



GRACE NOTES

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

Thanksgiving

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



MARCH 2017

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about confirmation class.



Rev. Robertson writes about prayer and suffering.

2

Ministry Reports



Thanksgiving is November 23, 2017.

1



Bob Yinger reports on the last Council meeting.

3



Tom Clark reports on Hurricane relief.

3

Daylight Savings Time



Daylight savings time ends on November 5, 2017 at 2:00 am.
Remember to set your clocks back so you won't miss church.

Catherine's Commentary

We are glad to announce that Micah will be confirmed next spring! Confirmation is a sacrament for those who are interested in making a mature commitment to the Christian Faith. A preparatory class will begin in January and will meet on Sunday afternoons.

Any member of the congregation who would like to become a "card carrying" member of the Episcopal Church might consider confirmation or reception. When you are confirmed or received, the bishop will pray that the presence of the Holy Spirit will be renewed in your life. He will lay hands on your head and anoint you with oil on the forehead. The preparation for

confirmation and reception includes some Christian education and a period of discernment in which candidates reflect on how they are being called to action and ministry in the world. Candidates for confirmation and reception will be provided with a sponsor. Any adult, 16 years and up, is eligible for confirmation or reception. Confirmation is for those who are already baptized and would like to make an adult commitment to the Faith. Reception is for those who have been confirmed in another denomination but would like to join the Episcopal Church.



Confirmation is a sacrament for those who are interested in making a mature commitment to the Christian Faith

Continued on page 4

Sharon's Column



As I am preparing for surgery, I want you to know that I've been wearing the Prayer Shawl that you gave me. I'm reminded of scripture from the book of James: "Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. **The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.**" James 5:13-16 NRSV

Church Council Report

by Bob Yinger, Chairman



Bob Yinger has been called away to be with his ailing father and the rest of his family. The council report will return next month. Please remember Bob, Janet and their family in your prayers.

Announcements

Women's Annual Advent Brunch: Ladies mark your calendar for Friday, December 1, 2017 from 11 AM till 1 PM. Grace Church Annual Women's Advent Brunch. Once again a wonderful time to spend and start your holiday festivities, with friends and good food. Contact Judy Epperson at 395-6380 or epperj1@att.net for reservations.

Please note the new Grace Church email is: admin@gracechurchbvco.org.

Birthdays

- 11/5 Bill Fitzgerald
- 11/20 Judy Edmunds
- 11/29 Judy Ezell
- 11/30 Ed Butler



Outreach Report

By Tom Clark

This month the focus turned to providing support for the victims of the three hurricanes that hit Texas, Florida and the Caribbean. An announcement appeared in September bulletins about information for making individual contributions to the two organizations that the Outreach Committee was supporting - either UMCOR or the Episcopal Relief Fund.

The response was very heartwarming. A total of \$4,500 by us was sent for relief efforts. Thank you for your support. Here is the breakdown:

Hurricane Harvey and Maria

(via UMCOR)	
Individual Contributions	\$1,850
Ladies Sewing	\$200
Outreach Disaster Acct	\$1,000

Hurricane Irma

(via UMCOR)	
Individual Contributions	\$270
Outreach Disaster Acct	\$1,000

(via Episcopal Relief Fund)

Individual Contributions	\$180
--------------------------	-------

Lawn Clean - Up Day

Let's spruce up the lawn at Grace Church before the fall bazaar on Friday, Nov. 3, 9:30 am until done.... Bring your own rake & work gloves.

Ladies Sewing Group

By Bonnie Young

Annual Holiday Craft and Bake Gala will be on Saturday November 4 in the Grace Parish Hall from 8 am to 2 pm. There will be unique handmade gift items, Bronco and Demon stuff, and homemade cookies, cakes and pies. This craft fair benefits the outreach projects of Grace Church. There are two other bazaars the same day--at the CUCC and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. If all three churches are visited, a prize will be given at the last church. So come early and go to each church for a fun day. Any questions can be directed to Martha Bauman or Vi Hardy.

Quilts of Valor

To date seven quilts for this year are almost completed by the Ladies Sewing. The goal is to complete 12 quilts by the July 4 Concert. New sewers and helpers are needed to quilt, iron and do other tasks. All are invited to come on Wednesdays from 9 am to 11:30 am in the Grace Annex. This is a great way to get to know the ladies. For any more information, see Bonnie Young or Martha Bauman.

