



Grace Notes

The Newsletter of Grace Church • PO Box 1559 • Buena Vista, CO 81211
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Senior Citizens Day

Persons, places, vistas we have seen



AUGUST 2022

From Our Pastors



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National Middle Child Day

Middle Children Unite! August 12, 2022, is National Middle Child Day. Here is your chance to lord it over your siblings – the oldest who always got to do things first and the youngest who never got in trouble because he/she was always blaming you for what happened. Make them wait on you hand and foot and take you to dinner. If they don't live close enough for that, call them and demand a donation from them so you can celebrate with friends. You deserve it because you are the middle child, and you are important!

From the Desk of Rev. Seay – Fake News

People wonder do Biblical events correlate with our expressions on current events today? The answer is yes. The idea of information not being legitimate, being phony or fake may seem to be a new idea such as, Fake News.

Gospel of Matthew 28: 11. "Some of the soldiers guarding the tomb went back to the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. 12. The chief priests met with the elders and made their plan; they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers 13. And said, you are to say that his disciples came during the night and stole his body while you were asleep. 14. And if the Governor should hear of this, we will convince him that you are innocent, and you will have nothing

to worry about. 15. The guards took the money and did what they were told to do. And so that is the report spread around by the Jews to this very day." Fake News

Shameful that people do not accept their own eyes and eyewitnesses to the truth. Ecclesiastes 3:15 "Whatever happens or can happen has already happened before, there is nothing new under the sun." It is not history, but people repeating others as they make their history. Religious leaders, political leaders and the common people took Jesus, an innocent man, to be tortured and put to death. Even today there are people who do not believe the

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, His truth (despite fake news and unbelievers) marches on. This is the good news of the Gospel; it is not fake!

National Senior Citizen's Day

We should honor and respect our elders every day, but **August 21** is Senior Citizens Day, a day to commemorate them and show appreciation to those who are the pillars of the community. At some point in our lives, we have all turned to older people for life advice or learned something from the many life stories they have to tell us. Senior Citizens are also very generous and are always there to help us when we need it. This is why we have a day to celebrate them.

History

On August 19, 1988, President Ronald Reagan issued proclamation number 5847 declaring August 21 as National Senior Citizen's Day. In this proclamation, President Reagan says "For all they have achieved throughout life and for all they continue to accomplish, we owe older citizens our thanks and a heartfelt salute". Reagan thought it important to have a day to celebrate the achievements of Senior Citizens and thank them for all the support they give to society and their communities.

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Church Council Report

by Jennifer Wright, Chairman



Council Chat -

Our next Council Meeting will be **August 21st at 8AM!!!**

Our Yard Sale in July has produced \$2900 so far (still have 2 bikes, a dog kennel & cover, and a quilt

rack to sell on BV Bargains). This money will go directly into our Operating Fund. I'm thinking we could make it an Annual Event - sure helps to have a good reason to go through STUFF at our homes...now if we can just NOT bring anything back home! A BIG thanks to all who helped before, during and after. We also discovered 2 places that will take anything left - Mtn Heights Baptist Church takes bedding and household items to the Mission down in Alamosa that we have donated to in the past. The other person is out of Poncha Springs, and she helps homeless and/or abused women and their children get set up in a new, safe place to live.

Grace Church has purchased a Legacy Brick for the new stage at McPhelemy Park. I know many of us enjoy going to Concerts there in the summer, and it's also a nice gesture for our community. We'll get a replica to keep in the Parish Hall - it will say "Grace Church - Sharing God's Love"

I'm looking forward to our New Member and Member Rededication Ceremony on the 21st, as well as our Church Picnic at Mini Blessings.

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BV Pregnancy Center

By Kim Prather

Grace Church has been in relationship with this non-profit for over 10 years. We have supported them in a number of ways; monetary donations, baby clothing items made by the sewing group, baby blankets, baby bottles filled with loose change and other fundraisers. Outreach sent another \$500.00 donation this July.

The BV Pregnancy center services include free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, STD testing, birth control information and abortion education. Truthful information on pregnancy, parenting, adoption, abortion, and miscarriage is also offered.

The center does not offer, recommend, or refer for abortions or abortifacients, but is committed to offering accurate information about abortion procedures and risks, and post abortion support.

Center support staff is available to make informed decisions. Staff does not provide OB/GYN or pre-natal care, birth control prescriptions, or fertility testing, but there is counseling available for new dads, infant supplies, and educational classes, adoption, and medical referrals.

Additional information is available at: Buena Vista Pregnancy Center; 28350 CR 317 #12; Buena Vista. Interested parties can also contact the center at 719-395-6703 or BvLifeChoices.com

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What to do on Senior Citizens Day

Senior Citizens Day is the perfect day to go visit the elders in your family, be it your grandparents or a great-aunt or uncle, and spend some quality time with them. Listen to their life stories, take them out to their favorite restaurant, or cook them a delicious meal, and ask them to teach you some valuable lessons or skills. The most important thing is to make them know how much you appreciate them.

Another great thing to start doing on Senior Citizens Day is volunteering at Care Homes or organizations that support senior citizens.

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death and resurrection of Jesus as factual. To them it is Fake News. Although, a historian Josephus wrote at the time of Jesus saying, "Jesus continues to be seen alive by many since his death." Governor Pilate, a Roman politician wrote, "Jesus is king of the Jews," later offering a reward for the return of His body. The Roman Soldiers place a sealed stone at the entrance of the tomb of Jesus. But the Roman soldiers now say, they fell asleep and Jesus disciples came and stole His body. That is Fake News. If you are asleep; How do you know that is what happened?

Even so, you mean no one heard or saw the sealed stone being moved? The women who came to the tomb said they wondered how they would move the stone to anoint Jesus body as was the custom. No doubt God knew their thoughts. The women said, they saw an angelic Being whiter and brighter than lightening. This Being rolled the stone away and then sat on top of it, and the Roman soldiers fell to the ground like dead men.

The women who came to the tomb did not get any credibility from Jesus disciples, because they were women and seen as more emotional and hysterical about things. Even so, who folded Jesus grave clothes and why?

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TRANSITIONS

Please continue to pray for Joyce Logan. Her surgery went well but she will be continuing cancer treatments.

Prayers are requested for John and Judy Epperson's son-in-law, Cody, who has developed a blood clot in his leg.

Please pray for Zaila Smith as she starts college.

Susan Shampine requests prayers for her neighbor's daughter, who has a brain bleed.

Please pray for Rev. Seay as he recovers from an abscessed tooth.

Judy Epperson requests prayers for her surgery on Friday.

Max and Sharon requested prayers for all children who are returning to school.

Rev. Seay asked for prayers for his colleague, Jim Lewis, who had a heart attack.

Prayers for Adelfa Seay who has COVID.

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The clothes left were for the dead, not the living. Yet someone in the tomb took time and neatly rearrange Jesus grave clothes and left them in the tomb in two separate piles. That defies the logic of thieves. Another point, why did you go tell the chief priests what happen? You work for the Roman government as a Roman soldier, not religious leaders. And as religious leaders, why do you have to bribe people to tell the truth? No doubt Fake News.

It was known that the Romans change four guards on security duty every three hours. Now given the time of death that was reported, and the time they discovered the empty tomb, there are some seventy-two soldiers involved in this. The penalty for sleeping on guard duty as a Roman soldier is death. Are all of them going to lie? Of course, that is because, its Fake news. Sin will pay any price to suppress the truth.

Today, there would be a major televised investigation lasting for years of interviews with interrogation of the soldiers, politicians, religious leaders, and common citizens, to get their testimony on record and for what? To Find out, what people saw? When did they see it? What have they heard about it? And when did they hear about it? 1. "Dear Theophilus, many people have done their best to write a report of the things that have taken place among us. 3. Your excellency... I thought it would be good to write an orderly account to you... So you will know the full truth." His writing became known as *The Gospel of Luke*. God through Jesus Christ has granted deliverance aka salvation to all those who have not seen yet believe, His truth (despite fake news and unbelievers) marches on. This is the good news of the Gospel; it is not fake!

Blessing Extended,

Rev. W. Clifford Seay, Pastor

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If you do decide you would like to join Grace Church, please know that you are just joining our local church; not necessarily either Episcopal or Methodist!

Continued Thanks 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, Lay Leader (Methodist)
Kim Prather, Jr Warden (Episcopal)
Ed Butler
Nancy or Rick Fox
Judy Epperson, Secretary
Becky Arthur, Treasurer
Rev Cliff Seay, Lead Pastor (Methodist)

Quilts of Valor

by Bonnie Young

The Grace Church Loose Threads sewing group completed 15 quilts this year. And there were 18 sponsors. The quilts were on display in the Church for the July 4 Patriotic Concert and Dedication of the Quilts of Valor.

The Grace Choir under the direction of Berry Dethmers gave an hour program of patriotic songs. Judy Epperson played the piccolo of Stars and Stripes Forever, accompanied by Betty Dethmers on the organ. Mary Hallman accompanied the choir on the violin for the song Spirit, Open My Heart. Bill Fitzgerald read the Quilts of Valor information and Rev. Clifford Seay dedicated the quilts.

The Loose Threads were able to register two quilts to be presented by Grace Church. One quilt went to a veteran, Michael Baca, US Army, and US Navy living in South Park Colorado. He served 21 years. His family presented the quilt from Grace Church.

On Sunday, July 17, William (Bill) Fitzgerald, member of Grace, was presented a quilt during the service. Bill retired after service 24 years in the US Air Force; he was stationed around the world and in many states. The quilt was requested by his wife, Junia, and members of Grace Church. His quilt was sponsored by Maryanne Freed in memory of Bob Freed.

The other quilts will be sent to destinations determined by the Quilts of Valor Foundation in August.

This and That

After our July 4th concerts, Rev. Rebecca Kemper Poos and Janet Steiner from the CUCC asked if we ever wanted to combine church choirs sometime. Since I borrowed a special 4-hand anthem arrangement from Florida of Morning Has Broken, I decided it would work well as a combined choral and piece and scheduled Grace Choir to join forces with them for August 14th. With our service at 9am, we will sing after the sermon, and immediately leave for the other church, whose service starts at 10am. It will be a busy morning for all of the singers, but we look forward to a nice big choral sound. Dale Kettering will join me at the piano for a special prelude, and also the 4-hand choral accompaniment.

Betty Dethmers.

Have you been hankerin' for another one of Sharon Robertson's stirring sermons? Well, there's good news. Sharon is coming to BV! (with Max, of course.) They will be here the week of August 28, 2022, and will be staying in the residence. Sharon will be the guest preacher on Sunday, August 28, and the service will be followed by a special Coffee Hour. We will also have Women's Bible Study in person in the Parish Hall on August 29, at 9:30 am.

I know you will all want to come to these events and welcome Max and Sharon back "home" to Buena Vista.

If you have any ideas about coffee hour, please contact Judy Epperson.

GRACE Church Garage Sale



Pictures contributed by

Kathy Prather, Peggy Finkowski, Sherry
Thomas

Announcements

On August 21, 2022, Grace Church will have a Membership Dedication Ceremony during the worship service. This will be an opportunity for anyone attending Grace Church, who hasn't done so, to join Grace Church. You will not be joining the Episcopal or the Methodist Church, but just Grace Church. Please give this serious thought, and let Judy Epperson know if you want to join the church.

Also on August 21, we will have the annual Grace Church Picnic at Mini-Blessings immediately following the service. The church will provide the meat – pulled pork, buns, paper goods and drinks. Please bring a covered dish that will go with pulled pork, or a dessert. We will go directly from the church service to the picnic, so come to church dressed for the picnic.

And, as if there wasn't enough going on, the Grace Church Council will meet at **8:00 am** in the Parish Hall. Yes, I said 8am. Please be on time, as it will be a short meeting. All members of the church are invited to attend.

The Wild Goose Fellowship will meet on Sunday, August 21, 2022, in the Sanctuary. Members of Grace are invited to attend.

Grace Church is looking for a Senior Warden and a new council member. If you are interested in either or both of these positions, please contact Jennifer Wright.

The new church directories are out and available in parish hall. If you live out of town and would like one, please contact Judy Epperson and she will mail one to you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



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Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

8/18 Chuck and Carol Covert
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