

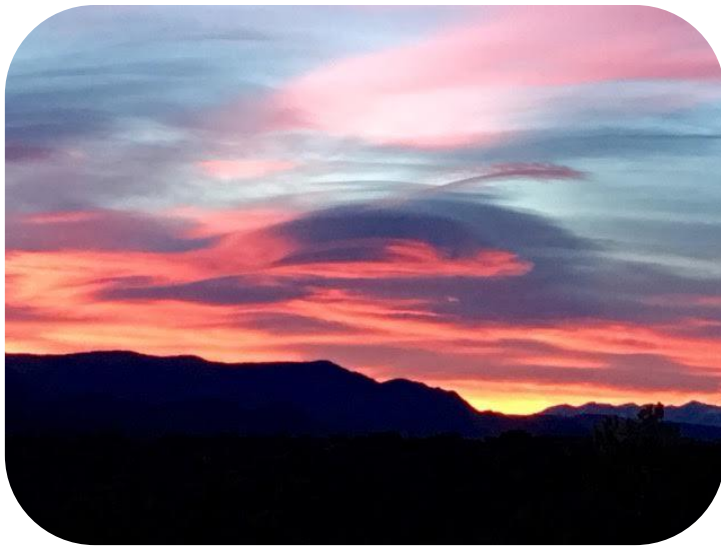


GRACE NOTES

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

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



The heavens are telling the glory of God!

Photo by Sherry Thomas

AUGUST 2018

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about upcoming events.



Rev. Erickson talks about the different aspects of success.

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Ministry Reports



Unusual Sunset

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Evelyn Baker reports on the last Council meeting.

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Be sure to read the new column "Grace History Corner."

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Help Wanted

We need your hands and hearts for crafting! The Ladies Sewing Group is inviting YOU to participate in putting together crafts on Saturday, October 13th from 10-3 in the Parish Hall. We will be providing the craft materials and supplies. Feel free to bring friends and family to help out. Lunch will be provided. We will be putting together 10 to 12 different crafts that will be sold in the Christmas Bazaar in early November. The Bazaar is one of Grace Church's community outreach fundraisers. Sign up sheets will be in the Parish Hall or email Christina Randle at ctrandle@gmail.com. Crafting skills appreciated but not needed! Come and have fun!

Catherine's Commentary

Thank you to everyone who helped with Peter's service on the 28th. I always appreciate the way everyone pitches in and makes sure everything gets taken care of. Thanks to Maryanne for organizing the reception and preparing the church. Thanks to Dorothy who helped with all that - and to the kitchen crew. Thanks to Judy for preparing the bulletins and making sure the flowers and other details were handled. Thanks for Bonnie for organizing the quilt presentation. And thanks to Betty and the choir for their wonderful contribution. It was a beautiful service and was well attended.

I heard lots of great comments from our guests and I think

Mary was pleased with how everything went. Mary did a wonderful job putting together the service and making sure everyone was in the right place at the right time. It all went smoothly and was a great tribute to Peter.

Even as we come together to celebrate Pete's life and say goodbye to a friend, we also gather to welcome the newly baptized. Martha Bauman's granddaughter, Lucia, will be baptized on August 12th. That will be another blessed celebration as we gather as God's family to celebrate new life.

On August 25th, we will have a Blessing of the Animals service

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You keep Grace Church going and make our parish family a special and beloved community.

David's Column - True Success



I want you to think about success for a moment... What is success? Do you desire to be successful? Is success all it is "billed" to be? Webster's Dictionary defines success as...the attaining of a desired end...as well as... the attainment of wealth, favor or eminence. If you have experienced it, I think you would agree that success is great! Success is fun! Because, when we succeed, we prosper...we thrive...we flourish!

On the flipside however, failure is awful! Again, if you have experienced it, I think you would agree...when we fail, all we want to do is crawl into a deep, dark hole until the shame subsides! Most of us, unfortunately, have not been taught that there are two kinds of success...worldly and authentic. However, in order to live peaceful, contented lives, we need to know the difference between these two types of successes. Most certainly, there is nothing wrong with the pursuit of worldly success and financial independence...we all journey on this pursuit to some extent or another throughout our lives. However, true success is different because true success calls us to live by The Light...not by the glare of the popping flashbulbs!

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Church Council Report

by Bob Yinger, Chairman



The Grace Church council would like to thank Becky Arthur for her service as the Church treasurer. Becky has asked for a leave of absence due to changes in her work load. Cheryl Wilderman will serve

as the treasurer in her absence.

In other business, Rev. Tran reported that our 2018 goals are being met and we are moving forward with several activities. The hikes have been successful and will continue throughout the summer. The next hike will be on August 17th at 10:00 am.

The big event of the summer will be the Blessing of the Animals on August 25, 2018 from 10am to 12pm. All sizes of animals will be accepted, but we ask the owners of large animals make reservations at admin@gracechurchbvco.org, so we can make plans for a space for them. There will be a brief worship service and lunch will be served. Thanks to the planning committee for their hard work on this event.

We will be doing a food drive each week in August in keeping with the scripture teachings on bread during this month. Kim and Kathy Prather are in charge and the plan is to do a food drive to benefit a different charity each week.

Grace History Corner

by Bonnie Young

With all the new people becoming part of Grace Church, it may be time to review the past. Everyone should know the grand history of the area and Grace throughout the decades. There will be an article in Grace Notes each month on this history. If anyone would like to add to the history or correct the information, please let me know.

In 1835, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church passed the "Missionary Bishops," who were to develop churches in new areas, including the southwest area. Of course, Colorado nor Buena Vista even existed then, although trappers and gold seekers were exploring all around the west. The Ute Indians had already been in the valley for centuries. They were nomadic but liked the mountains in the summers because of the climate and the "healing" hot waters.

Settlers came to the valley in the 1860's. They were immigrants from Great Britain, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and others seeking a better life out west. They were farmers, drawn to the area by the abundance of water and rich land; also, the stories of gold. They had been awarded land grants for service or to promote the west. They were here. They survived the winters. They made friends with the Indians. They were here to stay. Buena Vista was established in 1879.

There were four churches that were built between 1878 and 1882. The Methodist Church was the first church established in 1878. Father John Dyer walked the high mountains as a traveling minister, including Buena Vista.

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David's Column

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You know, for me, the huge appeal of true success is the fact that it is different for each one of us. That is to say, no single definition of true success fits us all, because we come in all sizes! Just consider this:

- True success is having enough time to pursue personal endeavors that bring you pleasure....
- True success is having enough time to do loving things for your family and friends...
- True success is having enough time to nurture your soul!
- True success is never having to tell yourself or those you love - "maybe next week"...
- True success is knowing that if today was your last day on earth, you could leave without regret...
- True success is knowing that you have done the best you could do - no matter what the circumstances!
- True success is knowing, in your soul, that the best you can do is ALL you can do - and thus, the best you can do is always enough!

Catherine's Column

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and lunch. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage you to invite everyone you know who has a beloved pet or other animal. We are hoping for a big crowd and lots of folks from the community.

On August 17th at 10am we will sponsor another walk. Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend and join us for a time of reflection and connection.

And don't forget that August is the month of bread! Every three years, our lectionary readings include this month of bread. Our month of bread began on July 29th with the feeding of the 5000, and each Sunday in August, our Gospel reading will focus on bread. In observance of the month of bread, we will be collecting food items. Each week, we will collect for a different organization, so take home the shopping list and bring your food contribution every Sunday.

I am deeply grateful for all of you and your contribution of time and talent. You keep Grace Church going and make our parish family a special and beloved community.

TRANSITIONS

Please continue to pray for Fred and Ampe Swart and as they deal with Fred's health problems.

Also, pray for Bev Herle and her husband Chuck who is dealing with health issues.

Please pray for Bishop Olivetto as she serves God under adverse circumstances.

Remember Sherry Thomas in your prayers. She is also having some health issues.

Continue to pray for Mary Lou Bauman and her health concerns.

We ask for prayers for world peace and cooperation among the world's leaders.

Thanks to God for the rain and cooler weather.

Remember all the firefighters and their families in your prayers. Theirs is a difficult and sometimes thankless job.

And as always, pray for Grace Church.

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David's Column continued from page 4

- True success is accepting your limitations...and making peace with your past...and celebrating your passions so that your future can unfold according to God's Plan!
- True success is making a difference in other people's lives and believing that if you can do that for just one person a day - through a smile, a listening ear, a caring word or a helping hand - you have blessed them!
- True success is feeling good about who you are - appreciating where you have been - rejoicing in your achievements - and honoring the journey you have already made!
- True success is reaching that point where BEING is as important as DOING!
- True success is being so grateful for the abundant blessings that you have, that you have no greater desire than to share that abundance with others!

Ultimately, true success is living each day with an overflowing heart!

Now, what do you think about success?

Thanks be to God for the true success of living in The Light...rather than the glare of popping flashbulbs!

August Food Drive - we will be collecting canned food the four Sundays in August. See the Prathers for information. This week we supported the Arkansas Valley Christian Mission.

Grace History Corner continued from page 3

The Catholic church was built in 1880, almost on its original site. The Congregational Church formed in 1880 was located on Tabor Street. The Episcopal church was built in 1883 for \$2,160. It is the only church on its original with its original interior.

Although the church has been restored four times in the last 125 years, the front doors are the original doors. The Altar, the pews, and the Baptismal Font are original. They are 125 years old but still in wonderful condition. The next time you are sitting in the church, let your imagination think "who might have been in this same pew" or "who knelt at this railing."

Grace is an amazing Church. It has survived, not because of the physical things, but of the love of God and our neighbors.

This year, the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado will be electing a new bishop. The Diocesan Convention to elect the new bishop will be Oct. 26-27th at St. John's Cathedral in Denver. We are allowed one lay delegate. Please let Catherine know if you would be interested in attending

Dead Sea Scrolls Adventure

On Monday, July 16, 6 cars of 22 Grace Church members and friends drove to Denver to visit the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. We arrived early enough to the Museum to have lunch until our tour started at 1 PM.

We were part of a 40-person tour. We started with an orientation and history before we entered the room after room of the history of Israel, the Jewish people and, of course, the Dead Sea Scrolls. There were so many fascinating exhibits, films, pictures and hundreds of people who shared experience and information. We wandered at will and our two hours went by fast.

On the way home, Rev. Catherine Tran invited us to a wine and cheese party at their lovely home near Evergreen off of HWY 285. She had set up a tasty selection of cheeses, dips, vegetables and beverage. It was a great fellowship time and exciting when one of the wild turkeys decided to join us. He was certainly loud and evidently angry.

We all arrived safely back home before dark. What an amazing day; everyone expressed positive comments with the whole experience. A thank you to Catherine for her hospitality and good food, thank you to the drivers- Robertsons, Stwalleys, Shampine and Epperson, Butlers, Rodeheffers and Catherine. A thank you to Bonnie for organizing the trip.

Happy Birthday!



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

8/8 Susan Shampine
8/14 Betty Dethmers
8/14 Jo Rodeheffer
8/16 Judy Epperson
8/21 Joyce Logan

Anniversaries

8/5 Chuck and Carol Covert
8/7 Bob and Mille Cockran
8/9 Max and Sharon Robertson
8/18 Tam and Catherine Tran
8/25 Ray and Bonnie Stwalley

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 eppersonjudy51@gmail.com