



Grace Notes

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

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



NOVEMBER 2021

From Our Pastors



Rev. Tran says farewell to Grace Church.



Rev. Seay talks about moving forward and enjoying Thanksgiving.

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Ministry Reports



Happy Thanksgiving

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Becky Arthur writes about the activities of the church.

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Daylight Savings time

3

Daylight Savings Time

Daylight savings time begins on November 7, 2021. Remember to turn back your clocks on Saturday night, you won't arrive at church before the preacher.



Catherine's Commentary

It is hard to say goodbye. Before you know it, the end of November will be here, and we won't be together on second and fourth Sundays anymore. You'll have someone else to preach and celebrate communion with you. I'll be retired. We will say goodbye.

As I move into this phase of my life, I have been reflecting on how aging comes with more and more goodbyes. We say goodbye to careers, places, and people. We may lose the great health we once had. I could go on. But as I think about these changes, I have determined for myself to choose gratitude. When I think about goodbye, I also say thank you. Goodbye to my work and thanks for the fulfilling career. Goodbye

to dear friends and thanks for all the wonderful people I have met along the way and all the friends I have made. Goodbye to Grace Church and thanks for all the love you have shared with me.

More than anything else, I want to say thank you to all of you at Grace who make it such a wonderful place to serve. You have been a great blessing to me through all these years and I feel so fortunate to have served at Grace. I hope you will always remember that the next Episcopal priest - like all the clergy who serve at Grace - will be blessed to be there. You will bless them as much as they bless you!

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Thanks for all the love you have shared with me.

From the Desk of Rev. Seay



Our hearts and our prayers go out for Pastor Catherine Tran as she transitions into her retirement from Grace Episcopal United Methodist Church. Pastor Tran's ministry has been a blessing to Grace Church. Soon You will hear of plans to honor her service and leadership to Grace Church. Looking ahead, I am honored to be your pastor and I look forward to ministry with you. I ask that you Join me in prayer for the Lord to sustain me and guide me as your pastor.

Now this is the month of Thanksgiving, a time for all of us to reflect on God's blessings as people who are one nation under God. A time to reflect with family, friends, and turkey feasting. I Pray all will be an enjoyable gathering and safe within our 18 months of Covid.

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Church Council Report

by Becky Arthur, Chairman



Grace to you all and
Peace from God our
Father and our Lord
Jesus Christ!

It's starting to feel
more like winter
every day! The Grace
Memorial Garden got
cleaned up a bit
before Mike and

Susan Williams decamped to Texas a couple of weeks ago – Thanks so much!!

Thanks to Leslie Quilico for leading us in a wonderful lesson on Halloween! I love the lay-led Sundays! It gives some of us a chance to speak and others of us a chance to see a whole new facet in this jewel of life we've been given.

The Council will be busy for the remainder of this year with the changes in our leadership. We need to decide whether to alternate denominational lead pastor (we're going to try!) and start thinking about calling a new priest to replace Catherine. The process of calling a priest can take a surprising amount of time. We need to be prepared to have supply pastors and possibly lay leaders during the foreseeable future, so please be patient with us as we approach this in a discerning and thoughtful way.

I was feeling overwhelmed the other day and happened to pick up a book I've read several times, a life of being, having, and doing enough by Wayne Muller. I opened the book and found I was in a chapter that dealt with both the how and the why of doing things. He posits that the *how* is **efficiency**, and that the *why* boils down to **love**. I realized that here at

Solvista

By Peggy Finkowski

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Solvista Health is a 501c3 nonprofit healthcare provider staffed by caring

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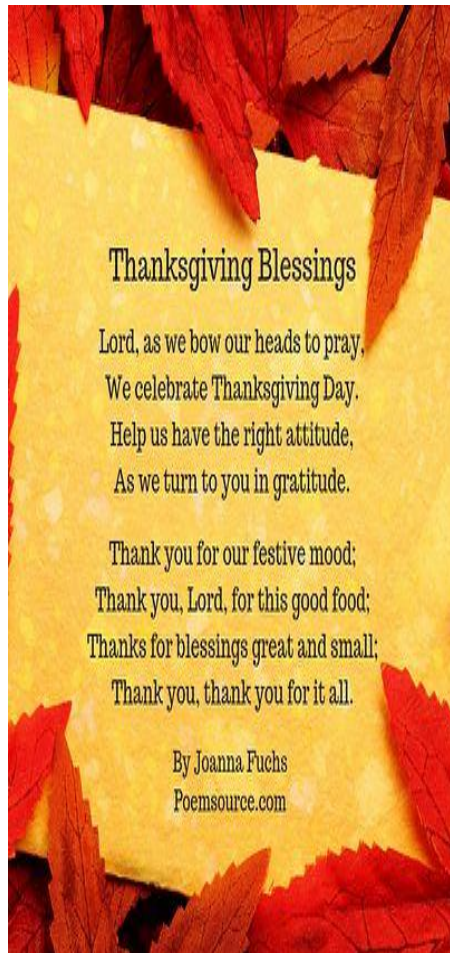
Rev. Seay's Column
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Let us continue as Pastor Tran has said, "no rush continue in the spirit of discernment."

