



# GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena, CO 81211 719-395-8868 • gracechurchbvco.org

## Happy Mother's Day

*Persons, places, vistas we have seen*



We remember our mothers on

May 14, 2107

### MAY2017

#### From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about the changes at Grace church.



Rev. Robertson expresses joy and enthusiasm about being our new pastor.

2

#### Ministry Reports



Mother's Day

1



Sherry Thomas reports on the last Council meeting and

3



Family Faith Builders news

3

## My Mother

God blessed me with an Angel,  
I'm proud to call my own.  
She's been with me throughout my life,  
Been with me since I'm grown.

She guided me the best she could,  
She taught me like no other,  
And I'm thankful I'm the lucky one  
Who got to call her Mother

## Catherine's Commentary

The past couple of months at Grace Church have been a significant time in the life of our congregation. We transitioned to new pastoral leadership, the Transition Committee conducted a series of "listening lunches," the Reconciliation Team was formed and began its work, and we hired a new bookkeeper. All the while our Lenten activities were going on, we had our Episcopal Bishop's Visitation, and Holy Week and Easter services were celebrated. So many of you have been working very hard on all these things! THANK YOU!

I am so grateful to everyone who has stepped up and contributed during the past

couple of months. Once again, the strength of Grace Church has been its dedicated and hardworking members. You take care of leadership and administrative duties, work in the kitchen, help with worship, lead small groups, support each other, and do other critical things that keep us going. And I know there are many who help out behind the scenes that I don't know about!

With our summer residents returning, the pace of things at Grace will not slow down, but I trust that we will have more helping hands to contribute to the work of ministry. All of our

[Continued on page 4](#)



*Once again, the strength of Grace Church has been its dedicated and hardworking members.*

---

## Sharon's Column



To Grace with LOVE:

With a grateful heart I am writing my first newsletter article as the United Methodist pastor at Grace Church. Max and I have worshipped at Grace Church since 2011 with thankful hearts to have found a Church home the first Sunday we walked in the door!

The opportunity to serve Grace Church as the United Methodist pastor is an honor and very humbling. Grace is a place where everyone can receive the "Grace and LOVE" of God. My prayer for the Church is that we continue the ministries that are a vital part of Grace, along with new ideas to be the Church in new ways in Buena Vista.

There is a group of about 20 women (better known as Cats) who come to Bible study on Monday mornings at 9:30 (except for the first Monday of the month during the school year.) Anyone is always welcome to join us! Bible study is important to me

[Continued on page 4](#)

## Church Council Report

By Bob Yinger, Chairman



The Grace Church Council was blessed this month by the intersection of our monthly meeting with the visit of Bishop Rob O'Neill. After an inspirational service, Bishop Rob met with the Council for an extended discussion of

the challenging issues that have been facing our church family. He was able to provide very timely advice based on his long experience in conflict resolution, reconciliation, and congregational healing. Everyone in attendance was blessed by his emphasis on being clear about our missional identity as a Christian community and his focus on the role of prayer in these processes.

In other Council business this month: Ed Baxter has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee. Also, Bob Freed has agreed to serve the remainder of Celso Harper's Council appointment (through December 2017). Thank you, Ed and Bob for your generous service! Speaking of generous service, Evelyn Baker and Dorothy Miller have been work diligently this month with our new bookkeeper to coordinate essential administrative processes and activities. Thanks again to both of you!

Looking forward to May and the summer months, the Council will continue to partner with Catherine and Sharon in the important work of reconciliation and healing. We will also be focusing on ways to improve communication and interaction among the Council, our standing committees, and the congregation as a whole. I invite you to join us in any way that you can, but especially in prayer for our life together in Christ.

## Family Faith Builders

By Bobbie Eisenhand

We meet every Tuesday night at Parish Hall at 5:00PM. One of us provides dinner and then we have our fellowship. We usually end about 7:00PM. This is open to anyone who would like to join us! We have been reading the book of Luke. We went to Salida on the 18<sup>th</sup> and bowled. Lots of fun was had by us all. We met at Domino's for dinner beforehand.

