



Grace Notes

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

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



May your Thanksgiving be enriched by the presence of family and friends and blessed by God's presence and love.

NOVEMBER 2019

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran



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Ministry Reports



Happy Thanksgiving!

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Fall Back!

Remember to move you clocks back 1 hour tonight. We need to see all of you in church tomorrow!



Catherine's Commentary

Recently, you may have heard that Mike Frosolono is moving to Waco in mid-November. Mike has been our Council Chair in 2019. We are so grateful for his leadership and what he has accomplished! Thanks, Mike! We wish you all the best and will miss you!

Unfortunately, Mike will not be able to complete his term, so we have been looking for a replacement for the rest of this year and for someone to take the job for 2020. Having the same person for both these terms would be best for the stability for our leadership.

I am pleased to report that Ray Stwalley has stepped forward to

fill Mike's term and be our Council Chair for 2020. Ray, born and raised Methodist and active in the UMC all his life, has served in the position of Council Chair in another congregation as well as many other roles. He has been on the Council this year, so will be able to hit the ground running. Ray brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position. Ray promises to challenge the Council to work hard for the benefit our church.

I look forward to working with Ray and welcome the challenge and knowledge he offers as a leader. Please don't hesitate to contact Ray if you have feedback

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Thanks, Mike! We wish you all the best and will miss you!

David's Column -Grief and the Holidays



As we approach the holiday season, I invite you to be mindful for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. As most of us know, this can be a particularly difficult time. As friends it is important to invite those who are grieving to have dinner, go to a movie, to share moments together but to understand that those who are grieving may not feel like joining us but the fact that we invited them helps them to know we love and care for them.

It is important to invite those who are grieving to share their thoughts and memories of their loved one. Not bringing up the name of the one who died often makes family and friends even lonelier. Going through grief experiences myself, I have learned that the second year of the loss is at times more difficult to cope with than the first year. I think we expect the first year to be difficult, we prepare for that and we are sometimes still in shock and a bit of a fog. We

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Church Council Report

by Judy Epperson



The Grace Church Council met on October 6, 2019 with 5 members and 2 clergy members present. The treasurer reported that our income was up for the month of September due to an increase in

non-pledge income. The budget planning for the 2020 year will begin after the United Methodist Church Conference on October 13, 2019.

The Personnel Committee's proposal that David's salary for next year should be \$14,4000 with \$600 for expenses was approved by the Council.

Mike Frosolono announced that the October meeting would be his last as he is moving to Texas. He will be missed.

The Nominating Committee consisting of Evelyn Baker, Kurt Miller, Catherine Tran and David Erickson will be charged with filling the vacancies. Several names were put forward and the Nominating Committee will speak with them.

A metal cap has been made to repair the railing on the steps at the entrance to Parish Hall and is in place. These repairs have made the handrail more secure and thereby made it safer.

Farewell

by Mike Frosolono

Now that my residency in Buena Vista has come to a close, I want formally to express my great affection for the people of Grace Church and, importantly, to thank the congregation for the way Grace Church incorporated Andrea and me into the Grace Fellowship.

Importantly, I want to acknowledge the way the fellowship stood by our family during and after Andrea's death. I will never forget Andrea's memorial service at Grace Church. While I pursued my career, Andrea and I were congregants in several United Methodist fellowships in many areas of the United States. In none of those fellowships did we receive as warm and accepting welcome as we did at Grace Church. I very much appreciated the quality of David and Catherine's sermons and, as well, the quality of the congregational singing.

As many of you may know, Andrea loved to sing the old-time hymns. Grace Church will always occupy a hallowed place in my heart and in my mind. I don't know when I may visit Buena Vista in the future, but I will definitely want to worship again at Grace Church. Thanks for the great worship experiences.

Thanks, and blessings,

Mike

Continued...

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often expect the second year to be a bit easier and when it is not, it may be very depressing.

Many, including myself, have found that by the third year of a loss we begin to find a new normal and renewed joy and happiness. So, for those who are grieving be kind to yourselves; for those who are friends of a grieving person, please frequently and gently reach out to those who are going through the grief process.

For those who are grieving, it is important to allow yourself to grieve in ways that work for you and to celebrate holidays as you wish. It is important for families in grief to talk openly about what to do on Thanksgiving and Christmas and to make allowances for all family members to celebrate or not celebrate according to their needs.

You may want to keep with old traditions or add some new ones such as lighting a candle in memory of your loved one at a holiday dinner. Maybe this is the year for pizza instead of turkey.

Most importantly when those days arrive, give yourself and your family members the grace to be sad or happy; to be with a

Catherine's Column continued from page 2

of any kind for our Council. Or even better, you are welcome to attend our Council meetings which are the second Sunday of each month following fellowship time.

Thank you, Ray, for stepping forward!

Announcements

Remember to return your pledge cards, if haven't already done so.

On November 10, 2019 we will say good-bye to Mike Frosolono. He is moving to Texas to be with his older daughter. There will be a small party in the Parish Hall during coffee hour. Please come and join us in saying good-bye to Mike.

Poinsettia dedication slips will be in the bulletin starting Sunday, November 3, 2019 and throughout November. The cost to dedicate a poinsettia is \$27.00.

The annual greening of the church will be done on Saturday, November 30, 2019 at 10:00 am. Please come and help us decorate our church for the Advent season.

Also, Judy's office hours have changed from Tuesdays to Wednesdays from 9am to 12pm.

TRANSITIONS

Please pray for Bev Herrle who was put back in the hospital today. She has a myriad of health problems.

Please remember Vi Hardy who is continuing her cancer treatments.

Barbara O'Donnell and her family need our prayer as her family struggles with Steve's illness. A joy is that he can enjoy his daughter's wedding and walk her down the aisle.

Congratulations to Catherine and her family on the birth of a new grandson, Archer. Both mom and baby are doing fine.

Pray for St. George's church. They do an essential ministry in Leadville and let's pray that they will be able to continue.

Remember to pray for Grace Church as we start a new financial year.

big group or not. It is a difficult time for everyone, so being flexible and kind are important qualities to incorporate at this time of year.

Also, you might not be grieving the loss of a loved one, but a change in circumstance. These might include but are not limited to job change, job loss, relocation, ending of a significant relationship, health issue, a new baby in the family, infertility issues, major income change, etc.

Again, it is important to be gentle with oneself in these changes and to reach out with compassion and love to those going through life changes.



We Thank Thee

For the flowers that bloom about our feet,
Father, we thank Thee.

For tender grass so fresh, so sweet,
Father, we thank Thee.

For the song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue of sky,
Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high,
Father, we thank Thee.

For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light
Father, we thank Thee.

For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee.

For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Annual Church Bazaar

The Annual Church Bazaar will be held on November 23, 2019 from 8am to 2pm in the Parish Hall. There will be many wonderful things on sale, both seasonal and non-seasonal. It will be perfect time to do some Christmas shopping and find some one of a kind hand-made craft.

The culinary talents of the ladies of Grace Church will also be displayed in the delightful array of baked goods at the bake sale. Mary Hallman has made several rum cakes for the event. Along with these delicious cakes there will be many other delicious creations to tempt your palate and wallet.

Martha Bauman, Bonnie Young, and the other ladies of the Ladies Sewing Group have worked extremely hard to make this one of the best bazaar's ever. We hope to see everyone in the church there.



Ladies Advent Brunch

The annual Ladies Advent Brunch will be held on December 6, 2019 at 10am in the Parish Hall. The theme this year is "Come to the Manager."

The Handbell quartet and the Ladies Choir will be providing entertainment. The choir is learning some new songs, and the handbells are always enjoyable. Rebecca Kemper-Poos will be the speaker. She is a great speaker and always has a good message. And we will also be having the annual sing-along.

We have a different menu this year and a very special Christmas dessert. It promises to be a festive and joyous occasion and we hope that all the ladies of the church will join us for this special annual event.

Tickets go on sale November 3, 2019 after church in the Parish Hall. The cost is \$15.00. See Judy Epperson if you are interested in buying a ticket. Space is limited, so you need to purchase your tickets early.



The Alpine Orchestra Fall 2019

GIANTS!

Antonin

DVORAK

Hector

BERLIOZ

Sir Malcolm

ARNOLD

& MORE

November 8, 7:30, Leadville, Old Church, 801 Harrison

November 9, 7:30, Salida, SteamPlant, Sackett & G Street

**November 10, 3:00, Buena Vista, Clearview Community Church
457 Rodeo Road**

Concerts are free, donations accepted

A Veterans Day Salute



Mini-Blessings Fund Raiser

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mark your Calendar!

Mini-Lights of Central Colorado

Mini- Blessings

**Saturday, December 14, 2019
and Saturday, December 21,
2019**

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Join us for an old-fashioned
Country Christmas
and
Fantastic Light Displays**



Birthdays

11/5 Bill Fitzgerald

11/30 Ed Butler

Anniversaries

11/25 Rick and Nancy Fox



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 eppej1@att.net