Blessing extended
Rev. Seay



Thanksgiving Blessings



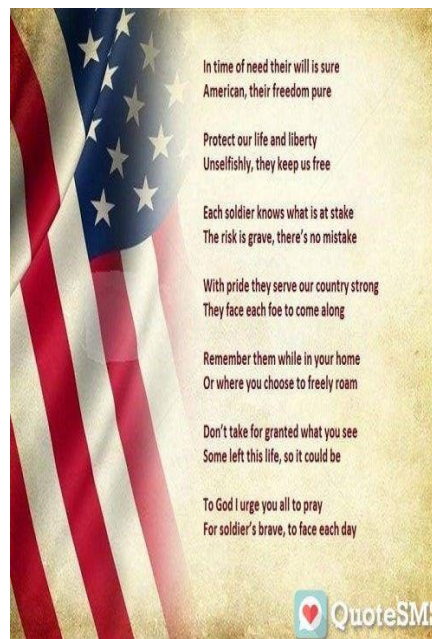
Catherine's Column
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And that's what priests are called to do - bless. So here is my final blessing for you all.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen!



Veteran's Day



TRANSITIONS

Please pray for Jennifer's friend Tom who had knee surgery on Monday.

Prayers are requested for Kim Prather as he has shoulder surgery on Friday.

Sherry asks that we remember her friend, Betty, who is beginning chemotherapy.

Prayers of thanksgiving are offered for Carol's friend Jack who is off oxygen and should be getting to go home soon.

Jo asks for prayers for her cousin, Joyce, who is battling cancer.

Please pray for Judy Epperson. She is having a kidney biopsy on Monday.

Prayers are needed for Ray Stwalley, who is still having back issues and Bonnie Young, who is going through multiple health issues.

And as always, pray for Grace Church, our town, and our country.

Council News continued from page 3

at Grace, we have a lot of both of those things.

The women of Grace have been crafting and getting ready for the annual Holiday Bazaar. Now, we have some masters of efficiency in the group, but the whole reason to do this at all does boil down to love. The proceeds will go to local charities that the women involved in the work are passionate about. So, there's absolutely nothing in it for us other than the fun and fabulous companionship, which is a huge intrinsic reward in itself. The love we can show God's children in the community is the great big WHY. Somehow it helped me slow the blender down to know we're acting out of love.

I am so comforted, and so humbled by the love shown in our group, and by the hours and hours of time that have been spent to realize the gifts we hope to give.

May God's abundant and rich blessings be with us all as we move into the cold of late fall and prepare for winter.

Soul Vista Health continued from page 3

professionals, serving local needs for nearly 60 years. They offer a comprehensive array of mental health and substance use disorder treatment and supports in Chaffee, Custer, Fremont & Lake Counties. They are building a Regional Assessment Center by the Salida Hospital.



St. George Community Pantry and Meals Program

by Bonnie Young

We are proud to announce that Grace has broken the bank again and sent a check for \$500 to St. George's Pantry and Meal Program. Their Program reaches out to everyone in the Leadville community who are in need of food.

Grace was involved in the meals program before Covid 19 shut everything down. In lieu of providing the monthly Saturday night meal, Grace members have contributed financial support for the last year. We will continue this support until it is determined that we can return in person. Serving a meal and being part of their mission to feed people was an important mission of Grace.

Thank you for your participation.



2021 Shoe Box Christmas by Bonnie Young

This year, the November outreach will be again supporting the Spirit Lake Ministry Center. Two United Methodist missionaries, Mike, and Libby Flowers lead this mission. On reservations, up to 70% of children do not get a Christmas gift. These shoe boxes will be sent to reservations in North Dakota, South Dakota, or Minnesota, wherever the need.

Grace has participated in filling shoe boxes for over 10 years; first with Operation Christmas Child, (Samaritan's Purse) and now with Spirit Lake Ministries partnering with Calvary United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs, for 3 years. We are in a crunch this year to have boxes ready by November 14.

We have gotten a late start because of Covid, Grace activities, and personal issues. If you think you could fill up a box, they are available in the Parish Hall. They can be filled with school supplies, winter hats, gloves, scarves, hygiene items, books, candies, and toys. Instructions will be included.

Thank you for your participation. **REMEMBER TO RETURN BOXES BY NOVEMBER 14.** Any questions can be directed to Bonnie Young.



LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR

The Spirit Lake Ministry Center is dedicated to supporting the peoples of the Spirit Lake Nation and is an approved United Methodist Volunteer in Mission destination.

The Making of a Craft Show

Continued from Column 1



Announcements

Remember the Church Conference November 7, 2021, held in Parish Hall immediately following the service, live and on Zoom.

Go to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and search for **Grace Church** What's Happening in BV. We need as many people as we can get to like that page, so when we post to our F/B page it will go out to all the members who are on Facebook. This is one of the best advertising tools we have to get the word out. I will be posting at least once/month and for those who get the postings, we ask that they share that post to their Facebook page. That means that all of their friends get to see it as well. The number of people we can reach is exponential.

Mark your calendars for **November 5 at 7:00 pm**. The orchestra will be live streaming from Clearview Community Church, a small ensemble concert. Featuring fun works by Rossini, Walters, Grainger, Joplin, Gershwin, Mancini, Beethoven and others, our concert includes arrangements for strings, Woodwind Octet, Brass Quintet, and Percussion. Please join us by visiting our website and connecting to the Clearview Community Church YouTube channel. www.alpineorchestra.org
www.clearviewcommunity.org.

The Lutheran Church's **Gingerbread House Bazaar** will be held from 9am to 2pm on November 13, 2021. They will have crafts, gifts, and lots and lots of food. The Lutheran Church is located at 15440 CR 306. Credit cards accepted.



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Birthdays

11/5 Bill Fitzgerald

11/28 Barbra Clark

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 eppersonjudy51@gmail.com