



GRACE NOTES

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena Vista, CO 81211
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Blessing of the Animals

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



Lily, representing all the horses at Mini-Blessings is blessed at the Blessing of the Animals.

Photo by Sherry Thomas

SEPTEMBER 2019

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran talks about making changes in the fall.



Rev. Erickson writes about ways that we at Grace make a difference.

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Ministry Reports



Animals big and small attended the "Blessing of the Animals."

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Mike Frosolono reports on the last Council meeting.

3



Danny Simpson praises the Fourth of July Concert.

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Happy Labor Day

- Honoring those who brought to you, each week, two days off.



Catherine's Commentary

September is the time of year when we tend to make new commitments and return to work or projects that have been set aside for summer recreation and vacations. It is time to return to studies or harvest vegetables and fruit to be "put up" for winter or even begin planning for holiday travel. The summer has gone by so quickly.

As you plan your fall and winter commitments, I hope you will consider how you can attend to your personal spiritual well-being. A well-rounded spiritual discipline includes a variety of activities. Regular attendance at Sunday worship and participation in a Christian education program is a good

beginning. Serving in a ministry within the church (such as the sewing group) and some kind of outreach work are important. These don't need to take a lot of time but offer great rewards and provide opportunities to stretch and grow. But perhaps the most important commitment you can make is to attend to prayer. Your personal prayer will support and enhance everything else you do.

If you are looking for an opportunity to grow in your prayer life, please consider joining our Spiritual Discovery Group. It meets once a month on the fourth Sunday after the worship service. Each gathering

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David's Column - You Make a Difference Every Day



How many lives are made better each day because Grace Church is here? Our world and our community are healthier, just, and loving because of your faithfulness.

What is the number? We can consider our church members. Surely their faith, skills, and values affect decisions they make every day. And their faith affects their own children, spouses, or co-workers each day!

What about the number of people who connect with Leadville Meals? The families and Leadville community know the difference Grace makes! The same applies to people we have supported Quilts of Valor, Ladies Sewing Group, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Women's Craft Group. The difference you make is not only during the time people are here; it is every time they remember there are people who care about them.

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Church Council Report

by Mike Frosolono, Chairman



The end of July financial report shows a monthly deficit of \$1,736. Despite this deficit, Grace Church has a strong financial position for 2019. The numbers are: Income- \$15,090; Expenses - \$16,826, which makes a deficient of **\$1,736**.

As a result of some pledging units leaving the fellowship, we **may** face some financial challenges in 2020. The Stewardship Campaign for 2020 is well-underway: The Stewardship letter will be mailed to the congregation in the last week of September or first week in October. Stewardship speakers will address the congregation during worship services, on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays in October. Stewardship Sunday will be the 4th Sunday in October. We should have a proposed budget by the 1st of November.

Plans are underway to modify space in the annex for safe storage of the handbells Margaret and Ed Butler will donate to Grace Church.

Discussions continue with respect to acquiring windowsills for the Sanctuary, repair/replacement of the screen door at the back of the Parish Hall and securing the railing on the front stoop of the Parish Hall.

Grace Church renewed its placing in Buena Vista's *Discovery Guide*, a good source for advertising the Church, especially for visitors and newcomers to the town.

A Memorial Wall will be erected on the back entrance to the church near the ramp. Brass memorial plaques – the same as those currently used in the garden proper – can be hung in memory of people who are not buried in the columbarium.

Patriotic Concert

by Danny Simpson

The comment most often heard at the Patriotic Concert was, "I had tears in my eyes."

Judy Epperson's piccolo solo set the tone for the music that followed. The combine voices of singer from the community and the Grace Church choir were directed and accompanied by Betty Dethmers on the piano.

Each branch of the military was acknowledged in musical tribute. Becky Arthur's solo "Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier" was as poignant today as it was when sung during the Revolutionary War.

The Joyful Noise handbell selections played by Jennifer Wright, Becky Arthur, Margaret Butler and Dale Kettering, directed by Ed Butler were a great addition to the program.

The Quilts of Valor, made by the Ladies Sewing Group, were beautifully displayed on the backs of the pew for public viewing and the significance of the quilts was explained by Bev Gunderson and Carol Slater during the program.

All the hard work requires to present the Patriotic Concert on the Fourth of July was appreciated by everyone who attended. Each person left the concert standing a little taller and proud to be an American.



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What about the people affected by the donations we provide?

Certainly, there are all the people who have attended Grace, and those who will attend next Sunday. But there are many more who have been strengthened knowing about our love and hospitality, that there are Christians who are following Jesus' call to love their neighbor rather than the cultural traditions of 2,000-3,000 years ago.

I can go on and on-but I would rather that you do it. What are the other ways that Grace and our family of faith make a difference in the world?

People need Grace.

- They need a church that celebrates the variety of individual gifts and expressions.
- They long for a community of faith that is not manipulative and is courageous enough to speak up and advocate for what is right.
- They desire a church that helps them relate to God, invites spiritual exploration, and encourages mature faith.

Catherine's Column continued from page 2

includes a time of prayer which is followed by discussion. If you are interested, please contact me at cathctran@gmail.com or 720-440-0059. Our next meeting will be September 22nd. This is a great opportunity to be intentional about your personal spiritual formation.



TRANSITIONS

We need to be in prayer for Catherine and her family. Her father has been quite ill and, in the hospital, again.

Please pray for the victims of Hurricane Dorian and the victims of the mass shooting in Odessa, Texas.

Vi Hardy needs our prayers and our support. She is recovering from surgery for an obstructed bowel and is convalescing at home. Please call before you go to visit.

Continued prayers for Bev and Chuck Herrle, and Fred and Ampy Swart.

Remember Ed and Margaret Butler in your prayers as they lost the beloved dog, Sunshine, last week.

And as always.... Pray for our nation's leaders that they may make good decisions and pray for peace and understanding in the world.

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- They want a church that is more than talk, one that lays it on the line for the sake of healing and mutual accountability.
- They are excited when they know there are generous people who want to make a positive difference in the world and in other people's lives.

This fall we will continue our worship, mission and ministries. If this triggers in you, thoughts about how we continue to be in ministry in this neighborhood, community and throughout the world, contact a member of the Church Council or one of the Pastors. Are there changes we need to make to continue and grow our witness? Are there new ways to be the church in this still young century? We will always be working to gather more information from our community, share concerns about the sustainability of the ways we are functioning now, and pray about the possibilities God is laying before us.



Church Council Report continued from page 3

The projected cost, with a limit of \$800, will be funded from the Memorial Garden Fund. Further, monies from the Memorial Garden Fund will be used for garden maintenance.

Because of a low turnout at the most recent Blessings of the Animals, this future of this heretofore annual event will be reevaluated.



City Market Rewards Program

The King Soopers gift card program has ended and has been replaced with a new loyalty card program. Each person must register their loyalty card and link to the organization he or she wishes to support. The directions on how to do this are outlined below.

Directions: sign in to www.kingsoopers.com/community rewards.

To create an account:

1. Click "Enroll now" and then enter your email and create a password
2. Select "use card number" and enter
3. Select your preferred store by entering the postal zip code.
4. Select find stores, choose, and select create account.
5. Check email confirm by choosing the hyperlink and continue to register for the rewards program.

To Register for the Rewards Program:

1. Sign in with email and password.



City Market Rewards

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2. Select "my account from the drop-down menu, then choose Community Rewards from the left-hand side under "account summary".
3. Click on Community Rewards.
4. Under find and organization, type in Grace Church.
5. Click on Grace Church and each purchase you make will go toward the money we earn each quarter.
6. **Remember:** Purchases will not count until after you register your loyalty card. You must swipe your registered City Market loyalty card **or use the phone number related to your card**, when shopping for the purchase to count.

Last quarter Grace Church received \$74.00 in rewards with only 5 people registered. If the entire congregation registered, the amount of the rewards could be significant

If you still have trouble registering, contact Judy Epperson or David Erickson and they can help you get registered. Last quarter Grace Church received \$74.00 in rewards with only 5 people registered. If the entire congregation registered, the amount of the rewards could be significant.

Frosolono Family Chicken Recipe

Those of you who attended Max and Sharon Robertson's Going Away Party, remember, among other things, the great chicken. It is an old family recipe, but Mike agreed to share it with his "Grace Church Family." Here it is.

The following recipe prepares approximately 24 chicken pieces. We like separated breasts, thighs, drumsticks, etc. rather than intact halves. We select pieces from small chickens. We trim excess fat and skin, what I call the "hanging down parts," from the water-rinsed pieces.

The ingredients of the sauce are: (a) 2 cups oil, (b) 1-quart dark vinegar, (c) 2 tablespoons poultry seasoning, (d) 1/3 cup salt, and (e) 1 teaspoon black pepper. Combine the ingredients and heat just to a boil, the first appearance of big bubbles.

For people who want to give more of a kick to their blood vessels and blood pressure, an additional half-cup of oil and up to 1/2 cup of salt may be included. I believe the original recipe specified an even greater amount of salt.

Briefly submerge the individual chicken pieces into the hot sauce. The raw chicken tends to lower the temperature; therefore, maintain heat to the sauce during the dipping procedure. Once all the pieces have been dipped, cover them with the still-hot sauce. We like to marinate the chicken in a closed container in the refrigerator for at least one hour, preferably four to six hours.

After taking the chicken from the sauce, we employ a separator to remove most of the oil. Save the vinegar portion for basting during the grilling.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Grace Church Council will be September 8, 2019 at 10:45 am. If anyone has something to be added to the agenda, please contact Mike Frosolono.

On October 13, 2019, the annual Charge Conference will be held right after worship service, followed by a potluck dinner. Our new United Methodist District Superintendent, Chris Barr will be with us. This is an important business meeting for the United Methodist side of the congregation, so please plan to attend.

The potluck dinner scheduled for September 29, 2019 has been rescheduled for October 13, 2019 so we need someone to sign up for coffee hour for that day.

The next Walk to Connect will be on Saturday, September 7, 2019 at 10:00 am. Meet Catherine in the church parking lot. Dress according to the weather and bring water.

The Ladies Sewing Group needs help making things for the annual bazaar in November. If you can cut, iron, sew, stuff or otherwise help, please come to the sewing room in the annex on Wednesdays at 9:00 am. Training is available.

Marg Erickson, an ordained Congregational minister will be speaking at Grace on September 29, 2019. Please come to the service and make her feel welcome.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Birthdays

9/1 Kim Prather

9/1 Max Robertson

9/6 Carol Covert

Anniversaries

9/12 John and Judy Epperson

9/22 Jim and Peggy Finkowski



Happy Anniversary



Catherine and her cake

Photo by Sherry Thomas

Catherine and Tam Tran celebrated their anniversary on August 18, 2019. It was their 40th. They had a big party, but it was in Conifer, so not a lot of us got to go. So..... we had a cake, which Catherine got to enjoy with out Tam. Anyway, Happy Anniversary to them both.



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