Catherine's Column

Continued from page 2

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows is also available to anyone in the congregation who has been baptized in any denomination. Those seeking reaffirmation may have experienced some life changes and would like to renew their commitment to their faith. They may be returning to the church after a time away or might be aware that the Spirit is stirring in their lives and calling them to renewal. Like confirmation and reception, the bishop will pray, lay hands on your head, and anoint you. Preparations will be similar to those for candidates for confirmation and reception.

Our class will expose participants to the Episcopal and United Methodist approach to Scripture, Tradition, theology, liturgy, prayer, polity, spirituality, and other topics. Anyone is welcome to join the class. If you are interested, please join us!

If you or anyone you know would like to be confirmed, received, or reaffirmed, please let me know. It would be a blessing for our congregation to present a group of candidates to the bishop this spring!

TRANSITIONS

Please remember Crissey Smith in your prayers. She fell Sunday and broke several ribs. She is convalescing in the hospital in Salida.

Continue to pray for Christina Randle as she recovers from knee surgery.

As mentioned, Bob and Janet Yinger need our continued prayers in this time of crisis in their family.

Please continue to pray for Sharon Robertson as she recuperates from back surgery and for Max while he takes care of Sharon.

Martha Bauman is recovering from shoulder surgery. Please pray for her continued progress.

Also, pray for the Rezac family on the death of Connie.

Angels of Grace Ministry by Jennifer Wright

This month we are celebrating 10 years of the Angels of Grace Prayer Ministry.

A quick recap of our history:

My mother, Mary-Emma Wright, was involved in a Prayer Shawl Ministry at her church (Los Altos UMC) in Long Beach, California.

During her illness in 2006, she was given a prayer shawl, and when we were going through her things, I found it. I didn't understand what it was, but it felt wonderful when I put it on. And, because she was a librarian, we also found a book on Prayer Shawl Ministry (which we use in our group now).

Rex Chambers, who was our Episcopal Priest during that time at Grace Church, had heard about this ministry and asked if there was anyone who would be interested in forming a group. So, in November of 2007 (my mom's birth month), we formed the Angels of Grace in her Memory.

Over the past 10 years, we have distributed almost 200 hundred shawls, and our members include (or have included) the following "Angels": Carole Armstrong, Becky Arthur, Kathy Black, Mary Briggs, Grace Brock, Margaret Butler, Sela Cain, Carol Covert, Judy Deardorff, Bobbi Eisenhand, MaryAnn Freed, Janet Heinz, Ann Hogg, Kathy Kaufmann, Billie Love, Dorothy Miller, Carol Olzen, Jeanne Reed, Nancy Rem, Carol Slater, and myself, Jennifer Wright.

It has been an amazing ministry for Grace Church; we have received so many thank you notes and messages about how meaningful the shawls have been to their recipients.

Also, to our knowledge we have encouraged several other "Angels" to begin Prayer Shawl Ministries at their church.

On Sunday, November 12th (my mom's birthday!) I invite you to wear or bring a shawl if you have received one to church. If you DON'T have one, we will provide one for you to wear so you can feel for yourself all the blessings, love and prayers that surround you when you put a Prayer Shawl on.

The Angels of Grace will also be providing goodies at Coffee Hour on Sunday, November 12.



Making joyful and beautiful song. The Grace Choir will be missed this winter. Thanks to everyone who participated.

St. George's in Leadville

Most of you know that Grace Church Women's Bible Study is working closely with St. George to provide an evening community meal on the first Saturday of each month. St. George provides a community meal each day and this is our way of contributing to this wonderful mission. Grace members are also researching the removal of a 40' Pine tree that is about to fall on their church and providing knitted hats and scarves for the holidays. We have other plans in the works to be active with them, like the monthly Food Bank and church worships. If you are interested in participating, there are sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall or you can contact Bonnie Young for more information

Quilt of Valor Presentation



*Quilt of Valor presented to Major
George L. Randle, US Army on
October 29, 2017*

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 epperj1@att.net

GRACE CHURCH

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

To: