



# Grace Notes

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

## Happy Mother's Day

*Persons, places, vistas we have seen*



### MAY 2022

#### From Our Pastors



Rev. Seay talks about the success of the Lenten and Holy Week activities.

2

#### Ministry Reports



Happy Mother's Day!

1



Jennifer Wright reports on the activities of the Grace Church Council

3



Carolyn Hayes writes about the Ark Valley Christian Mission

3

## Mother's Day

"A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend." – Unknown

"Youth fades; love droops; the leaves of friendship fall; A mother's secret hope outlives them all." – Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Motherhood is the exquisite inconvenience of being another person's everything." – Unknown

## From the Desk of Rev. Seay

First, I want to thank God for the worship committee, and I thank God for the membership with their participation in the Holy Week Services. I am sure, like me, you found all the services to be inspiring. Grace Church looked beautiful for Easter with the Easter lilies, white linen and spot less cleaning by the Altar Guild. I really enjoyed the Creek Indian song "He is Risen" during the Easter Service Processional. A dear friend who happen to be on Zoom for our Easter Service really enjoyed the closing hymn, Lord of the Dance. In a telephone call to me she said, I thought you pastored an Episcopal / United Methodist Church, I saw children in the center isle during the holy dance

like in the Pentecostal church. I told my friend; We are a little bit of everything. She replied, I enjoyed the lady singing and the kids dancing, a happy, happy Easter, something appropriately different.

I want you to know, I extend our Easter greetings to retired Pastor Reverend Catherine Tran. She and her family are doing OK, thank God, she said. She wanted you as the congregation to know you are all missed by her very, very much. Hard to be some place 11 years and not miss the people and things about it, especially the people at Grace Church. She sends her love, her prayers, and best wishes to the

[Continued on page 4](#)




---

## Top Ten Things We Did as Kids? How Did We Ever Survive?

It is a wonder we ever survived! There are time that I am amazed that my friends and I survived to reach this age in life. Think of what we did without ever thinking twice about it. Here are a few things I used to do.

1. Drank from the dirty garden hose most every day.
2. Played games in the road where the cars roared along at 55 mph.
3. Burned leaves on the side of the road and rode our bicycles through the smoke.
4. Speaking of bicycles, we road with another youngster riding on the handlebars.
5. Flew down the road in the back of pick-up trucks.
6. Never used seatbelts – enjoyed climbing over the car seats from the back to the front and back again.
7. Played in the creek, even the deeper parts.
8. Walked along the busy railroad track and waved to the engineer. Depending on who was in the cab, often we would hear the air horns whistle twice at us as the train sped by.
9. Ate our lunches from a paper bag that sat in a hot locker all morning.

[Continued on page 4](#)

## Church Council Report

by Jennifer Wright, Chairman



The Wild Goose Worship Sunday Evening Services have been meeting since March. At our April Council meeting it was decided that the rest of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning services will be led by Leslie

Quilico and will include some of the same things that they incorporate into their Sunday Evening Services. If you haven't had a chance to attend a Wild Goose Service, I highly recommend you go! (Sun 5:30-7pm)

Items that were discussed at our April Council meeting:

Childcare training for Wild Goose services - Peggy has completed the Methodist Safe Gathering class, I am working on it, and Janet Yinger, & Rev Seay plan to complete it also. I think there are 8 or 9 Wild Goose members that have signed up to take it as well. Meanwhile, I have been hanging out with the kids while they do their activities in the Parish Hall on Sunday nights.

Electronic/keyless locks - we now have a keyless entry lock on the side door of the Sanctuary and because of issues with the main door of the Parish Hall, we will be installing the other keyless entry lock on the side door of the Parish Hall. If you would like a code, please reach out to Gary or Kim. Thanks to Gary for getting this done!

**If you currently HAVE a key to any church building, please make sure to let Judy**

## Arkansas Valley Mission

By Carolyn Hayes

The mission of the Arkansas Valley Christian Mission is to serve needy families of the Arkansas River Valley in the Buena Vista area.

The mission assist those in need of food, shelter, and basic necessities of life. This includes helping the poor in spirit with a listening ear and a caring heart by offering Christian perspective and serving as a gathering place for a non-denominational setting.

All are accepted be it a temporary crisis, unemployed, family difficulties, illness or unable to receive help elsewhere. You are not required to be affiliated with a church to serve or to accept need.

All services are free and confidential. There is a grocery/client pantry, employment resources, healthcare references, prescription copayment assistance and fuel vouchers for emergencies.

The organization is a 501(c)(3). It started in 1991 and served 177 households monthly in 2020. Holiday meals are donated at Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving.

Comments from persons receiving help.  
"I needed tools so I could work. They hooked me up with the basics."

"Great services for low-income people."

"If you are in the area and on hard times; they, offer all kinds of help."

To donate send your checks to Arkansas Valley Christian Mission at .

Arkansas Valley Christian Mission  
122 Cottonwood Ave,  
Buena Vista, Co. 81211  
719-395-9021  
[ark.chrisitanmissio@gmail.com](mailto:ark.chrisitanmissio@gmail.com)

Continued on page 5

**Top Ten Things**  
continued from page 2

10. We had no cell phone and no tracking devices and didn't have to come home until suppertime. We hiked in the wood, climbed the hills, and did many more things that I can't think of right now. Can you think of a couple of things that you did that cause you to wonder "How did I ever survive?"

By Michael Peck

\*\*\*\*\*

**Outreach Donations**

The Outreach Committee had \$3,066.00 to disburse to organizations. The gave to the following: Ark Valley Humane Society - \$500; The Alliance - \$1,000; BV Hope A21 - \$500; and ElevateHER - \$1000. These donations are made possible by the generous giving of the members of Grace Church. Thanks for your support.

The Outreach Committee

\*\*\*\*\*

The search continues for an Episcopal priest to be shared with St. George's in Leadville. The job will remain posted until May 15. Then the interview process will begin.

**Rev. Seay's Column**  
continued from page 2

congregation. It was good to hear her voice.

Now as we look at the month of May aware of Mother's Day, and the expected spring weather that is forthcoming, people are or will be traveling during this time. Perhaps making up for the lost time during the pandemic restrictions. Now that we can be with family and friends, it is a suitable time to thank God that this pandemic is easing up. I encourage you to be safe and prayerful as you travel.

Blessing Extended,

Rev. W. Clifford Seay, Pastor

\*\*\*\*\*

Co-ordination in dress isn't a requirement for the church ushers, but it looks good when its done, as was demonstrated by Bill and Junia Fitzgerald last Sunday.



**TRANSITIONS**

Jo Rodeheffer shared this news from her cousin Joyce "The oncologist said good news on all fronts . The PET scan showed now lymphoma.

Prayers have been answered." Great news!

Please continue to pray for Susan's great nephew, Nash.

Max and Sharon ask for prayers for Stan and Suzanne.

Jennifer asks for prayers for three of her friends, Ron, Rick, and Shelly. All of them are going through cancer treatments.

Becky asks for prayers of thanksgiving for the generosity and spirit of the people of Grace Church.

Rev. Seay requested prayers for the people of Russia, who are also victims of the war in Ukraine.

Please pray for all who are in ill health.

## Council News

continued from page 3

### Epperson know so she can put you on our Key Log.

Thanks again to EVERYONE in our congregation for ALL you do! Please remember to Stop, Look, Listen, and Respond with LOVE to each other! We can continue to do Great Things if/when we work together!

Blessings – Jennifer

2022 Council Members – Jennifer Wright,  
Chair

Susan Shampine, Vice-Chair

Peggy Finkowski, Methodist Lay Leader

Janet Yinger, Episcopal Sr. Warden

Ed Butler

Nancy or Rick Fox

Kim Prather

Judy Epperson, Secretary

Becky Arthur, Treasurer

Rev. Clifford Seay, Clergy Representative  
and United Methodist Lead Pastor



## Coffee Hour Returns!!!

By Judy Epperson

After a six-month absence, coffee hour has returned to Grace Church. Yes, the fun happy hour has resumed immediately following the church service every Sunday. The first meeting was last week, and it played to rave reviews. It will continue, barring new COVID restrictions every Sunday for the rest of the year, excluding Christmas Day, which is on Sunday this year.

If you would like to help with this fun activity, signup sheets are on the bulletin board in Parish Hall. I know what you're thinking – that you don't like to cook breakfast for your own family, let alone the entire church.

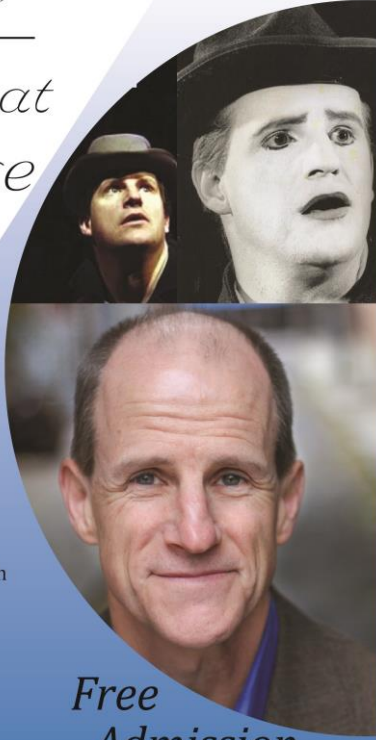
But Coffee Hour doesn't have to be a complete meal, unless you're just ambitious and want to show off your culinary talents – just a nice banana bread, a bowl of fruit and some coffee will do. Nothing elaborate. Signup with a friend and it's half the work.

The food doesn't even need to be homemade. Believe me, the people of Grace will eat almost anything, it's the fellowship that is important.

This is a really great time to get together with the other members of the church and get to know one another better. We are getting some new people in the church, and this is a great opportunity to learn more about them.

So.... Come join us after church for a light snack, a cup of coffee or tea, and good fellowship.

*C.S. Lewis'*  
*The Great Divorce*



*A Performance*  
 By Anthony Lawton

May 6th & 7th  
 Beginning Promptly  
 at 7:00pm

Ages 10 and up,  
 Child care provided

Dillon Community Church  
 371 E La Bonte Street.

To learn more  
 about Anthony Lawton  
[anthonylawtonactor.com](http://anthonylawtonactor.com)

**Free Admission**

Robert Schmidt, worship and arts pastor at Dillon Community Church in Dillon, CO invites the members of Grace Church to attend a one-man performance of C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, done by Anthony Lawton. The performances will be at Dillon Community Church, 371 E. La Bonte Street, Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7 at 7 pm. For more information, contact Robert Schmidt at 970-485-0661 or at [robschmidt@dillonchurch.org](mailto:robschmidt@dillonchurch.org)



Starts Feb. 4

**FREE SHOWERS**  
 Men, Women and Families  
 ALL are welcome!

**FRIDAYS, 12PM TO 2PM**  
 Buena Vista Shower Ministry  
 at Congregational United Church of Christ  
 217 Crossman Ave. (behind Post Office)

Provided

Icons: Soap bottle, Towels, Comb

This is a new mission of the Congregational United Church of Christ, so if you know anyone who would benefit from this ministry, please pass this information along.

## Ten Trained in CPR

by Judy Epperson

On Thursday, April 28, 2022, ten members of Grace Church were trained in CPR and how to use the AED machine. A member of the Chaffee County Fire Department taught the class. All ten participants passed the tests and are now certified. Those participating were Dorothy Miller, Susan Shampine, Ray Stwalley, Bonnie Young, Martha Bauman, Deb Scherger, Becky Arthur, Judy Epperson, Jennifer Wright, and Peggy Finkowski.

## More CPR Pictures



Practicing Baby CPR



Pictured are Dorothy Miller, Susan Shampine, Peggy Finkowski, Judy Epperson, Martha Bauman, Deb Scherger, Jennifer Wright, Bonnie Young, Beck Arthur, and Ray Stwalley

Photo by Peggy Finkowski



Ray does Baby CPR while Bonnie looks on.

Pictures by Peggy Finkowski

## Announcements

We are no longer ordering our altar flowers from the florist. We are purchasing them and asking members of the church who are talented flower arrangers to take turns doing the arrangements for the altar. If this is a talent of yours, and you would like to help, please contact Judy Epperson.

We would like to welcome Christy Shain-hendricks as our guest priest for Sunday, May 8, 2022. Christy is from Salida, CO and attends Ascension Episcopal Church. Please welcome her to Grace.

Mini-Blessings is holding a workday on Saturday, May 7, 2022, from 9am to noon. If you could come out to Mini-Blessings and help us for an hour or two, your help would be greatly appreciated.

The Women's Bible Study is meeting live in the Parish Hall and on Zoom, Monday mornings at 9:30am. Sharon Robertson is leading a study on the Book of Matthew. We are currently reading chapter 14, if you would like to come join us.

A new church directory will be out by the end of May (hopefully). I know a lot of you have been waiting for this for a long time. If you are not in the current directory, please send me your information; if you are in the current directory, please check and make sure that all your information is correct, and send any changes to Judy at [admini@gracechurchbvco.org](mailto:admini@gracechurchbvco.org). Thanks for your help.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays

5/8 Jennifer Wright  
 5/14 Martha Bauman  
 5/16 Maryanne Freed  
 5/23 Catherine Tran  
 5/28 Jim Finkowski

### Anniversaries

5/5 Tom and Barbra Clark  
 5/25 Tom and Martha Bauman  
 5/24 Carol and Ken Holze  
 5/29 Ed and Margaret Butler  
 5/30 Dan and Jo Rodeheffer  
 5/31 Bill and Junia Fitzgerald

*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](mailto:eppersonjudy51@gmail.com)*