



GRACE NOTES

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

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



Nature reflects the Glory of God!

Photo by Sherry Thomas

OCTOBER 2018

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran talks about her trip to Viet Nam.



Rev. Erickson writes about origins and importance of Laity Sunday.

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Ministry Reports



Nature with her best clothes on.

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Evelyn Baker reports on the last Council meeting.

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Bonnie Young explains Operation Christmas Child.

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World Smile Day

World Smile Day. World Smile Day is a day when people are encouraged to not only put a smile on the faces of their fellow man, but also to treat them to acts of kindness. This day is **celebrated** on the first Friday in October and has been officially **celebrated** since 1999.

Let's remember to greet everyone with a great big smile on Friday, October 5 in honor of world smile day!



Catherine's Commentary

You may have heard that Tam and I are headed to Vietnam for a couple of weeks. At the beginning of September the Post Office told Tam he needed to take the six weeks of vacation he had saved up. He decided right away that this was the right time for us to visit the land of his childhood. Our flight was booked the next day!

Tam and I met in 1975 when he was 17 and I was about to turn 16 – he had been in the US only three weeks. Since that time, Tam has been reluctant to tell me much of his experiences during the war. But over the years I learned that he, as with all other young men in South Vietnam, was in constant danger of being

kidnapped and forced to serve in the army. This was often a death sentence. He had also witnessed the execution of suspected VC soldiers in the streets of Saigon. Along with other experiences, it was a traumatic time for him.

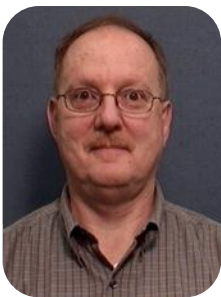
As a result of these experiences, Tam has not wanted to visit to Vietnam. Even though all of his sisters and brothers have been there many times and his older brother now lives there, Tam had no desire to return. His brothers and sisters often tried to convince him to go, and with their urging, he finally seems ready. Even now, it is still with some trepidation.

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. I hope it will be both a healing time and an opportunity for us to grow closer.

David's Column



Laity Sunday is a time to recognize the work and mission of all laity – not only within the walls of the church but in everyday lives.

The excitement about this day of recognition grew. The January 1942 issue of The Methodist Layman includes this entreaty:

Think what this could mean to the church! Forty thousand laymen – lawyers, physicians, teachers, bankers, businessmen, mechanics, farmers and others – speaking on The World Mission of the Church!

The whole Methodist Church will be moved and stirred to action by such a message. ...There are vast possibilities for good in Laymen's Day. It is the prayer of the General Board that every Conference, District, Associate District, Charge and Church Lay Leader and every District Superintendent and Pastor

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Church Council Report

By Evelyn Baker, Chairman



Where has the year gone? It's so hard to believe it is already fall. We've accomplished a lot this year and the Council is preparing for what comes next year. We'll start with the UMC Charge

Conference on Oct 14 as we look forward to committing to having David as our UMC pastor for 2019.

It is also the time of year when we look for members who are interesting in joining the Council. If you would like to serve as a member, please contact Evelyn Baker (719-310-3635). We welcome everyone to consider filling a chair on this important board we oversee the operations of the Church.

The Council approved Cheryl Wilderman as our new Treasurer. Cheryl has been the assistant Treasurer and was instrumental in leading the Audit Team for the recent audit of the books. We look forward to having Cheryl in this position. We also thank Becky Arthur who has been our Treasurer for the past year.

During the next couple of months, the Council will be overseeing the budget review and preparations for the 2019 budget. If you have any input to this process, or requests for the 2019 budget, please contact Cheryl Wilderman to ensure consideration as we move forward. We will be presenting the final budget to the members in January 2019.

October Outreach Project

By Bonnie Young

Grace Church will again participate in the **Operation Christmas Child** sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. The primary focus of this international relief agency run by Franklin Graham is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of abandoned, orphaned and impoverished children around the globe all year round.

Samaritan's Purse has sponsored Operation Christmas Child for 25 years and has distributed 157 million boxes. Grace has participated for 8 years. This ongoing October Outreach Project is simply to fill a shoe box with suggested items. Boxes will be collected at the end of the month and then sent to Samaritan's purse for distribution around the world, so children will receive a Christmas gift.

To participate: Sign Out an OCC shoe box in Parish Hall and

First: Select from the following guidelines

- The box will be for a boy or girl
- The age category: 2-4 years, 5-9 years, or 10-14 years

Second: Fill out the label printed on the reverse side of the flyer placed in the church bulletin.

- Place it inside the box.
- **GRACE CHURCH WILL PAY FOR THE POSTAGE OF \$9**

Third: Fill your box with gifts such as school supplies, small toys (age appropriate), hygiene items, coloring books, t-shirts, socks, hair clips, caps, etc.

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David's Column

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will give wholehearted cooperation to make the day significant in the life of The Methodist Church.

In October 1942, The Methodist Layman recommends the last Sunday of February "be fixed as Laymen's Day throughout the Church" and calls for "serious preparation for this day and...[for] Pastors to give active cooperation."

Mid-20th Century to Today

Laymen's Day is first mentioned in the 1944 Book of Discipline (§ 1483), where its direction is placed under the auspices of the General Board of Lay Activities.

In the 1964 edition of the Book of Discipline, Laymen's Day is designated as the second Sunday of October. (§ 1499.3)

The 1968 Book of Discipline (§ 1202) expounds on the day's larger purpose:

...shall be to interpret the role of the laity in the world and to provide laymen with opportunity to witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and their commitment to his mission in the world.

By the 1972 edition of the Book of Discipline, Laymen's Day was renamed

Catherine's Column

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Over the past few weeks as we have prepared to leave, Tam and I have been more and more excited to visit Vietnam. We will be seeing relatives, spending some time with Tam's brother and his family, and just being tourists. Tam hopes to visit places he remembers from his childhood and is optimistic about how Saigon has progressed in the past 40 years. I am feeling a little apprehensive, but look forward to knowing Tam through the eyes of his childhood and his experiences during the war. I hope it will be both a healing time and an opportunity for us to grow closer.

We will be arriving home on October 10th and I will be in BV for my usual time on the weekend of the 14th. I may be a bit jet lagged, but hope to have a wonderful report about our travels.

TRANSITIONS

Please be in prayer for Ali Lufkin who has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer and is in Arizona at a special treatment center.

Continue to pray for Fred and Ampy Swart as they deal with Fred's Health problems.

Sharon and Max Robertson ask for prayers for safe travel. They are going to Texas this month.

Please pray for a speedy recovery for Judy Epperson. She is recovering from a broken ankle.

Continue to pray for Beverly and Chuck Hurley. Chuck continues to have health problems.

Congratulations to Max and Sharon Robertson on the marriage of their son Daniel.

Pray for our country in these trying times that good judgement and compassion may prevail.

David's Column continued from page 4

renamed the gender-neutral Laity Sunday (¶ 163) but was often referred to as Laity Day until 1977.

Today, Laity Sunday is celebrated the third Sunday of October. Quadrennial themes are set by the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders and approved by the board of directors of Discipleship Ministries.

We need the whole Body of Christ as we seek to become more vital congregations who make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All church work day for the Fall Craft Fair October 13, 2018 starting at 9am until 1 pm. Lunch is provided.

Charge Conference October 14, 2013 after church service. Pot Luck dinner following.

Lawn Clean Up Morning".

Friday, Nov. 2 9 am until Noon.
Raking, bagging leaves, & lawn mowing.
Bring work gloves and help spruce up the lawn before the craft fair.
Thanks.

Church Council will meet on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 2:00 pm. Council members, please note the change of day,

Operation Christmas Child continued from page 3

- **Please do not include: used items, war-related items (toy guns or military figures), chocolate or food, liquids or lotions, toothpaste, or breakable items.**
- You may wish to include a personal note.

Fourth: Return the boxes to Grace Parish Hall by October 28, 2018.

Thank you in advance for partnering with the other churches in our community to support his program. Buena Vista Churches collect about 1,000 boxes each year.



BV Strong Dinner

Grace Church sponsored 12 tables at the BV Strong Dinner on September 24, 2018. We all had a great time and weathered the rain and high winds, which of course subsided after the festivities were over. We were favored with this beautiful rainbow, reminding us of God's covenant with Noah.

Photo by Judy Epperson

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn.....Crown
Him with Many Crowns

Weatherman's Hymn.....There Shall
Be Showers of Blessings

Contractor's Hymn.....The
Church's One Foundation

Tailor's Hymn.....Holy,
Holy, Holy

Golfer's HymnThere's a
Green Hill Far Away

Politician's Hymn.Standing on
the Promises

Optometrist's HymnOpen My
Eyes That I Might See

IRS Agent's HymnI Surrender
All

Gossip's HymnPass It On

Electrician's HymnSend The
Light

Shopper's HymnSweet Bye
and Bye

Realtor's Hymn.I've Got a
Mansion Just Over the Hilltop

Massage Therapists HymnHe
Touched Me

Doctor's HymnThe Great
Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway

45mphGod Will Take Care
of You

65mphNearer My God To
Thee

85mphThis World Is Not
My Home

95mphLord, I'm Coming
Home

100mphPrecious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,

Give me the grace to see a joke,

To get some humor out of life,

And pass it on to other folk





Fall Clean Up
At
Mini-Blessings

**Come Join Us For a Work
Day**
October 6, 2018

**Work on Fences;
Clean-up
Repair Manure
Bin**

**9:00 am to
Noon
Lunch Provided**

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



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to the following Grace Church members.

10/1 Vi Hardy

10/3 Mary Lou Bouman

10/24 Sue Knippa

10/31 Bob Freed



Guest Preacher



Bob Frykholm at the pulpit.

Photo by Sherry Thomas

Grace Church welcomed Bob Frykholm to the pulpit on Sunday, September 30, 2018. Bob is a familiar face at Grace having preached here many times. He is a retired Baptist preacher and a longtime friend of our church.

We want to thank Bob for being with us on Sunday and for delivering such an inspiring sermon. We look forward to hearing him again in the near future.

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
