



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



Re NOVEMBER 2022

From Our Pastors



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National Throw Out Your Leftovers Day

At last, a useful Holiday. November 29 is Throw Out Your Leftovers Day! So..... here is a day when it's okay to spend the day going through all those bowls, plastic containers, and plastic bags that grow in your refrigerator and throw them out..... or you could warm them up and have smorgasbord for dinner! Enjoy.

From the Desk of Rev. Seay

Can you believe 12 months ago, we were in our 18th month of COVID. Countless millions died because of the Covid 19 virus and its mutations. That said, if you can read this church newsletter, you have more than a reason to be thankful. Families were able to gather for Thanksgiving holidays for the first time in 2021. For those who passed away from this dreadful disease may God's mercy be upon them and their loved ones. All power in heaven and earth is still in God's hands. However, thanks to God should go beyond just being a survivor of a worldwide pandemic.

People can be grateful that businesses are back open, people

are back to work with a roof over their head and food on their table, and for the stimulus money that helped sustain people to be able to make it. Some people were able to live alone independently during Covid while others had friends or family members to provide the help they needed. Now that is a blessing. Consider; We had the activities of our limbs, although aged still able to drive a car and to do those things like traveling that bring pleasure to our lives. And not only pleasure to us but to countless others through Grace Church Ministries. A time to be thankful is a time for all to reflect on

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The Lord knows how to direct, the Lord knows where and when to direct you and above all the Lord knows why.

Christy's Column



The Reverend Christy Shain-Hendricks

The Reverend Christy Shain-Hendricks is an Episcopal priest living in Salida, Colorado with her husband of forty-three years. She is mother to three and grandmother to five. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Philosophy from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a Master of Divinity from Iliff School of Theology, graduating with distinction and with a certificate in Anglican Studies and a double focus on preaching and pastoral care. Christy has served a variety of congregations in the Diocese of Colorado and also as Regional Missioner in both the Sangre de Cristo and Northwest Regions, and as a Congregational Consultant, a Clergy Coach and mentor, has walked with many in Spiritual Direction relationships, and as an Intake Officer for the Episcopal Church in Colorado.

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Church Council Report

by Jennifer Wright, Chairman



At our September Council meeting:

Bonnie talked about having a Wild Geese service for our 5th Sunday service in October. It will be a year that Sunday that Leslie Quilico started preaching for us, and

the Wild Geese Fellowship followed.

We hired Becky Arthur to be our bookkeeper (something she was doing as an interim). Becky will also continue to be our Council Treasurer. Thanks Becky!

Our Church Budget continues to be “in the black,” something we all feel very grateful for!

We approved new toilets for the bathrooms in the Sewing Room and Annex apartment, as well as a new vanity for the Sewing room bathroom. The new blinds for the Parish Hall have been ordered. Thanks for your work on these items, Kim Prather!

We discussed the possibility of allowing Church Members to use the Annex Apartment for overflow guests and family members for a suggested donation.

We decided to continue having New Member and Membership Renewal quarterly as part of our focus on Congregational Life within our Church.

And finally, the Personnel/Search team shared with us about meeting with Christy Shain-Hendricks. We are all so excited to be moving forward with her as our Co-Pastor!

Toys 4 Tikes

By Carolyn Hayes

TOYS 4 TIKES is a charitable program run by the Buena Vista High School Student Council. Formerly known as TOYS FOR TOTS, the student council continues its traditional program of gathering, preparing, and distributing gifts for children who would otherwise have no Christmas.

A list is compiled by Sara Flowers, schoolteacher and head of the student council, and the Christian Mission of needy families in our community. The council then follows up with the families gathering needs and wishes and prioritizing boots and coats (another perk of this charity). This ensures each child will receive at least one gift they will love. The council then shops, wraps, and coordinates delivery. It takes hundreds of hours of manpower to complete this campaign.

Donations are now being accepted. For those who wish to donate, checks can be made out to Buena Vista Schools, c/o Sara Flowers, P.O. Box 2027, Buena Vista, CO 81211 or dropped off at the BVHS, 559 S. Railroad St. between the hours of 8:00am-3:30pm Monday through Friday. Newly purchased toys are also accepted. Your donations can also be placed in the collection box on Sunday designated for TOYS 4 TIKES.

In additions to these funds, the money raised for the Polar Plunge December will be donated to this charity. Come to watch the Plunge at 12pm at the Arkansas River near the Surf Hotel.

I am always impressed by the generosity of this small community. HATS OFF TO THE BVHS STUDENT COUNCIL for providing a Christmas to over 100 local families.

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Christy's Column
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Christy loves to cook and bake and share food with others. When not playing with her grandchildren or entertaining guests, Christy also knits, paints, practices water yoga, tai chi, walks and reads, reads, and reads some more!

Alpine Orchestra Concert

The Alpine Orchestra is back with a new director and a new program for Fall 2022. Anyone attending their concerts is in for a treat. These great amateur musicians never fail to give a flawless performance and are well worth hearing.

The Concerts are this weekend at the following places and times:

Friday, Nov. 18, Leadville, 7:30 pm at the Old Church

Saturday, Nov. 19, Salida, 7:30 pm at the Steam Plant,

Sunday, Nov. 20, Buena Vista, 3:00 pm, at Clearview Church.

Come and join them for a great musical experience.

Rev. Seay's Column
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God's blessings to us and as "one nation under God." A time to reflect with family and friends, what you are thankful for. A reminder that we should is Proverbs 3:6 "In all thy ways acknowledge God and He will direct thy path." This Scripture is a request with a promise. The Lord knows how to direct, the Lord knows where and when to direct you and above all the Lord knows why. Therefore, we give the Lord, His due credit (He requested) and He has promised to direct our path. A time to acknowledge Him and be thankful for the faith we hold in Him.

I would like to acknowledge my personal thanks to the Lord for Grace Church and Grace Church Personnel Committee for its tireless efforts and all the work they have done since last year. The Reverend Christy Shain-Hendricks of Salida Colorado has been selected. I hope all will have the opportunity to meet and greet her personally on Sunday, November 13, 2022, as our new Co- Pastor. Looking forward to us collaborating on ministries and services. Another reason to be thankful.

Blessing Extended
Rev. Seay

TRANSITIONS

Continue to pray for Joyce Logan as she recovers from breast cancer.

Please pray for Bonnie Young and her daughter Michelle, who has been diagnosed with ALS.

Pray for Sherry Thomas who is having heart problems.

Jennifer Wright asks for travel mercies for her and Baxter. They are touring the Southwest.

Offer prayers of thanksgiving for our new Episcopal priest, Christy Shain-Hendricks.

Pray for Grace church and the stewardship program.

And as always , pray for our country and world peace.

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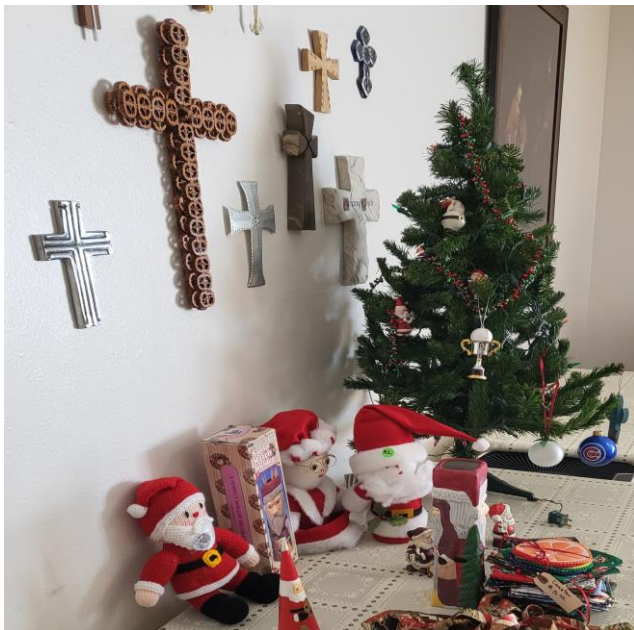
Continued Thanks to EVERYONE in our congregation for ALL you do! Please remember to Stop, Look, Listen, and Respond with LOVE to each other! We can continue to do Great Things if/when we work together!

Blessings – Jennifer

Annual Women’s Bazaar

The Loose Threads Sewing group held their annual Christmas Bazaar on November 6, 2022, in the Parish Hall at Grace Church, which was filled with beautiful crafts, Christmas and Fall decorations, and delicious baked goods, candies and jelly.

The event was well attended by many people for the town as well as some visitors. The final sales total was over \$2500.00, which will be used for missions of Grace Church. Congratulations, ladies, on a job well done.



Advent Calendar Project by Margaret Butler

The Women’s Bible Study invites the Grace family to participate in an Advent project.

This project started when our Bible Study leader, Sharon Robertson, found a “Reverse Advent Calendar” online. The main idea of reversing the calendar is that instead of receiving a small gift every day during Advent, one gives a small gift of food or personal care items to a food bank or organization helping those in need.

In Buena Vista at Grace Church we have all the necessities to make a Reverse Advent Calendar project happen. We have a giving congregation at Grace and an organization focused on helping those in need, the Arkansas Valley Christian Mission. The Bible Study members agreed to participate and are asking the congregation to help as well.

Before Advent begins, bags for collecting food items will be distributed at church. Along with a list of the items to collect each day will be a suggested Bible reading and/or prayer. These activities can help us make Advent a valuable time of preparation for the birth of Christ at Christmas.

Here is how it will work.

Sunday November 20 - Distribute bags and a list of items to begin collecting.

Sunday, November 27 - First Sunday of Advent . Continue Distribution of collection bags. Sundays, December 4, 11, 18. Bring week’s collection to church. Take collection bag home for the next week. Bible Study members will deliver items to the Mission on Tuesday of each week.

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This and That

by Bonnie Young

The Christmas boxes

Thank you to the generous people of Grace Church! We filled five boxes for Samaritans' Purse Operation Christmas Child and 13 boxes for the Spirit Lake Ministries who sponsor the Christmas box program for children on reservations in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming. We are proud to support both in their endeavors to remember children at Christmas of God's love. We maybe a small church, but we are mighty large in our giving.

The Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is seeking volunteers from the Grace membership to bolster efforts to support the Sunday worship services. -

Altar Guild, a major part of every Sunday, sets up the Altar and the Communion Table - Acolytes/Crucifers assist the Episcopal priest, including serving the Communion. - Communion servers assist the Methodist minister.

-Readers read the weekly scriptures -Ushers assist in many ways during a service, from greeting people, offering, and Communion. All of the areas require some training but not great deal of time. Please see Bonnie Young if you are interested. Participants will begin service in December; training will be done before. Thank you for giving time to Grace.

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This and That

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Quilts of Valor

If you would like to help with the Quilts of Valor ministry, we want to start early in preparation for the July 4 Patriotic Concert and Dedication of QOV Quilts. QOV patterns and fabrics can be selected with help by Becky and Bonnie as early as December. Sewing can be done at home or on Thursdays Sewing dates. This gives us plenty of time. Everyone is welcome not only to sew but to design, iron and be part of this 17-year-old mission of Grace Church. Contact Bonnie Young or Becky Arthur.



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If you want to participate but are unable to attend church on either 11/20 or 11/27, please call Margaret Butler, 719-395-8379 or email : elbmsb@gmail.com. This also applies if you wish to participate but are unable to shop for the items. We will bring bags to you and shop for you if needed.

Pecan Pie Recipe by Glen Hendricks

1 Crust Pie

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

2 ½ cups pecans

1/3 cup sugar

1/3 cup brown sugar

½ tsp cinnamon

3 eggs

1 cup light corn syrup

2 tsp vanilla

2 ½ Tbs. melted butter

Directions

1. Prepare curst and gently place it into a 9-inch pie plate and flute the edge.
2. Place all pecans int the prepared pie crust and set aside.
3. Combine the brown sugar, and cinnamon in a medium bowl until there are no lumps.

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Pecan Pie

continued from first column

1. In a mixing bowl beat the eggs for 30 seconds, add corn syrup and vanilla.
2. Add the sugars and butter to the egg mixture and stir together until all ingredients are fully incorporated.
3. Pour the mixture over the pecans.
4. Bake for 50-60 minutes until the filling is puffy or until an inserted knife comes out clean.

Allow to completely cool prior to serving.



Announcements

Remember that Sunday is pledge Sunday at Grace Church. Bring your filled out pledge cards and join the March to the Altar during the morning service.

Kim Prather needs a few strong men and women to join him in Parish Hall at 10:00am on November 22, 2022, to help move the furniture. The carpets are being cleaned. He will also need people to come help later in the afternoon to put the furniture back. If you are interested in helping, contact Kim at 719-205-4934.

The Town of Buena Vista is starting a new comprehensive plan for our community. To learn more and participate, go to my-BV.com for more information.

Tickets for the Annual Women's Advent Brunch will be on sale in the Parish Hall after church. The cost is \$15.00. Be sure to get your tickets early so you will be guaranteed a seat. The meal is being catered by Simple Eatery. Rev. Christy Shain-Hendricks will be the speaker and Dale Kettering is providing the entertainment. There will also be special greeters.

Remember we are "greening" the church on Saturday, November 26, 2022, at 10:00 am. Please come and help us decorate the church for Christmas. We should be through in about an hour if we get a lot of help.

The Poinsettias have arrived, and you can dedicate one for just \$15.00. Dedication slips will be in Sunday's bulletin. If you are out of town and would like to dedicate one, put a check in the mail and send Judy Epperson the information.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



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