



GRACE NOTES

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

Good-bye Sharon & Max

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



On July 26, 2019 we said good-bye to our dear friends, Max and Sharon Robertson. They have moved back to Texas to start a new chapter in their lives. We miss them greatly! The picture was taken at their going away party at Mike Frosolono's house.

Photo by Nashalla Love

AUGUST 2019

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran writes about the change of seasons and the things happening at Grace Church.



Rev. Erickson discusses true success.

2

Ministry Reports



Max and Sharon send greetings from Texas.

1



Mike Frosolono reports on the last Council meeting.

3



Bonnie Young reports on the Quilts of Valor project.

3

Friendship Day August 4



"Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art... It has no survival value; rather is one of those things that give value to survival."

C. S. Lewis

Let's all remember to be compassionate and respectful of each other. Make the world better.

Catherine's Commentary

It's hard to believe that summer is starting to wind down and school starts soon! This summer feels shorter than usual with all the cold weather we had in spring that seemed to keep our visitors and summer residents away a couple of weeks later than usual. But I am looking forward to our beautiful Colorado fall. As we look forward to the fall, there are a few things to start thinking about and planning for at Grace.

On August 24th at 11:00am, we will have the Blessing of the Animals service and lunch. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage you to invite everyone you know who has a beloved pet or other

animal. This event was a great success last year and we welcomed lots of community and neighborhood guests.

On August 10th at 10am we will sponsor another community walk. Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend and join us for a time of reflection and connection. This month's walk will be down to the river and back.

The Spiritual Discovery Group will be looking for new members to begin at the end of September. If you are looking for a place for quiet prayer and reflection, lively exploration of spiritual

Continued page 4



You may wish to begin prayerfully reflecting on your stewardship contribution to Grace for 2020

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. But in order to live peaceful, contented lives, we need to know the difference between these two types of successes. Most certainly, there is absolutely 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. But true success is different because true success calls us to live by The Light...not by the glare of the popping flashbulbs!

Continued page 4

Church Council Report

by Mike Frosolono, Chairman



The financial report for the month ending 30 June 2019 shows a positive net balance of \$1,201. Grace Church continues to have a strong financial position.

The next meeting of the Personnel Committee will be on August 26, 2019. Catherine Tran's mutual ministry review and evaluation of David Erickson's salary will be on the agenda. Proposed additional items for the agenda must be transmitted to the Personnel Committee before the scheduled meeting date.

The United Methodist Charge Conference will be on October 13, 2019 after the morning worship service. A potluck dinner will be held after the Charge Conference. Chris Carr, the new United Methodist District Superintendent will attend the Charge Conference.

Junia Fitzgerald and Judy Epperson will facilitate the Stewardship Campaign. Letters will be sent to the congregation, along with pledge cards to be returned on Stewardship Sunday. Dates, when finalized, for the Stewardship Campaign will be given to the congregation.

The Finance Committee will develop the proposed 2020 budget after completion of the Stewardship Campaign. The next Walk to Connect is scheduled for 10 Aug 2019. Promotional posters will be put up in advance of the Walk.

Blessing of the Animals will be held on 24 Aug 2019.

Continued page 5

Hello from Texas

by Sharon Robertson

Dear Grace Church:

With fondness & LOVE, we send you greetings from Texas! We also send greetings with sadness because we have left a Church Family, we dearly LOVE. Thank you for LOVING us for the past 8 years!

Grace Church will always have a warm, "Grace-filled" place in our hearts. You "gobbled us up" the first day we walked into the Church - we couldn't worship any other place. We watched Grace Church offer Grace to everyone who walked in the door, especially visitors!

God blessed our lives at Grace Church. God helped us grow at Grace Church. God allowed us to serve at Grace Church. God expanded God's LOVE in our hearts & lives at Grace Church! God increased God's LOVE in us as we made friends with each person at Grace Church!

Grace Church is one of God's most precious gifts to Buena Vista! We will always cherish & LOVE you, Grace Church!

Grace, Peace & LOVE, Max & Sharon



David's Column continued from page 2

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!

Continued page 5

Catherine's Column continued from page 2

questions, and companionship on the spiritual journey, THIS IS FOR YOU!! The Spiritual Discovery Group practices the prayer method described in my book, "*Spiritual Discovery: A Method for Discernment in Small Groups and Congregations*" (Rowman & Littlefield). In addition to the prayer experience, the group explores a book which they choose. The group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month after church.

You may wish to begin prayerfully reflecting on your stewardship contribution to Grace for 2020. We have already begun our stewardship planning and budgeting process for next year. Information will soon be coming from the Council about how to submit a request for the budget and what our stewardship calendar will be. We will also be recruiting new Council members in the next couple of months. If you are interested in being on Council, please let me know.

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

David has asked for prayers for his brother and his family. His brother's father-in-law is quite ill.

Prayers are requested for all the victims of gun violence in the United States, most recently in El Paso and Dayton.

Please continue to pray for Fred and Ampe and Bev and Chuck Herrle.

Prayers of thanksgiving for Maryanne Freed who is doing fine after her heart cath.

Please remember Vi Hardy who has an injured foot.

Continued prayers are requested for Catherine and her family as her parents adjust to a new living situation.

Please pray for healing in our country and for our leaders.

And as always, pray for world peace.

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!



Church Council Report
continued from page 3

Plans are under development for secure storage of the chimes and bells Ed and Margaret Butler will donate to Grace Church.

Fifty *Faith We Sing* hymnals have arrived will soon be placed in the pews. The July 4th concert funds and disbursement from the Andrea C. Frosolono endowment were used to purchase these hymnals.

Church Council once again urges all congregants who shop at City Market to enroll in the Kroger Rewards program, which could be a meaningful source of funds for Grace over time. Sign-up for the program or transfer of present membership can be accomplished online or through Customer Support at City Market. Procedures for initial sign-up or transfer are not onerous. Furthermore, congregants who enroll in the program by designating Grace Church as the recipient will not lose their fuel points.



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!



Quilts of Valor Report

by Bonnie Young

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the Quilts of Valor this year.

First to the Grace Ladies Sewing Group who completed 18 quilts-Vi Hardy, Martha Bauman, Bev Gunderman, Judy Butler, Jo Rodeheffer, Judy Deardorf, Sue Menz, Bonnie Young, Marsha Robirds.

Second, thank you to those involved with the 4th of July Patriotic Concert and Quilts of Valor Dedication-the choir and director Betty Dethmers; Joyful Noise Handbells and director Ed Butler; soloists Judy Epperson and Becky Arthur, speakers Bev Gunderman and Carole Slater and the ministers of Grace-Catherine Tran and David Erickson.

Last, a very special thank you to those who sponsored a quilt honoring or remembering a loved one. We had a sponsor for all 18 quilts. We were so pleased to be able to present two quilts personally in church to Joseph Bezek sponsored by Angel Hardy and Geoffrey Bowton sponsored by Keith and Evelyn Baker.

We also mailed quilts sponsored by our members to Max Robertson, Sr. (Max and Sharon Robertson); Robert Lake (Kurt and Dorothy Miller); Trey Stinson (Marsha and Dan Robirds); Michael Sarrialle (George and Christina Randle); and Charlie Whelan (Martha Bauman)

The remaining quilts were mailed in August to The Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center Inpatient Residential Treatment Facility (RTF), Fort Gordon, Georgia. It is the largest substance abuse disorder treatment facility,

Continued page 7

Quilts of Valor Report continued from page 6

in the Department of Defense. The RTF is a 28-day inpatient treatment program. Eighty-seven percent of SM's referred to the program successfully complete the program. Other co-occurring disorders, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and Traumatic Brain Injury are also be addressed during the four-week program.

We hope that some of the participants will respond to us when they receive a quilt.

Thank you again and again for this very successful 14-year mission of Grace Church. It truly is our church-wide endeavor



MINI-BLESSINGS
OPEN HOUSE
&
ADULT HORSESHOES TOURNAMENT

August 17th @ 9:00AM
15732 County Road 306, Buena Vista, CO 81211

- Bring the family out for Mini-Blessings Open House! Take a tour of the farm, and meet and greet with the Minis! Even take them for a spin on our Miniature Horse Agility Course!
- Adult Horseshoes Tournament:
 - \$15 entry fee preregistered
 - \$20 entry fee @ the door
 - Tournament play @ 9:00AM
 - Entry starts @ 8:30AM
 - Elimination bracket
 - 1st - 3rd takes CASH!
 - \$100 min. to 1st place or % of pot based on # of participants
 - Go to www.mini-blessings.org/events to preregister and for more information!

A special thank you to this years sponsors!

BV eBike RENTALS
Buena Vista
True Value

MURDOCH'S
ROYAL GEORGE ROUTE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN LUMBER
2525 Hwy 101

ROYAL GEORGE ROUTE
2525 Hwy 101

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Walk to Connect will be at 10am on Saturday, August 10, 2019. Invite a friend and join Catherine in the church parking lot. Remember to dress for the weather and bring water.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held on August 24, 2019 at 11:00 am. Lunch will be served after the service.

Mini-Blessings is having a Horseshoe Tournament on August 17, 2019 at 9 am at Mini-Blessings. Pre-registration is \$15.00, and Registration is \$20.00 at the door. Go to the Mini-Blessings website www.mini-blessings.org/events to pre-register.

David and Judy will have their computers in the Parish Hall on Sunday August 17, 2019 to help people sign up for the Kroger Rewards Program. If you are interested in having help with signing up for this program, bring your City Market Rewards card and meet with David or Judy during coffee hours.

We need someone to organize the Ladies Advent Brunch. If you would be interested in helping with this event, contact Judy Epperson at admin@gracechurchbvco.org.

Are you overrun with books that are really good, but you wouldn't want to read the again? Grace Church has a place for those books. We are starting a book exchange. The books are in a bookcase in Parish Hall. All you have to do is take a book and bring books to share with the congregation and then take a book home to read. When you finish it, bring it back and take another one. For more information, see Danny Simpson or Judy Epperson.

Blessing of the Animals

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Calling
All
Animals
(and owners too!)

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Lunch
Provided

August 24, 2019

11am

Grace Church

Treats for
the animals

203 Main Street, Buena Vista

OWNERS OF LARGE ANIMALS
PLEASE MAKE RERVATIONS AT
admin@gracechurchbvco.org

For more in-
formation
call Judy at
395-6380



Happy Birthday to all the August people.

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

- 8/5 Charles & Carol Covert
- 8/9 Max & Sharon Robertson
- 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.