May is busy. We are having a quick meal on the 9<sup>th</sup> and then going to the school for the Band Concert at 7:00PM. This is a free event and shouldn't be missed! The kids are amazing!

May 16<sup>th</sup> we are doing the same, except we'll be going to the Choir Concert at 7:00PM. Again, you shouldn't miss this...the kids are amazing and sound like angels!!!

May 23<sup>rd</sup> is our last meeting before summer. We'll be going to the river after a meal at Parish Hall first.

Some of us would like to get together sometime in June to camp at the campground above Cottonwood Lake. We'd love for anyone to join us. We'll keep you informed on the date.

In July we are planning a trip to Denver to the Colorado History Museum. Again, anyone is welcome to join and we'll have more details later.

## Sharon's Column

Continued from page 2

because it was through Bible study that I heard my call to Ordained Ministry. Later in the year I'm working on the possibility of another Bible study. . .but I will give you more information later. (Don't panic Cats, I'm not abandoning Monday mornings!)

The work of the Church involves everyone. If we are not involved in a ministry that is close to your heart, let me know. Perhaps you have an idea about how the Church can be in ministry some place we haven't thought of, let me know. If you do not know how or where to be involved in a ministry ask Catherine, me or someone else and we will work to help you be involved. God is always looking for people to serve and be in ministry to our community!

Please know that I am especially excited to be serving with Catherine! She has wonderful thoughts and ideas about serving Grace Church that benefits the work and mission for the whole Church. We both had fun doing a combined sermon on Easter Sunday! It was a great day of resurrection and joy - we got to say "Alleluia!" again! In that same spirit of joy, GRACE and LOVE, Catherine and I are excited to work together! May the light of God's joy greet you as you enter the doors of Grace Church!

Grace, Peace and LOVE, Sharon

## Catherine's Column

Continued from page 2

summer residents are invited to step up and help out with as much energy and dedication as all of our year-round folks. There will be plenty to do. Let's enjoy this upcoming summer time and celebrate Grace!

Catherine

## TRANSITIONS

---

Roger and Judy Ezell had the pleasure of celebrating his mother's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday! A great time for celebration.

Our prayers are with Jo Rodeheffer as she has shoulder surgery.

We need to continue to pray for Mary Lou Bouman and her continuing health problems.

Christina Sell and her husband have sold their house and are in the process of moving. They ask for our prayers.

Please pray for all the members of Grace Church.

Please continue to pray for world peace.

---



**Spring Clean Up  
At  
Mini-Blessings**

**COME JOIN US  
FOR A WORK DAY  
MAY 6, 2017  
9 AM TO NOON  
LUNCH PROVIDED**

**Mini-Blessings  
15732 CR 306  
Buena Vista, CO  
395-5852**



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays

5/4 Martha Bauman

5/15 Clay Edmonds

5/16 Maryanne Freed

5/22 Pickles McKinley

5/23 Catherine Tran

5/28 Jim Finkowski

### Anniversaries

5/25 Tom and Martha Bauman

5/29 Ed and Margaret Butler

5/30 Dan and Jo Rodeheffer

5/31 Bill and Junia Fitzgerald

Angels of Grace - Prayer Shawl Ministry is gathering again on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month.

May 10th at Jennifer's (15640 Par Lane) 221-1040

June 14 at Becky's (130 Cornell) 395-5888

6:30ish to 8:30ish.





## Bishop O'Neill Visits

Grace Church entertained Bishop Rob O'Neill on April 5, 2017. He officiated at the service and was honored with a pot luck meal following. As always, it was as pleasure to visit with Bishop O'Neill. The Sunday was doubly special because it was Sharon Robertson's first Sunday as our United Methodist Co-pastor.

## A Spiritual Moment



*Bishop Rob O'Neill blesses  
Catherine and Sharon*

*Photo by Max Robertson*

---

*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)*

---

## GRACE CHURCH

---

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

To: