



The MESSENGER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

July/August, 2019

Very early in the morning on the day of his move, I met Dr. Elias and his family in front of their house in Madison so I could stand with the neighbors and wave to the family minivan and the moving truck, sending them off to Chicago for their next adventure. Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte will be the first person of color and the first lay person to serve as president of Meadville-Lombard Theological School. His kids are starting new schools. and his gifted spouse will continue her own graduate education in their new city.

On the day of the move, one of the neighbors had flags we could wave, bright orangey-red fabric that looked like the flames of the Holy Spirit. They were left over from a Pentecost celebration, the neighbor explained to me. (This is what happens when you live in a seminary community, I guess. People wave liturgical flags at your moving van!) We cheered as the truck roared onto the road and watched it disappear from us, waving the fabric flames until we could no longer see the van. It was a joyful send-off, but I got teary anyway.

As I write this, Fr. Michel is sorting through his office, packing up and getting ready to leave us, and it is hard to imagine this place without his presence, hearing him whistle quietly as he

dashes up and down the stairs throughout the day, always on the go! We will celebrate him on Sunday, thanking him for the innumerable ways he has cared for Grace during the time of transition, sending him off to his next adventure with our love and gratitude. Fr. Michel has worked so tirelessly for so many years, and I can think of few people who deserve the joys of retirement as much as he does. But it is still sad to say goodbye.

As I write this, our youth pilgrims are away with Kelsey Wallace discovering new ways to encounter God in the beautiful world and in the faces of others. Kelsey comes to us from Drew where she is completing her PhD and she brings with her new ways of teaching us about Jesus and our sacred texts. Dr. Elias helped us find her and has passed his work off to her so she can continue and change the ministry that he so ably led for Grace. Already Kelsey has taught me new things and changed my perspective on Christian formation for youth.

In a few days, the Rev. Deacon Asa Coulson will move to New Jersey from his home in Lancaster. He will be ordained to the priesthood this summer, and

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Susan R. Ironside



when he comes to us, he will bring his experience, wisdom, and energy, and a perspective that will be different from my own. (He will also bring his dog!) I have enjoyed getting to know him in the discernment process and am pleased by the many new ways he will shape and change all of us in our common life together at Grace.

Maybe that's why I was so teary watching the moving truck pull away. All these changes are happening all at once.

Endings and beginnings are tender times, moments pregnant with possibility, when something new is about to happen, and you open your hand to grasp hold of something new. And moments of loss when you know things are about to change, and you open your hand so that those you love can take hold of something new.

Dr. Elias's neighbor had the right idea! When change comes our way, we need to wave the orangey-red flag of Pentecost (or something like it.) And watch the Holy Spirit lead us to whatever happens next.

Love,



A Word of Thanks!

As you read this edition of *The Messenger*, we will have said good-by and thank you to our friend and Priest Associate, the Rev. Canon Michel Belt as he goes – again – into retirement

Father Michel joined the Grace Community more than three years ago in advance of Mother Lauren’s retirement. Father Michel jumped into the Grace Community with both feet and was the sole priest until reinforcements arrived later in the year. Given the press of business at Grace even in the summertime, that is a healthy task for any one.

Since that time, Father Michel has thrown himself into the task of being Grace Clergy—daily services, rummage sales, mission trips, meetings (many meetings) and a list of other tasks too numerous to mention. Michel became a Pastor and friend to all especially those who know and appreciate his sense of humor. Those of us who have worked with Father Michel know that he loves being a Parish Priest. He will be greatly missed by all of us at Grace.

So a BIG THANK YOU to Father Michel as he tries retirement once again along with some well-deserved rest.

*Your Wardens,
John Garde & Evangeline Tross*





In July, we welcomed Asa Coulson as our Priest Associate!

Asa grew up in rural Maryland on the border with Delaware and Pennsylvania, where he lived until he moved to Saint Louis, Missouri, for college. Following his undergraduate work, Asa became an executive with the May Department Stores Company (now Macy's) and then a few years later moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he served as the Regional Director of Sales and Stores at The United Methodist Publishing House through 2012.

He moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and began to attend the Lancaster Theological Seminary full time in 2013, earning his Master of Divinity degree with honors in 2016. While in seminary he served as the Pastor for Youth, Children, and English Ministry at the Harrisburg Korean Presbyterian Church.

He completed a two-year Clinical Pastoral Education internship and residency program at the Penn State College of Medicine and Medical Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania. As part of his discernment for Holy Orders, he also completed a postgraduate program in Anglican Studies at the Bexley Seabury Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, in 2018.

In the Autumn of 2016, Asa joined the ministry team at Saint James Church, Lancaster, as an Associate for Pastoral Care and Worship,

where he continued his service on an interim basis as a deacon while discerning where to begin his vocation as a priest. Along with his ministry at Saint James, Asa works as a chaplain at the Hospice and Community Care Inpatient Center and as a group grief counselor/facilitator at the Pathways Center for Grief and Loss, both in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania.

Asa is an Associate of the Order of the Holy Cross, based in West Park, New York, and is drawn to experience, teach, and help others discover the joy of spiritual practices and formation. Asa is an avid camping and hiking enthusiast, having visited more than 75 sites in the National Parks system in the last ten years. He loves to travel

The Congregation, Clergy, and Staff of Grace Church are invited to attend the ordination of Asa Coulson.

and explore new places; getting off the beaten path and avoiding tourists, forgetting that he himself is one.

While no longer actively playing soccer, Asa enjoys being a spectator of both league and national play—he is a member of *The Sons of Ben* and joins them often to cheer on the Philadelphia Union in matches at home and away. He loves the arts in all its many forms: theater, symphony, museums, etc. He loves the vibrant Lancaster City life, which he experiences with friends and his canine child—a six year old Vizsla named Asher Dominic. You can keep up with Asa and Asher on Twitter and Instagram by following @KingAsa (a college nickname).



BY THE GRACE OF GOD

THE RT. REV. AUDREY C. SCANLAN
XI BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CENTRAL
PENNSYLVANIA WILL ORDAIN

ASA DAVID COULSON

TO THE SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTS IN CHRIST'S ONE,
HOLY, CATHOLIC, AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH

ON THE FEAST OF SAINT JOHN CASSIAN

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019, 7:00 PM

SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

119 North Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Light refreshments will follow.

RSVP by July 16: office@SaintJamesLancaster.org



MUSIC AT GRACE

Dr. Anne Matlack

Choir Rehearsals

Mid-Summer Rehearsal:
Friday, August 2

- 3:45 pm: Snack
- 4:00-4:30 pm: "Big Brother and Sister" Chapel & Blue Choirs practice together
- 4:00-5:00 pm: Red Choir
- 4:30-5:30 pm: Blue Choir
- 5:30-6:00 pm Daughters of Zion (if enough singers are available)

Choir Age/Grade Ranges

- Chapel Choir (ages 3-7)
- Red Choir (Grades 2-5)
- Blue Choir (Grades 6-12)

Choirs Head-Start Rehearsals:

Thursday, August 30, and Friday, August 31 (regular times for those in town).

"Regular" Fall Choir Rehearsals:

The choirs begin again on September 6 and 7.

RSCM and Grace Church

Here at Grace Church we follow Royal School of Church Music standards, teaching our singers of all ages to read music and providing opportunities for collaborations and evensongs with other churches and sponsoring attendance at summer RSCM camps. Dr. Anne's training scheme has the following levels for kids: Novice, chorister, light blue ribbon, dark blue ribbon, and red ribbon. Summer is the perfect time to schedule your free one-on-one training with Dr. Anne.

Joining Choir Third grade is the perfect time to start in the School Choir ("novice"). Second graders may start if they are keen to, are good readers, and have had some music instrument lessons or have already been in chapel choir a few years—see Dr. Anne for assessment. Novice appointments are a half hour and teach easy and fun musical skills. Even initially shy children usually enjoy the one-to-one time with Dr. Anne. Join before our Midsummer Rehearsal, Friday, August 2 (see schedule). Adults can join any time, and are welcome to three free voice lessons with Dr. Anne.

Wonderful music was presented **Choir Recognition Sunday; First Year** crosses were awarded to Ian Finlay, Lola Cortes, Mary Nunn and Cathleen Nunn (right).



Three Gargoyles also received **First Year crosses**: Kristian Kassis, Henry and William Marinovic. All other crosses had ribbon colors change as they move up a year. Our head choristers, Catie Gilhuley, Grace Hughes and Kimberly Love, will continue next year. Special *Loyalty Awards* were given to Claudia Sydenstricker, Luke Dean, and Kian Deane for their dedication. If you look carefully you can see visiting chorister Amity Wroath in our choir picture!



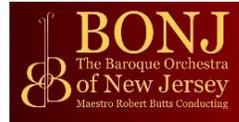
COMMUNITY

Cabaret Fundraiser

July 13, 7:30 pm at Grace
Thank you everyone who attended Dr. Anne's dream *St. Matthew Passion* in April. The CDs are now available. Thanks to all who came to our June concert – the winning student composer got a standing ovation (as did the whole concert!). You can still support the work of Harmonium as we are working on a really fun, slightly naughty Cabaret fund-raiser Saturday, July 13, in Grace Hall from 7:30-10:30 pm (doors open at 7). Wine, appetizers, and desserts, along with a silent auction and wine pull, will make for a memorable extravaganza that proves to be a sell-out every year.

Expect songs that explore flirting, gambling, drinking, and many of the other "fun" things that keep humanity going! Our troupe includes a former Broadway star, a former Metropolitan Opera chorus member, and performers who have been featured in (and directed) many local and regional productions. This show is not to be missed! All proceeds will support our mission to improve and transform our community through music. Tickets are \$50 (\$40 for students and seniors). Get them online today to make sure you get a ticket (will probably be a sellout).

[www.harmonium.org/
events/2019/7/13/broadway-
cabaret-vi](http://www.harmonium.org/events/2019/7/13/broadway-cabaret-vi)



**GRACE COMMUNITY MUSIC & BAROQUE ORCHESTRA OF NEW JERSEY
Summer Festival 2019 August 12-16, 12:15-12:45 pm**

Baroque Orchestra Summer Festival will include our week-long noontime organ series. As always, keyboard and pedalboard are projected for better audience viewing. Stay for lunch, it's just \$8 from Slamwich.

- Monday, Aug. 12 Anne Matlack *Bach, Buxtehude, Howells*
- Tuesday, Aug. 13 Kevin Davis. *Bach and Mendelssohn*
- Wednesday, Aug. 14 Rebecca Kate Moore & Annie Song
students of John Pivarnik
- Thursday, Aug. 15 Michael Rosin *Silbermann, Sebastian, & Saxony*
- Friday, Aug. 16 John Pivarnik *Bach Italian Concerto, organ & piano*

Freewill donation at the door for the performers.

MUSIC @ GRACE



Anyone is welcome to sing in the Summer Choir, leading hymns and psalms, by showing up at 9:30 in the choir room for a brief rehearsal. The choir stalls are where the air-conditioning blows! Many choir members sing from the pews in the summer, helping congregational singing greatly! Volunteer soloists and instrumentalists will provide the offertories and voluntaries. If you would like to perform a solo, speak with Dr. Anne.



After years as a Gargoyle, then Gargoyles director, Eric Roper's last Sunday was June 16. We wish him all the best as he moves into more full-time status in his Apple career.

Take the Prelude Pledge

This summer I decided to up my practicing and I will be playing preludes that range between seven and ten minutes instead of the usual four minutes.

Since this is between me and God, I will of course start if there is no-one in church! But if you would like to consider coming early in the summer for some extra meditation time to the accompaniment of Bach, Franck and Howells, please do!

~ Dr. Anne



DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Kelsey Wallace

Powering Up for Summer Fun!

Children's Chapel, VBS, and more

It's finally summer and we are gearing up for a new season of fun with the youngest members of our Grace community! From now until the end of the season, Children's Chapel will be meeting outside (weather permitting). We will learn about God's love for us and for all of creation as we play and learn in the sun! Please be sure that your child is wearing clothes and shoes that are OK for outdoor play.

In just a few short weeks we will open our doors for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is Power Up: Raise Your Game! Our primary goal for this week is to build relationships with one another and with God, all while having a ton of fun! We'll sing, play, learn Bible stories, make crafts, and eat some yummy snacks. We hope that you will join us—either as a volunteer or a VBS camper. Make sure to grab a sign up form if you haven't already!

Even though summer has just begun, we are always thinking a few steps ahead. As we begin to think, dream, and plan for the next program year, please consider signing up to help care for and teach our children. Whether you are interested in occasionally serving as a substitute or you want to be more involved in creating a vision for the future please let us know by contacting Kelsey at kwallace@gracemadison.org



A little about Kelsey...



Kelsey Wallace graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary in 2017 with a Master of Divinity degree. She is currently a PhD student in the Bible and Cultures program at Drew Theological School. Kelsey is in the ordination process with the

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has experience mentoring and teaching in both ministerial and public school contexts. Prior to coming to Grace she has worked in children's and youth ministry for about six years. When she's not in class or at Grace, you'll likely find her working in Craig Chapel at Drew or curled up with a cup of coffee and a sci-fi novel.



Summer Children's Chapel will take place at outdoors through the summer.

Parents, remember to sign in your children at the playground at the rear of the parking lot beginning at 9:50 am Sunday mornings.

We need your help with the program. Sign up to be a chaperone for one or more Sundays. Let Kelsey know what day you can help out.



