



GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena Vista, CO 81211
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The Grace Family

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



This is the fabulous family of Grace Church. Can't you feel the enthusiasm?

Photo by Max Robertson

AUGUST 2017

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about the Celebration of Ministry.



Rev. Robertson challenges us to tithe for a month.

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Ministry Reports



The Grace Church family.

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Bob Yinger reports on the last Council meeting and

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August Outreach Project

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Cowboy Church at Gold Rush Days

Grace Church will again have the minister giving the message at the Cowboy Church on Sunday, August 13. The service will be in McPhelemy Park at the entertainment tent on the North side of the park. Starting at 8:30 am, there will be music by Carole Barnes on the guitar and Randy Barnes on the dulcimer. Sharon

Robertson will be giving the message at 9 am. Following the service, there will be fellowship and coffee. Sharon will also be Blessing of the Burros on Railroad and Main at 10 am. Grace Church will have its regular service at 9 with Catherine Tran.

Catherine's Commentary

Thank you all for your participation in our Celebration of Ministry! What a joy it was to see you receive your stoles and seeds, ready to take the Gospel message of love to your neighbors. And Sharon and I are humbled and grateful for your support in this work that we all begin together.

I am so thankful to all of you who pitched in to make our event so successful. Thanks to Carol Slater and the Cats for organizing our picnic and making sure we had all the food we needed (the creation story will never be the same!). Thanks to all you pie bakers and bidders. Thanks to those of you who manned the grills. And to

Max for taking our group picture (it turned out great!). Thanks David for playing your harmonica for us! And to Jennifer, who tackled the leadership of our Kazoo Band. Thanks to Susan – I sure hope we see you at that wash-tub bass again! Thanks to Bill, our auctioneer. I am thankful for everyone who took part in the service – Altar Guild, those of you who helped with parts in the service, sound, ushers, acolytes, and reader. Thanks to the Loose Threads for making the stoles. And the choir was wonderful! Thanks Ed and Betty for your music leadership. And there are many of you who

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Watch out BV and the world – the Holy Spirit is on the move and Grace Church is FIRED UP!

Sharon's Column



During the month of July, I gave a challenge to the Congregation at the time of the offering. The challenge began with a story about Ben who was given a challenge to tithe for one month.

Ben could tell a hilarious story in his strong Texas dialect and with a straight face while everyone listening to him was laughing with tears rolling down our faces! He told me that a former pastor asked him to tithe for one month and if he couldn't continue then he should stop. Ben said, "I took the challenge and haven't stopped tithing!" Ben was still employed at the time of the challenge. However, at the time he told me about that challenge, and still today, he's is on a fixed income. Ben is still tithing!

We give to the Church because of God's GRACE and LOVE given to us every day!
We give to the Church because we believe in the mission and ministries of Grace

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Church Council Report

By Bob Yinger, Chairman



Bob Yinger's father is quite ill and he has been called to Fort Worth, TX to be with him. He regrets that he didn't have time to write his article and asked me to insert a Psalm or prayer instead. I chose the words of *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind forgive our foolish ways,
 Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find
 In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
 The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them without a word
 Rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest b Galilee, O calm of hills above,
 Where Jesus knelt to share with thee, the silence of eternity,
 Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still des of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
 Taker from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
 The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;
 Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake wind and fire,
 O still small voice of calm.

Words by John Greenleaf Whittier

August Outreach Project

By Judy Epperson

Sharing the love of Christ with the broken and hurting in the community.

The Arkansas Valley Christian Mission is a Colorado based non-profit corporation, governed by a Board of Directors. Financial support comes from local churches, individual contributions, private business donations and community food drive events. All clients are accepted where they are in their life, be it in a temporary crisis, unemployed, underemployed, in the midst of family difficulties, in chronic need due to illness, or unable to get assistance elsewhere. One need not be affiliated with a church to serve or be served.

The Mission was created to supplement the efforts of other private and governmental care agencies, to provide immediate basic necessities, to encourage change toward a more responsible lifestyle and to facilitate that change, and to spread the Gospel of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Their purpose is striving to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those affected by life's struggles, as well as providing information about the various resources in our community that can assist toward those end.

In addition to providing such services as the Food Pantry, Employment resources, Health Care Reference, Prescription Co-Pay assistance and fuel vouchers, the AVCM provides meals for holidays, a Children's Christmas Gift Shop and a school supply drive for registered students. Our August Outreach project is to help provide school supplies for school children in Buena Vista.

School Supplies

If you would like to help provide school supplies for children in Buena Vista, put your items in the Outreach container in Parish Hall during the month of August to be given to students before the start of the new school year.

Sharon's Column

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Church. We give to the Church because the mission and ministries of the Church takes the Good News of Jesus Christ to many places outside the physical plant of the Church.

How about us? Will we take the challenge to tithe for the month of August. Try tithing 10% of your income for August, and if you cannot continue then decide what your will faithfully give to Grace Church. God's generous LOVE is given to us whether we tithe or not. Our tithing is our faith response to God!

Birthdays

8/8 Susan Shampine

8/9 Rich Shoemaker

8/14 Betty Dethmers

8/14 Jo Rodeheffer

8/15 Jane Shoemaker

8/16 Judy Epperson

8/21 Joyce Logan

Catherine's Column

Continued from page 2

worked behind the scenes – thanks to you. To all of you I have mentioned here and those of you I may have missed, we are blessed by your service.

One of the things I have heard and observed lately is how our visitors this summer feel so welcome. We had a number who joined us for the picnic and seemed right at home. It was awesome to see that. One of the gifts that Grace shares with BV is this gift of hospitality. This is just one example of how you are all already living into the call to ministry that we share. One more great thing to be thankful for!

Watch out BV and the world – the Holy Spirit is on the move and Grace Church is FIRED UP!

Anniversaries

8/5 Chuck and Carol Covert

8/7 Bob and Millie Cockran

8/9 Max and Sharon Robertson

8/15 Bill and Patricia Regan

8/19 Rich and Jane Shoemaker'

8/18 Tam and Catherine Tran

8/25 Ray and Bonnie Stwalley

TRANSITIONS

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of our dear friend Pickles McKinley on July 23, 2017. She was 92 years old and a member of our congregation for many years. She will be missed. Argent is in the care of the Wimmers. Please pray for her family in this time of sorrow.

Please remember to pray for all the members of the congregation who are ill or recovering from surgeries.

Prayer is needed for the leaders of our country that they can make the right decisions.

And as always, pray for world peace.

Please remember Bob Yinger and his family at this difficult time.

Family Faith Builders

by Bobbi Eisenhand

The Family Faith Builder outing to Colorado History Museum July 29th was great fun. We had a small group; Henry, Bobbi, Amanda & Dillon Eisenhand, Danni Simpson and Shella Love. We left the church about 8:15 and got to the museum at 11. It's amazing! Floors 1 & 2 have interactive displays and fun things to do and Floor 4 is amazing art where you can't take flash pictures and don't touch anything!! They had several security guards posted around the floor. I definitely would go back. We got to Catherine's about 3:30 and had a wonderful meal of hamburgers, hot dogs & brats. What a beautiful setting and great visit. Thank you Catherine & Tom for your hospitality.

We are talking about another camping trip up to Cottonwood Lake this month. Don't have a date yet, but we had a lot of fun last month! Family Faith will begin again on Tuesday, September 5th (right after Labor Day). We will discuss how often we want to meet this year, weekly or bi-weekly and set an agenda. This group is open to anyone, not just families with children. We encourage anyone to attend.

Grace T-shirts

Thank you to everyone who purchased a t-shirt. We have 75 shirts being worn by the members of Grace. It was a fun project. Additional shirts have been ordered for those who are interested. They are in Heather Sapphire (a soft-color of turquoise), cotton, short sleeve, large or x-large. Cost is \$8.00. Please contact Bonnie Young.

This and That

Quilts of Valor Workshop

Grace Ladies Sewing Group (GLSG) recently hosted a Quilts of Valor Workshop for Grace members who are interested in becoming involved in this outreach project... The two-hour workshop began with a discussion of the mission of QOV lead by Linda Lafford, coordinator of the Chaffee County QOV, and the GLSG members.

The participants then chose one breakout session--Choosing patterns and colors lead by Kathy Black, Making a quilt top lead by Martha Bauman and Judy Butler, or Techniques in binding lead by Linda Lafford and Vi Hardy. Additional sessions will be held as members indicate an interest.

The Grace Ladies Sewing Group have pledged to complete 12 quilts this coming year so more hands are needed. The GLSG is a very busy group of women. Every Wednesday at 9 am throughout the year, they work on a vast number of projects to be sold at their craft sales--one on July 4 and another at Christmas time. The proceeds from these craft sales goes to support outreach projects. New members are always welcome.

The next Quilts of Valor workshop will be on Thursday, August 24 at the Annex from 9:00 to Noon. You will select a pattern and material, then start cutting pieces. **Please RSVP.** If you are interested in getting started sooner, let us know. The Ladies Sewing Group meets on Wednesdays at 9 am in the Annex. For more information, contact Bonnie or Martha.

Church Picnic



Merry Music Makers



The Grace Church Kazoo Band

We do parties, weddings, etc.!

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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