



GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena Vista, CO 81211
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God's Paintbrush

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



"And the bow shall be in the cloud and I will look upon it that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature upon the earth....."

Photo by Sherry Thomas

SEPTEMBER 2016

From Our Pastors



Rev. Cummings writes about the importance of voting.

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Rev. Tran invites new members to the Spiritual Growth Class.

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Peggy Finkowski reports on the last Council meeting.

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Fund Raising Opportunity

Grace Church will be hosting a breakfast for the Historic ATV Tour, sponsored by the Buena Vista Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, September 21, 2016. It is a fund raiser for the church and we could make \$1000 on the meal.

In order for it to be a success, we will need your help with food and volunteers to work the breakfast on Wednesday morning. A sign up sheet will be in Parish Hall. Please help us with this project. The more we can get donated the more we will make. For more information contact Judy Epperson or Carol Slater.

Cummings Commentary

The national party conventions are over and we are marching headlong to Election Day in November.

This has been a particularly nasty election cycle and both parties have served up the two most unpopular candidates in modern electoral history.

The minds of the faithful on either side are made up and not likely to be persuaded to abandon their candidate. The minds of a lot of other folks are whirling in disbelief that our choices are so poor.

All sides are declaring the critical importance of the presidential election in November. Our country is at a number of crossroads defined by

issues that have divided the country for a long time.

This is a time in which, as people who embrace the Christian faith, we need to study the candidates carefully and cast our vote wisely. Over the next couple months try to get behind the media reports. Seek reliable information. Pray for divine guidance, and vote for the candidate and party you believe will do the best job of leading the country.

In the meantime. I'll see you in church!

Don



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Catherine's Column



You are invited to be a part of a unique and nurturing spiritual experience.

Each year, our Spiritual Discovery Group invites new members to join. If you are looking for a place for quiet prayer and reflection, lively exploration of spiritual questions, and companionship on the spiritual journey, THIS IS FOR YOU!!

The Spiritual Discovery Group practices the prayer method described in my book, *"Spiritual Discovery: a Method for Discernment in Small Groups and Congregations"* (Rowman & Littlefield). In addition to the prayer experience, the group explores a text which they choose. Members will be asked to commit to participating for the year. The group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month from 10:30am till 12:30pm. New members will start in September. To sign up, contact me at (303)697-3231. Membership at Grace is not required, so spread the word.

If you are interested in a prayerful experience, exploring spiritual mysteries, and companionship on the journey, I hope you will join us.

Church Council Report

by Peggy Finkowski, Chairman



Our church was asked to provide a breakfast at the local ATV color tour in September. This would be a fundraiser for our church and an opportunity for community presence to those in attendance. We decided to endorse the event if Judy Epperson

would coordinate the breakfast. (she will)

Starting in 2017 we decided to give the cash offering of the last Sunday of each month to our Outreach Committee. They will decide where this extra money is to be distributed.

We are looking for a Building & Grounds Chair and members for the committee. Please let myself or Jeff Deardorff know if you are interested.

Our Grace Annual meeting is Sunday, October 9, following our worship service. Please mark your calendars so you can attend! Our district superintendent, Margaret Gillikin will be in attendance.

A favorite quote of mine -

"Life is short. And we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind."
Henri Amiel

Outreach News

by Judy Epperson

A collection was taken up for flood relief for Louisiana. \$526.00 dollars were received from the congregation, \$200 of which was designated for UMCOR. The remaining funds will be split equally between UMCOR and the Episcopal Relief Fund. In addition to these funds, the Outreach committee voted to donate \$570 to Louisiana flood relief which will be split equally among the two organizations. On a separate matter, the Outreach committee voted to donate \$250 to the BV Strong Dinner.

The September Outreach program is Warren Village. Watch the September bulletins for further information on what is needed and when it will be collected.

Thank you for your generosity in helping the victims of the floods in Louisiana.

The Outreach Committee

Don's Sermons Available

The following past sermons by Don Cummings are ready for viewing on vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/176119906> (May 15, 2016)

<https://vimeo.com/176120090> (June 19, 2016)

<https://vimeo.com/176120238> (July 17, 2016)

Treasurer's Tidbits

By Annette Dickenson

Outrea



The Pictorial Directories Have Arrived!!!

Most of the pictorial directories were distributed on Sunday, June 19th. If you were not at service that day, you can pick up your copy at the next service you attend or you can stop by the Annex office when I'm in, which is typically on Monday. For those of you that do not live in the vicinity, your copy has been mailed to you.

Naturally, as soon as something like this is distributed, no matter how hard we tried to proof everything multiple times, you may have some changes or corrections to submit to your family data. Please submit any directory changes to me at adickinson@bxgsystems.com so that we can get to work on our first supplement.

This and That

September Birthdays

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

September Anniversaries

9/7 Don & Bonnie Cummings
9/12 John & Judy Epperson
9/17 John & Connie Rezac
9/22 Jim and Peggy Finkowski

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with the 4th of July hosting event. Hosts: Peggy Finkowski, Jo Rodeheffer, Annette Dickinson, and Judy Epperson.

Cookies provided by: Jo Rodeheffer, Becky Arthur, Carole Wimmer, Bonnie Young, Maryanne Freed, Annette Dickinson, Judy Epperson, Judy Ezell, Peggy Finkowski and many others.

Lemonade provided by Jane Shoemaker.

Thank you to everyone for being a welcoming host to our community.

TRANSITIONS

Bonnie Cummings surgery went well, but continue to pray for her.

Please pray for Carolyn Hayes. She is having some health issues.

Nancy Bruce continues to improve, but still needs our prayers.

Remember Bob Freed while he deals with some serious health issues. Also keep Maryanne in your prayers as she cares for him.

Crissey Smith continues to have some trouble with balance, so please keep her in your prayers

Ray Stwalley asks for prayers for his boss who is recovering from a serious automobile accident.

Outreach Recipient

Jecka Walker

This Fall I will be headed back to Colorado State University to work with a Christian organization called The Navigators. After a 2 year internship with the Navigators I sensed the Lord's leading in my life to stay on full-time. On campus I spend my time mentoring students weekly, organizing ministry events for the nearly 200 students in the ministry, leading bible studies on campus and training students to do the same. As a full-time Navigator staff, I am responsible for raising all of my funds in order to stay on campus. This ministry is made possible through the prayers and financial donations of friends, family, churches and individuals who join my support team. If you would like to hear more about what I do, or would like to join my financial support team, please visit my website at: navstaff.org/give/23822769.



Jecka Walker works with Navigators at Colorado State University

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

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