The Messenger via email

In an effort to save some trees and save postage, starting with the September issue, we will be sending out *The Messenger* electronically.

If you prefer to receive your newsletter by mail, we will be happy to mail you one. Please let our parish administrator, Mike Kostial, know by email: mkostial@gracemadison.org. We will, of course have copies available in Grace lobby as well.

Jack Baulig



In my years at Grace Church, I've seen quite a few changes. I remember when Father Tom was one of our priests and a time before the renovation when the old Nieman Hall was the Parish Hall. I remember going to Sunday school in the basement, a place that I couldn't tell you when I've last been in, much less if I actually wanted to go. Now, these people and places are more of a distant memory to me than anything else.

What I remember more clearly and impactfully is the time I spent at Grace as I grew out of my childhood and into adolescence. This time was mainly spent under Mother Lauren's tenure, someone who was always a warm, kind, and reassuring figurehead to look up to. On more than one occasion my mother chastised my sister and me after getting into some trouble or an argument saying, "Would you do that if Mother Lauren were sitting right next to you?" This normally got us to stop whatever we were doing.

My main involvement with Grace during this time was through the acolyte program. I was first approached by Mr. Brooks and asked to join the program and once I did I learned from many including Mr. Cone, Ms. McCulloch, and the older McCulloch sisters who all seemed to be a head acolyte at one point or another. I owe you all many thanks for really getting me involved with the church.

As I entered high school, Mother Lauren's time at Grace was ending which marked the beginning of

what many would think to be a turbulent time for a church after losing their long-time rector.

However, this was the time that I realized how impressive our parish was and why Grace Church is such an amazing place to be.

Immediately, the community banded together and a search committee for a new rector was created while church activities continued to function without a problem.

I want to thank the people who took leadership roles in the endeavour for a new rector, because now I think we can all agree that they did a fantastic job finding us our wonderful Mother Susan. While some may have expected church attendance to decrease, our church attendance actually increased following Mother Lauren's departure, a testament to the strong and friendly community that we have at Grace.

At this time of searching for a new rector I was taking on more responsibility within the church, beginning with confirmation commitments and after that taking on a role as head acolyte with Heather and Sarah. At the time we were both young sophomores and had the help of an older Kristin McManus, but still struggled to create schedules and fill spots during a time when the acolyte program was depleted. As we grew into these roles, Ms. McCulloch stepped in and took charge of the acolyte program, revamping everything from scheduling to robes and cottas. Father Michel had been there since the beginning

helping us as well and I want to thank them both for their mentorship in this transitional period. These are just a few examples of the amazing support that Grace offers through its committed and caring members.

This was when I realized that it did not matter who ran the service and delivered the sermon each Sunday, because the true backbone of the Grace Church community is its members. When I come to Grace I see the same familiar faces, some newer and some older, but it has always been the same people helping each other through tough times and encouraging each other's successes. I know that after I leave for college this summer and when I come back to Grace I can count on those same faces and people to be there.

For me, the past few weeks have consisted of many goodbyes since I graduated from high school a week ago and will soon have to prepare to leave home in a few short months. Yet, I feel lucky because I know that I can't graduate from church and I can't leave this community in the same way I have to leave my school. So while this may feel like another goodbye, I reminded myself while writing this sermon, that its really only a see you later, as long as everyone promises to keep coming to church when I'm home. Thank you to everyone who has made Grace such a welcoming community and a wonderful place to grow up.

SENIOR SERMONS

Sarah Garde



Good morning! My name is Sarah Garde and I have attended Grace Madison for 15 years. During my time at Grace, I have done a little bit of everything from acting in the pageant to helping with children's chapel to more recently becoming a head acolyte. If you don't recognize me from any of those roles, you may also know me as the girl who interrupts your conversations with my parents, John and Allison Garde. Still don't know me? Welcome, you must be new.

About a year ago, my mom asked me if I will ever attend church again after high school. At the time I didn't have an answer and just laughed it off with a shrug. And while I still don't have a real answer, I do know one thing, I will never find another church like Grace.

As I've gotten older, I have come to find church quite calming, especially after a particularly stressful week at school. I find peace in the music, prayers, and coffee hour conversations because they provide me a time to sit and pause and prepare for the week to come. (Although I do have one thing that I think could make Grace an even better church. Starting service later! Maybe 11? Just me? Well, my parents will tell you I love my sleep).

In all seriousness, when I was considering my answer, I realized that most of the reasons I

have learned to appreciate coming to church are centered around the community here at Grace. Yes, other churches have the prayers, music, and polite conversion during coffee hour. But I doubt any other church does it with the genuine spirit and love that Grace does. And let me tell you, because my parents are so involved in the diocese, I've met a lot of church people.

While they still care about where I go to college and what I plan on majoring in, they don't take the extra step to get to know me like those of you here have. At convention, no one jokingly offers me their keys when I act like I want to leave like Mr. Rawitz or asks me how my study of Caesar is going (and offer me his past textbook) like Mr. Partridge. No one makes jokes on the altar like Kit or has a detailed conversation with me about my latest trip to Scotland like Father Michel.

Other church people may politely ask me how my classes are doing or what I want to do with my life, but at Grace I can tell people really care when they ask. Even if they are not asking questions, people at Grace seem to truly want the best for each other. When I was applying to college, it was the people here in this room that offered me the most helpful advice, how to write essays or what to say in interviews. And while some may have tried to convince me to apply to their alma maters, I knew it was because they wanted

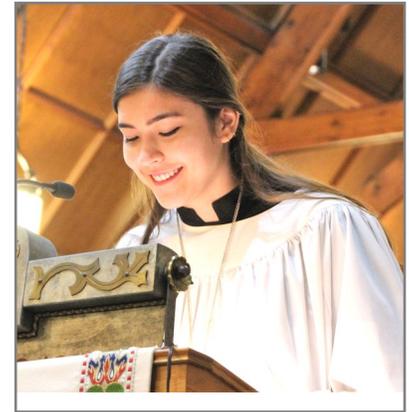
me to go to what they saw as "the best." Even when I decided not to go to any of those colleges and instead to go to the University of St. Andrews, the people at Grace welcomed the news with hugs so tight I could barely breathe, wide, excited eyes and loud gasps of joy. Besides my family and closest friends, no one was more excited to find out where I would spend my next four years.

Now, I know very little of what I've said here is actually original. As I've said I've spent 15 years of my life in this church, so I've heard a fair share of senior sermons. But I believe that the fact that so many seniors come up here and say that Grace turned them from someone who despised getting up on a Sunday morning into a young adult grateful for the opportunity to come to this church is a true testament to the community here.

Honestly, this church is a great place to grow up and I was truly lucky to have spent my younger years here. And who knows, maybe the strong community at Grace will keep pulling me back so it'll be like I never left.

SENIOR SERMONS

Heather McCulloch



It's crazy to me that I'm giving this speech right now. As far back as I can remember I've watched every class of seniors give their sermons. Many inspired tears or laughter or both. I remember Siobhan, and Kaitlin's and Grace;s, and now it's my turn. I remember when they had to write these tributes to our amazing community, they were all so stressed about how to sum up their experiences. I never understood the source of that anxiety until I started writing this. And it's not because there's a lack of material to work with, but more so too much. I've grown up here, reached milestones and taken refuge here at Grace. I've watched people come and go and found some of my best friends here. So when I realized it was time for me to write my own sermon I was horrified at the realization that this amazing chapter of my life is coming to a close.

But enough with the heavy, because I want to spend this time telling you how much every single person here has helped me grow, whether you realize it or not. Dr. Anne, you helped my love of music flourish, showing me this new, intricate form of art that I will always cherish, so thank you for opening me up to the amazing world of music.

The acolyting program has always been one of my favorite

ongoing experiences at grace. It's taught me the importance of service, no matter how unnoticed. The jobs of acolytes may not always be recognizable by the congregation but to me they helped me feel a part of the service.

Especially as a child with my almost absent attention span, acolyting was something that helped me tune in to the meaning and importance of each service. And for this I must thank Kit Cone. He's been the North Star of the program, guiding us through the dark night. Even when I made mistakes he always had a warm smile to give and a funny joke to lift my spirits. So Kit, I sincerely thank you for being such a beacon throughout my years at Grace.

I want to thank Mother Susan and Father Michel. Both of you have been such amazing models of stability for me. Father Michel you've always been such a comforting face to see. With your dazzling smile and effervescent personality, I count myself as truly lucky to have had you as a leader here. And Mother Susan, though I haven't known you for as long as I wish I could, you have still had such a profound impact on me. You're way of thinking and preaching has truly touched my heart, and in Grace's time of flux you handled everything more gracefully than I thought possible. So I want to

thank you because even though I won't be here, I know the place that I love will be in amazing hands. Lastly I want to say a few words about my mother, Jennifer McCulloch. You all know her as Jen—the amazingly adorable, well-organized woman. But I know her as my ultimate role model. She's been unbelievably strong in our time of trial, and it's her unwavering faith that has made me so sure that she is most likely the best person that I will ever know. There are so many things I have to thank her for, but today I want to especially thank her for raising me in this community. Because this has truly become my second home. Some of my best memories were made here in this amazing place. Running through the church, sharing stories at the lock-in, practicing my mock senior sermon to empty pews in this dimly lit church when I was nine.

It's a bittersweet thing to say goodbye, because in the fall I'm excited to say I will be moving on to study at the University of Maryland, but still I hope you all know that no matter where I am, all of you will be on my mind.

Hiking with Boris



We had a wonderful day of hiking on Saturday, June 15, at Pyramid Mountain in Boonton. The weather was magnificent and the trails included views of a reservoir, various rock formations, and NYC; and the mountain laurel was in bloom so sometimes some of us stopped to smell the flowers. It was an easy to moderate hike with some rocky steep inclines—we took three hours to complete our hike including some rest stops at the most scenic places. The group included seven adults and Marilyn’s dog, Boris. Next month we will take an easier hike—look for date/place in our announcements .

~ Your hike guides,
Dora Monserrate & Bruce Rudin
brucedora@verizon.net.

First Friday

Potluck starts at 6:15 pm.

In July and August we will gather on the first Friday of the month but we will not have a formal presentation



O U T R E A C H



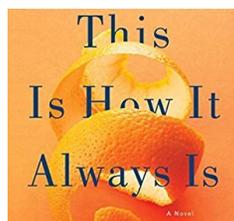
The next Grace Community Soup Kitchen supported by Grace Church will be on Tuesday, August 20, at the Church of the Redeemer in Morristown. The sign-up sheet is now on the bulletin board outside Grace Hall. Please sign up by July 10.

Margie Paul was Soup Kitchen’s team captain for 12 years, coordinating the church's volunteers at the soup kitchen. She will be moving out of state shortly and the June service date was the last time she was able to serve those in need as a part of Grace Church's effort. She will be sorely missed.



~Tom Honohan & Kirk Nixon

B O O K G R O U P S

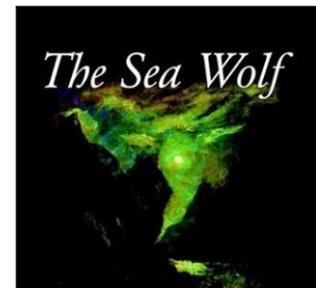


Women’s Book Group

Monday, July 22, at 7:00 pm

Note the date change
in Nieman Annex

We will discuss *This Is How it Always Is*, by Laurie Frankel. This is a beguiling bold tale of a loving unconventional, yet typical modern family as they make their way through a world with no easy answers.) We welcome you to join the conversation! ~ Joan Nolan,
perchance1@verizon.net



Men’s Book Group

Our next book is *The Sea Wolf* by Jack London. We will meet at Rob Morse’s house on July 16 at 7:30 pm. Contact Bruce Rudin at brucedora@verizon.net with questions and for directions.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Acolyte Recognition



Thanks to all our wonderful acolytes - lighting the way and serving at the altar faithfully each Sunday! Congrats to our new Head Acolytes: Charlie Ehrbar and Tina Munter, and our new Acolyte Mentor Kathleen Munter. Contact our new head acolytes if you are interested in serving!

Thank yo to all our Acolytes: Jack Baulig, Audrey Bendelius, Sue Bien, Ann Bolt, Kiera Duff, Charlie Ehrbar, Sarah Garde, Melissa Honohan, Emme Kassis, Heather McCulloch, Jennifer McCulloch, Kristin McManus, Mia Melchior, Tina Munter, Keira Munter, Peter Munter, Marilyn Musielski, Nancy Nubel, Frank Nunn, Carson Pacheco, Peggy Potter, Hope Pratt, Campbell Sacher and Lucy Waterstredt.



*New Acolytes:
Peter Munter and Frank Nunn*



*Head Acolytes: Tina Munter (r)
and Charlie Ehbar (l)
(Heather McCulloch looking on)*



*Veteran Crew: Jennifer McCulloch, Jack Baulig,
Charlie Jurgensen and Melissa Honohan*



Leader of the Worship Leaders

On June 16, we dedicated the Acolyte Crosses cabinet (outside the sacristy) to **E. Christopher "Kit" Cone**.

Kit has guided and trained generations of Acolytes, Worship Leaders and Vergers to serve at our altar to their profound benefit, and the benefit of our church. His dedication to helping others—be it someone in Liberia or someone locally through the Re-start Ministry he founded—is the stuff of legend. We are graced by his service, and we hope our acolytes are inspired by his example each time they reach for their Acolyte cross in the 'Kit Cone cabinet' outside the sacristy. Kit is truly our beloved North Star.



Did you know?



Catie Gilhueley, who attended Naval Academy Summer Seminar, reports:

"I had an awesome time staying on campus, meeting a bunch of midshipmen, and waking up early to do PT (physical training). One day we did something called Sea Trials that lasted from 7am to 2pm and it was a bunch of exercises and fitness challenges including an endurance course, animal PT, log PT, swimming, and a lot of mud. We went to some classes, went on a boat, and got yelled at a lot. It was all really fun!"



We welcome **Frank and Joan Nolan's grandson,**

David Patrick Nolan, who arrived on December 5, 2018 to Dora & Chris Nolan.



You are welcome to join the Friday morning fun! The Friday Men's Breakfast crew meets at The Waverly Restaurant in Madison on Fridays at 7:30 am.

On June 25, six teenagers and three leaders hit the road on the **2019 Youth Pilgrimage**. Our first stop was the Weiss Waterfront Cabin in Stanardsville, VA. We spent two days hanging by the lake, hiking in Shenandoah National Park and touring Luray Caverns.

As I write this, we are headed to Washington National Cathedral and then finally to the Heifer Project Global Village in Maryland. Thank you to everyone whose prayers and material support made this trip possible! ~Kelsey Wallace





GRACE COUNSELING CENTER

How much of what we believe about ourselves is true?



By Sonja Welch, LPC, ACS, NCC

Sometimes we grow up hearing hurtful and untrue

statements about ourselves from people we trust. We may have been told that we are lazy, clumsy, stupid, or “we are or always would be a failure”, or “you will never amount to anything.” You may have heard, “ you are just like...” “or you should be more like...” The adage, “Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never harm me” have never been more untrue. The more we hear these comments the more we tend to internalize them until we own them and become the lie that they represent. Not only do those words hurt us, but also, they to hurt those around us. They cause us to develop skewed perceptions of ourselves and others, as we interact with people through the filters of hurt.

Our belief systems are built on the foundations of what we hold to be true; they are intertwined with all facets of our lives. Our beliefs affect our decisions, agreements, judgments, and attitudes as well as our spiritual, mental, and physical health. When we grow up believing the following statements, all of our interpersonal relationships get filtered through

these lenses.

“No one loves me” means, “I can’t trust you with my heart.”

“I am all alone.” means, “there is no one there for me when I need help.”

“I have to take care of myself” means, “I have no one to lean on.”

Our beliefs have become second nature and we do not consciously realize the impact they have on our lives. We must recognize the fact that our beliefs are reinforced through our experiences, which then lead to certain behaviors. For example, when someone in authority embarrasses you in front of others, your belief system may develop along the following path:

- 1) Negative Belief. I’m a failure, I’ll never succeed. I’ve been told this for much of my life.
- 2) Expectation or the process of considering the belief. I have a big test coming up that I have to pass in order to get a promotion. But, why waste my time studying for it, I’ll never pass it. (There are better ways to waste my time.) Besides, they’ll probably give the promotion to someone else anyway, they always do.
- 3) Behavior or the decision to accept the negative belief. See, I knew I would fail the test! And

they gave the promotion to someone else. I just didn’t have a chance! I was right not to waste my time studying for that test.

Because you believe what was said, you expect you deserve to be treated according to your belief, then, you behave according to the expectation. When you are treated according to the way you acted, it reinforces the belief.

Although these negative beliefs or lies enter our thought processes through hurts and trauma, do they really have to define us? What if you did not take ownership of the lies you were told? What if there is another reality to who you are? Just suppose it is possible to walk away from the guilt and shame of past mistakes. Would you like to stop white knuckling your hold on life, let go of the need to control everything, and finally live? Is it possible to shed the cloak of insecurity and walk in the truth of who you really are? What if you can make a change? Would you want to?

You have the ability to change how you view yourself. Your life is your story. By changing your story, you have the opportunity to change the negative beliefs about yourself. Your middle or end does not have to be the same as your beginning. The power is yours. Learn how to use it.

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Financial Update

This report covers from January 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019.

Total Income:

Budgeted Amount:	\$ 350,995
Actual Amount:	\$ 304,715
Actual Amount is Under Budget:	(\$ 46,280)

Now, edging closer to the end of the first half of the year, our income trajectory is much clearer: we have to increase our income (see below for Expenses, which for our size parish are reasonable). Pledges continue around 80% of the budgeted amount, and Plate in hovering below 65%. A shortfall of the Pledge income shortfall represents almost all (\$44,792, or 97%) of the underrun. Plate Offerings are also below the budgeted amount by \$2,251.

Total Expenses:

Budgeted Amount:	\$ 415,120
Actual Amount:	\$ 407,056
Actual Amount is Under Budget:	(\$ 8,064)

There is no primary contributor to this underrun. Many expense items are right at, or near budget—sometimes the differences are related to “timing” of billing. Staff and the Vestry continue to closely monitor expenses.

Net Ordinary Income:	\$ 304,715
Total Expenses:	\$ 407,056
Net Ordinary Income:	(\$ 102,341)
Endowment Income Applied:	\$ 57,200
Net Income:	(\$ 45,141)

Summary:

Even with the transfer from our endowment, we are currently running a deficit, which each month is growing larger. The key to balancing our budget is to increase the number of pledging units or to convert those who give regularly and consider themselves to be members, but do not pledge, into pledgers. **Without an increase in pledge income, we will not be able to continue to offer and support the various ministries of Grace Church at their current level.** Even as we edge halfway into the Program Year, we are waiting on the receipt of a number of pledges which have traditionally been received sometime in the first quarter. The Vestry is monitoring both income and expenses, and, currently considering adjusting the budget.

Online Giving is Here!

Online giving is now available – so to those who said that they would not pledge until they could pay online, your excuse is now over. We know who you are. Brochures and tutorials are on the Grace Church website and printed in the office.

Pledges and the Summer

As we move into the summer months while your thoughts may turn to the beach or the mountains, please remember that the work of Grace Church continues. **Please keep your pledge current.** Salaries, building expenses and much more has to be paid during the summer even if you are elsewhere. We will be sending out pledge statements after the end of June.

If you give to Grace, please let us know.

Also, if you are going to make gifts of stock or appreciated securities or gifts from shared employer funds, PLEASE TELL US. First, so we can thank you and credit you properly for tax purposes but also so that WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE. We have had two instances in recent months where we received generous gifts from members of the congregation. The problem was that we did not know the identity of the donors and had to search them out which takes time. Please help us help you.

From your Wardens, Vestry and Finance Committee.

GRACE-AT-A-GLANCE

Thurs., July 4		Independence Day— <i>Office Closed</i>
	7:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Fri., July 5	6:15 pm	First Friday Potluck
Sat., July 13	7:30 pm	Harmonium's <i>Cabaret</i> Fundraiser, <i>Grace Hall</i>
	2:30 pm	Chatham Hills Worship
July 15-19	9am-noon	Vacation Bible School
Thurs., July 18	6:30 pm	Family Night for VBS, <i>Grace Hall</i>
Mon., July 22	5:30 pm	SAINT MARY MAGDALENE Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Thurs., July 25	7:00 am	SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Fri., Aug. 2	3:30-5:30pm	Mid-Summer School Choir
	6:15 pm	First Friday Potluck
Tues., Aug. 6	9:00 am	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Sat., Aug. 10	7:30 pm	BONJ Cabaret, <i>Grace Hall</i>
Sun., Aug. 11	3:00 pm	BONJ Chamber Music, Church
Aug. 12-16	12:15 pm	Summer Keyboard Series, Church Lunch available in <i>Grace Hall</i>
Thurs., Aug. 15	7:00 am	ST. MARY THE VIRGIN Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Tues., Aug. 20		Community Soup Kitchen, <i>Morristown</i>
Sat., Aug. 24	8:15 am	SAINT BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Thurs., Aug. 29	6-9:30 pm	Choir Head-start Choir Rehearsal
Fri., Aug. 30	3:30-5:30 pm	Choir Head-start Choir Rehearsal
Mon., Sept. 2		Labor Day— <i>Office Closed</i>

Our Weekly Gatherings

Mondays	9:30 am	Tai Chi, <i>Grace Hall</i>
2 nd Monday	7:00 pm	Mindfulness for Adults, <i>Senior High Room</i>
Tuesdays	7:30 pm	Craft Guild, <i>Library</i>
3 rd Tuesday	7:30 pm	Men's Book Group
3 rd Tuesday "even" months		'Grace Day' at Community Soup Kitchen
Wednesdays	10:15 am noon	Women's Meditation & Centering, <i>Library</i> AA (Men's Group), <i>Grace Hall</i>
2 nd and 4 th Wed.	7:30 pm	Survivors of Suicide, <i>Library</i>
Thursdays	7:45 am	Light breakfast after 7:00 am service
Fridays	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Waverly Restaurant</i>

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