



"Your very lives are a letter that anyone can read by just looking at you. Christ himself wrote it—not with ink, but with God's living Spirit; not chisled into stone, but carved into human lives—and we publish it."
 2 Corinthians 3:2-3

The Grace Bell

The Newsletter of Grace
 Episcopal Church

May 2017



Sundays

- 8:00 am HE Rite I
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am HE Rite II
- 11:30 am Coffee Time



Jack in the Pulpit

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." **1 Peter 4:10.**

Imagine a service with attendants of every age: children greeting newcomers, entire families serving as ushers, teenagers and grandparents sharing lector duties, couples serving on altar guild, as chalice bearer, or ringing the bell. A true multigenerational service equally facilitated by young and old. Everyone feeling their value to our church and knowing that they have a role to play. This land of milk and honey is within our reach at Grace and there is a role for all of us to play.

Your family can be an integral part of worship by volunteering as Usher, Greeter, Torch Bearer, Acolyte, Chalice Bearer, Lector, Altar Guild, or Choir member.

Learn more at service Sunday: May 7th at 9:30, come watch our Altar Guild demonstrate what they do. Visit with our ushers. Sign your children up to be torch bearers. Help your teen become lectors.

Step behind the altar with the Summer Pick Up Choir. No preparation is needed, just show up at 9:45 to warm up. This is casual, no robes, all ages are welcome.

Sincerely,
 Your Worship Committee

The Princess and the Goblin one of the themes of the classic children's story by George McDonald is that we are all children of the King. George McDonald became an Anglican late in life, his imaginative stories inspired many, including Mark Twain and C.S. Lewis who said that it "baptized his imagination." We start a short four week class **April 30th, Sundays at 9:30** in Fr. Jack's Study. We will cover eight chapters a week. Baptize your imaginations! This class is part of an on-going series on Anglican classics.

Pray for healing and comfort

- John Bostater
 Karlann Bostater -chronic leukemia,cancer
 Leif Jacobsen and Anna May Jacobsen
 Marla Pietrawski-breast cancer
 Lauren -healing
 Ardith Speer-breast cancer
 Mrs. Dorothy Wilson-Rousseau
 Suzanne McMahan
 Kelly Brunelle
 Debi Frantz
 Marcella Gugnoni
 Jeff Makison
 Gerald King-cancer
 Phil & Vicky Brown
 Michael Bays, Cancer
 Matthew Sharkey
 Gerald Hobby
 Lillian Bowers
 Becky Pazik
 David & Kendra Patten & Family (adoption)
 Miles Ming Patten (health & healing)
 Judy & Mark Blakenship
 Terry Anderson
 Zachery Jeffers
 Tom Hancock
 Anne Radnor
 Cameron Miles
 Harriett McClain
 Patrick Nelson Brooks-- son of Diann Simms
 Stephanie Flaherty -Jackie Lenhart's sister
 Kathleen Liva-Barbara Davis' daughter
 Robyn Bundy
 Rebecca Veeck
 Amy Jacobs—Heart & Lung Transplant
 Paul Garrich—colon cancer
 Mary Lynne Hardaway—breast cancer
 Jason
 Suzanne Turner-breast cancer
 De Reed

Congratulations to Mark and Vanessa Rettinger on the birth of their son, Lucas.

Requested by

- Kathy Bostater
 Kathy Bostater
 Greta Jacobsen
- Sharon Homer-Drummond
 Bill Speer
 Tony & Annette Guiseppi-Elie
 Gloria Byrd
 De & Opie Reid
 Lisa Tucker
 Tony Gugnoni
 Lynne Prince
 Valerie Peterson
 Cindy Baker

- Lisa Tucker
 Linda Hoffman
 Donna LeBrun
 Heather Tucker
 Heather Tucker

Greta Jacobsen

- Stuart & Gail Adamo
 Ellie Cooper
 Jerry Peeler
 Jackie Lenhart
 Fr. Jack's mother
 Mary Jeffers

- Birthdays for May**
- 4th Jonathan Williams
 - 5th Hugh Osburn, Ellie Cooper
 - 8th Catherine Cutting, Matthias Kloeck
 - 9th Magdalene Cox
 - 10th Rob Homer-Drummond, Mark Rettinger
 - 11th Gloria Edwards
 - 13th Kenneth Cheek, Lauris Ames
 - 16th Kim Crenshaw
 - 19th Barbara Davis
 - 21st Kathryn Heeney
 - 22nd Lisa Bodenheimer
 - 23rd David deHoll, Erin Hughes,
Susan Hardaway
 - 25th Clinky Seabrook
 - 26th Alexander Burgess
 - 28th Kathe Harris
 - 29th Grace Hickman

Stewardship Report

March 2017 Revenue	\$ 28,816.00
March 2017 Expenses	\$ 26,582.00
March 2017 Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 2,234.00
YTD 2017 Revenue (Including Prepaids)	\$ 89,067.00
YTD 2017 Expenses	\$ 89,059.00
YTD Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 8.00
2017 Annual Revenue Budget	\$ 349,713.00
2017 Annual Expense Budget	\$ 365,699.00
2017 Budget Deficit	(\$ 15,986.00)

Good Shepherd Campaign Update As of 3/31/2017

Total Amount Pledged	\$443,135
Pledges +Overpaid Pledged Received	430,565
Unpledged Gifts/Memorials/Honorariums Received	35,783
Abney Foundation Gifts Received	120,000
Oxford Endowment Disbursements Received	409,772
Total Good Shepherd Receipts thru 3/31/2017	996,121
Outstanding Pledges due through 3/31/2017	40,253
Balance Due on Loan as of 3/31/2017	\$302,616

Wednesday Night Dinners

May 3	Dinner from Olive Garden
May 10	Beef Taco bake (Mexican casserole)
May 17	Chicken and Stuffing casserole
May 24	Mexican Turkey Lasagna
May 31	Outreach

Wednesday Night Supper Summer Plans

Summer is almost here! Once again, your Wednesday Night Dinner Committee recognizes the importance of this ministry. We plan to have meals throughout the summer. We are asking for a combination of committees to cook and host meals as well as volunteers to serve as hosts for catered meals to take us through the summer. Contact Rebecca Dixon if you can volunteer to help – 617-4364, leebecca31@yahoo.com



Open invitation

Mental Wellness Group meets the First and Third Fridays of the month in the Parish Library from 1:30 -3:00 pm. For more information speak to Deacon Mary Jeffers. All are Welcome!

SAVE THE DATE June 3, 2017

Annual Garage Sale— with a pre-view Wednesday Night Sale—

May 31st. for Grace members. Outreach will be hosting the Wednesday Night Dinner that night. Enjoy light appetizers and wine then shop, yes you will pay double, but it's for The Anderson County Cancer Society. We will begin collecting items in early May, so save your goodies! Call Dena or John Cullen for more information (864) 222-9425.

Set up for the sale will be May 29 from 2-5pm and on May 30th from noon until 5:00 pm. The last day for set up is May 31 from 9 until noon. All volunteers are welcome and needed.

MEALS ON WHEELS As an outreach to Meals On Wheels Grace Church is now delivering for MOW. Anyone interested in signing up for a delivery day should contact Mike Rippy 843-290-4220 or mrippyprevet@gmail.com The route takes about an hour and is a great way to serve those that need it most.



Saturday Servants

Grace Church will be making sandwiches for 300 bag lunches every Saturday in **May**. Saturday Servants is a shared ministry with churches in the City of Anderson to serve lunches to our community friends who usually receive their lunch on weekdays at the Soup Kitchen. Please mark your calendars and come join us from 9:30 – 10:30 AM. **Donations of peanut butter and grape jam** (easier to spread than jelly) are also needed and may be left in the cloister or in the parish hall. Thank you.

International Festival for Global Missions

Grace Church will be having an International Festival for Global Missions on **April 30th**. This event will be for the benefit of our missions in Haiti and Ecuador. It will be held at the church following the 10:30 service. This will be a family friendly event with food from around the world, especially Haiti and Ecuador. In addition to raising money for these missions, we hope to increase the awareness of the importance of our efforts in these countries.

The festival will be immediately following the **10:30 service**. Free-will donations will be accepted for the food and all proceeds will go to these missions. We hope that those of you who enjoy cooking will help with the diversity of foods. Volunteers are needed to prepare an international dish. Prepare your favorite item. If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Connie Pearce @ 864-634-4728, -Jim Boyer @ 617-0653 or call the church office.

The Bowl A Thon for Family Promise will be held on Sunday:

May 21, 2017. The bowling teams are limited to 40 and will bowl at 1:00Pm and 3:30PM. We are trying to get a team together to represent Grace church. Please leave message for Dena Cullen at (864) 222-9425 or Mike Rippy (843) 290 - 4220. Team cost is \$20.00 per person, which includes bowling costs, snacks and an after bowling banquet, with prizes, at Grace church. Looking for dinner volunteers also. Even if you can't bowl, come out and root us on!



United Thank Offering—Why It Matters to Me

I grew up Baptist. We didn't have the UTO or Mite boxes like other churches had; we had the penny march. Every Sunday the children would get up and march down the aisle of the church gathering pennies for mission. Fast forward several years, a marriage, and confirmation into the Episcopal Church where I was introduced to the United Thank Offering. Twice a year there were announcements made about a blue box, coins, and a date to turn in the money collected. A check was written and dropped in the offering plate and well, that was it until the next announcement and the process was repeated.

Fast forward a few more years. We have one daughter. Her name is Kayla. Kayla is a cradle Episcopalian and has been very involved in the church since she was big enough to carry a candle. Kayla was the first Young Adult Service Corp member from the Diocese of Upper SC where she served in the Philippines. She is also the first to receive the Julia Chester Emery internship with the United Thank Offering ministry. This is how I really came to know what the UTO mission is.

As Kayla would tell us all the Who, What, Where, and Whys, all I could say is REALLY? They do all that? REALLY?

It's a little overwhelming! All of the grants are given each year from the coins in your little blue boxes. Blessings given from blessings you receive. All the money collected is used for the grants. In 2016, Gravatt Camp and Conference Center received a \$46,800 grant! Grants are given worldwide. See the UTO website for all the grants.

I'll admit though, my box is a little lacking. Not because I haven't been blessed, but because I never have cash or change; debit card it too easy. I have decided to keep some scraps of paper next to my box to write my blessings on and put those in the box. I will then write a check and put the check in the UTO envelope.

Ingathering is June 4, 2017 during both services. Envelopes will be provided closer to date.

For more information, please visit the UTO website and watch the videos. Also, follow the United Thank Offering on Facebook.

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/united-thank-offering>

MEMORIALS

Received March 16, 2017 through April 19, 2017

In Memory of **Betty Ann Perkins** (Bess Boyer's mother) to the Outreach Fund by:

Joe & Marian Maxwell

In Memory of **Betty Ann Perkins** (Bess Boyer's mother) to the Altar Guild by:

Hugh & Jan Osburn

If donors prefer to remain anonymous, please indicate this with your Memorial or Honorarium.

Grace Goes Green April 30th



in conjunction with Global Missions **GGG** will **Focus on Local Food** We will have local food items and supplies here to plant a container garden and you can pick up ideas for growing vegetables at home or find local sites to purchase fresh vegetables and fruit this summer. **Eat local, Act Global.**

Youth Group will meet on **May 7th** and **May 21st**. May 21st is the Sending Forth Service and the year end celebration.

Graduating from high school this year are Maddie and Sydney Baker, Frances Hardaway, Caroline Kerley, Jackson Potter, Caroline Woodson, and Sarah Whiffen.

Congratulations to Jackson Potter on achieving his Eagle Scout.

Christian Formation

VBS and summer schedule is a work in progress. The survey results show a passion for camping and lots of interest in field trips during the summer. We are continuing work on both and will keep you updated. Watch for more details in the bulletins.

Sunday School for children and youth will break for the summer after May 21st. We will have lessons and celebrations on the 21st.

A VERY SPECIAL thank you to Rob Elsner for leading his class on the Synoptic Gospels ! We have learned and enjoyed the community of the class and wish you a wonderful relaxing time as you take a well deserved break.

St. Catherine's will meet on **Monday May 1st** 12 noon at Libby Christenson's House for a picnic.