September.

Please prayerfully read the letter from the Stewardship Committee that you will receive soon. We have a special need this year for each of us seek God's direction for the ways in which we can share in the mission and fellowship of Grace Church. Here are some verses on giving that we can meditate on in the coming weeks:

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Give, and it will be given unto you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you use, it will be measured to you. (Luke 6:38)

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops. (Proverbs 3:9)

## Ladies Sewing Group

By Bonnie Young

Ladies Sewing Group is gearing up for the Christmas Craft Sale. Every week, the group is meeting to prepare items for the craft sale—table runners, shawls, travel bags, cards, and just a wonderful assortment of items. With the money they earn from the craft sale, they support the outreach projects of Grace Church.

Anyone interested in adding this to their ministry, Ladies Sewing Group meets every Wednesday, 9 am to 11:30 am in the Annex. For any additional information, contact with Martha Bauman or Vi Hardy.

Quilts of Valor is an important ministry of the Ladies Sewing Group that was initiated 12 years ago by Carol Covert, a former member of Grace. To date, 250 quilts have been awarded to military personnel locally, in the United States and around the world. They make quilts to say thank you and give encouragement to men and women who have served in the military, so many who have been wounded physically and mentally.

Two workshops were offered this summer for anyone who wanted to be involved in QOV. There is still a need for additional people who would like to be involved; there are many talents needed.

Please come to the Wednesday morning Ladies Sewing Group from 9 am to 11:30 am. They will work individually with anyone interested in contributing time and talent to QOV. They have committed to complete at least 12 quilts for this year. For further information, contact Bonnie Young or Martha Bauman.

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## Sharon's Column

Continued from page 2

offer our time, talents, possessions and ourselves. Pray how God is calling you to be a "steward" and live faithfully as God's "steward" at Grace Church!

Grace & Peace, Sharon

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

9/6 Carol Covert  
9/23 Gary Nesbitt  
9/23 Bill Regan  
9/26 Peter Lee  
9/29 Nancy Rem

### Anniversaries

9/12 John & Judy Epperson  
9/17 John & Connie Rezac  
9/22 Jim & Peggy Finkowski



## Hurricane Harvey Relief by Bonnie Young

We all would like to do something to show support to those victims of this disaster throughout Texas and Louisiana.

For the next two weeks, Grace Church will collect money to send to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). 100% of the donations to UMCOR go directly for the disaster designated.

Grace Church Outreach and Ladies Sewing Group will make contributions as well. If you as an individual or family would like to make a donation, make your check payable to: Advance GCFA, memo line DR#901670 and put it into the collection plate.

The cash received will be deposited and a check written from Grace Church. Then all the checks will be sent directly to UMCOR. There are many other support efforts so where ever you make a donation it will be gratefully received

## TRANSITIONS

Please remember Mary Lou Bouman who is still having health problems.

Pray for Ray Stwalley who broke his thumb on Saturday, September 2, 2017 and may need surgery.

Prayers are needed for Jennifer Wright, her sister Becky, and their father, Al Wright who is currently in rehab.

Prayers are requested for the victims of hurricane Harvey as they begin to face the aftermath of that disastrous storm.

Also remember the fire victims in California and other states and the people in Florida as hurricane Irma heads in their direction.

Remember to pray for Grace Church and the upcoming finance campaign.

And as always, pray for world peace.



## Church Council Report continued from page 3

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will be not room enough to store it.” (Malachi 3:10)

Bob Yinger, Chair

Grace Church Council

Dog carrying food bag as it evacuates from  
Hurricane Harvey!



## Changes in Box Top Program at McCurdy School

Box tops and labels for education are no more as part of the McCurdy Ministries. Campbell's Labels for Education program ends July 31, 2017. McCurdy Ministry thanks everyone who supported this program from across the United States for so many years. Because of the faithfulness of participants, they were able to acquire many items for the school and ministries including 14 vans, TV/VCRs, PE and playground equipment, classroom books and computers, totally over \$75,000 earned for the school.

Now Mc Curdy Ministries has begun to collect Tyson Project A+ labels. Each label is worth 24 cents and will support the new direction of the ministries. Tyson Products are in the frozen-food section offering choices of chicken from wings to nuggets and others. Grace Church will continue to collect labels, but now look for this logo. Let's do it!



## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is looking for help in setting up the Altar for one Sunday a month. We will train you and work with you till you feel comfortable and work with your schedule. You can pick between setting up for an Episcopal or a Methodist Sunday. If you are interested please contact Maryanne at 395-3588. Thank You.

## What's Your View?



*Beautiful Clouds at sunset.*

Photo by Sherry Thomas

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*Grace Notes is a publication of Grace Church in Buena Vista, Colorado*

*Grace is an Episcopal-United Methodist Ecumenical Fellowship where people of all Christian faith traditions are finding a spiritual home.*

*Please send articles and pictures to Editor Judy Epperson at [epperj@gmail.com](mailto:epperj@gmail.com)*

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## GRACE CHURCH

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203 W. Main St.  
P.O. Box 1559  
Buena Vista, CO 81211

To: