

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Annual Report 2018

Annual Meeting on February 10, 2019

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Annual Meeting Minutes

The Grace Church Annual Meeting was held on February 4, 2018, in Grace Hall.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:26 am by The Reverend Richard Maxwell, Interim Priest, with a prayer.

John Garde called the meeting's attention to the Grace 2017 Annual Report, for its value to the parish for communication and recognition of our many parish activities, as well as its value for communication of our work outside of our parish, and for fund raising and grant request purposes.

John also called attention to the updated Parish Directory which is being distributed at today's meeting

Reading of the minutes of last year's meeting was waived. Minutes of the 2017 meeting were accepted by voice vote.

Elections:

Nominating Committee: Jennifer McCulloch presented the following slate of candidates:

Warden: Class of 2020 (2-year term)

One Seat John Garde

(term limits waived due to extraordinary circumstances)

Vestry: Class of 2021 (3-year term)

Four Seats: John Bartolomeo, Ruth Deane, Heather Crimmins Fraser, Sam Partridge

Deputies to Diocesan Convention: Class of 2019

Delegates: John Garde, Kirk Nixon, Tom Honohan

Alternates: Judy Jurgensen, Mike Kostial

The full slate was moved, seconded and approved by voice vote.

Recognition: John Garde recognized Retiring Vestry Members for their contributions to Grace Church. Charlie Schiller, Diane DuBrule

Parish Reports: Refer to the 2017 Annual Meeting Report and PowerPoint Presentation

Financial Reports:

Finance 2017: David Gates, Treasurer
Presentation of the Annual Budget and Income Statement

Parish budget presented a \$4K deficit at the beginning of the year. Actual results were "break even" This was due to increased activity in Fund

Raising, Occupancy, and Other Church Support Expense results were \$8K higher than budget

This was due to increases in B&G costs and Inreach/Search Expenses

Grace Balance Sheet Discussion

Significant increase in prepaid pledges at the end of 2017, due to several factors

Further pay-down of the Construction Loan for Grace Hall from \$150k to \$100K.

Endowment:

Bruce Rudin, Chair – Investment Committee

Significant Improvements in 2017

57.7% in DIT Equity Fund

27.3% in DIT Fixed Income fund

7.3% in Vanguard Short-Term funds

7.9% in Cash & Cash Equivalents

Overall returns were ~13.2% in growth on the investment

This was significant improvement over previous results as a self-managed fund. More than double the previous year's results.

Budget 2017: David Gates/John Garde

Current budget draft has projected deficit of ~\$12K

Expect this to be reduced/eliminated when final budget is presented and approved by the Vestry

Significant discussion around individual line items.

Personnel cost estimates increased due to expectations for hiring of new Clergy and Christian Education personnel.

Increased results in 2017 for Fund Raising were still reflected conservatively in the 2018 budget estimates.

Audit Committee: John Garde

John Garde recognized the valiant efforts of the 2016 Audit Committee: Mike Rawitz, Brian Zietsman & Peter Gilhuley

Their efforts were significant with many late hours invested for significant results. The Diocese recognizes the ongoing quality and value of the Grace Audit Committee compared with results from other parishes.

Stewardship: John Garde

Parish is currently projected to be ~\$4K behind on our overall goal of \$560K

Pledging Units to-Date = 175

- 36 "Likely Yet-to-Pledge" based on 2017
- Difficulty in getting Pledge Cards received
- Average Pledge increased slightly, from \$2,713 to \$2,726

Parish Reports: John Garde called the Parish to review the individual reports of all the Committees and Activities of the Grace Community, as contained in the Annual Report for 2017.

Old Business:

None at this time.

New Business:

Presentation of New Activities, Updates and Changes

Youth Program Discussion: Cn. Michel Belt

Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte, Ph.D., is joining Grace as of February 1. Just appointed as Associate Professor of Social Theory and Religious Ethics at Drew Theological School

He has been involved for the past few years in Children's Ministry and Youth work. Fr. Michel thanked Pamela Hamilton for her service to Grace and wished her well on her future endeavors.

Middle School & Sr. High Youth Group activities:

Each group meets after the 10:00 Service

- Looking for increased participation from the parish
- Each group has a focused program
- Sr. High is focused on ethics and interaction as a group
- Middle School is focused on Formation and preparing for the future
- Mission Trip is being planned July 8, 2018, traveling to Frakes, KY, working with a mission organization there.
- Looking for at least 4 adults to participate. Focus is rising high schoolers (post-8th Grade) through graduates.

Sunday Service Schedule Discussion:

Fr. Richard Maxwell

The Parish has decided to continue with the summer schedule. This was the result of many opportunities for input from the Parish, including: Surveys, Meetings, and Discussions among Parishioners, Staff and Clergy.

Fr. Maxwell commended the Parish on its willingness to work through this change and to accept, sometimes grudgingly, the changes during the trial period. Some of the things that were not successful with this trial change:

"Joint" Coffee Hour between 8 & 10, Sunday School at 9:00 am.

Based on these results the programs will change, Coffee Hour will revert to the previous schedule, Sunday School will be held during the first half of 10:00 Service, Adult Forum sessions will be held after both 8 and 10.

Children's Chapel will be combined with Sunday School in a format to be defined.

Fr. Maxwell concluded that maintaining this change for the remainder of the Interim period will reduce the impact of further change on the Parish and will provide an opportunity for the future Rector to establish a schedule going forward.

Website: Tom Honohan

New parish website has been launched Thanks to Noah Wilde and Eric Roper for their participation and ongoing assistance The new website will be:

- Easier to maintain
- Reduced costs
- More stable and secure
- Improved Calendar function
- Will have the Directory available online once Security has been established

Thanks, and Acknowledgements: John Garde
Diane DuBrule and Charlie Schiller,

Outgoing Vestry Members

Kirk Oakes, Head Usher

Kirk has served admirably for many years as the Head Usher and coordinator of the Usher Program
Fr. Maxwell presented Kirk with a gift of thanks

Margie Paul, Soup Kitchen Coordinator

Our thanks to her for her years of service

The current and newly elected Vestry Members During this transition time, these people are providing increased service and support to Grace. The Clergy and Staff were recognized individually.

Profile and Search Update: John Garde

Profile Committee has submitted a draft report to the Vestry

Currently being reviewed by the Diocese, prior to approval by the Bishop. Expect to initiate the Search process in early March at the Transitional Ministry Conference for Provinces 1-5 in the Episcopal Church.

- Target is to issue a Call before September 2018
- Issues to be Managed along the Way
- Number of applications,
- Background checking,
- Negotiations of agreement and approval by the Bishop,
- Availability and leave-taking by the future Rector from their current parish, Move to Madison.
- Working to form a Search Committee
- Need additional volunteers for this process
- To participate, one must be a Member in Good Standing of the Parish.

Search Process Discussion: Rev. Bud Holland, Search Consultant

Discussed expectations for the process upcoming
Discussed feedback from other parishes and participants

This can be a very spiritual and in-depth experience for people to participate in. Job Descriptions have been created for the Search Committee participants and are available for review upon request to the Wardens or Vestry.

Thereupon, after a motion, second and voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 12:57 pm.

Canon Michel Belt, Priest Associate, closed with a prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted, Edward H. Roper
Clerk of the Vestry, Emeritus*

The Rector's Report

The Reverend Susan R. Ironside

In the pages of this report you will read, among other things, numbers, and they are very important. The record of any year in the parish is often described in numbers, which is fitting and helpful. Numbers speak of the generosity of our members, without whose financial support we could not function. Numbers describe the people who joined the Body of Christ through baptism, and how many dear ones we lost to death. As your rector, I urge to you read these numbers and these reports, for they tell the story of Grace, and these numbers and these reports are important.

But many things cannot be captured in numbers and are hard to pin down in reports. I cannot tell you, for example, how many times people found traces of hope in the words of a prayer or a hymn or a sermon. I don't know the number of times that an embrace from one of our members made someone else feel safer or braver. How many tears of wonder or giggles of delight erupted on nights like Christmas Eve? How many times did the acolytes rescue the clergy by passing off what was needed at the exact right moment? How many hours did people sacrifice, taking time away from work and family, so that soup could be shared with the hungry, vestry business could be addressed, or flowers could be arranged?

I don't know any of those numbers. I only know that since I arrived in October, I have been astounded by them, these things that we don't record and yet add so much color to Grace.

I cannot calculate what I owe to the wardens, Tom Honahan and John Garde, who so ably led this parish in the past year, or to the members of the vestry, who worked throughout the summer to complete the search process. It's impossible for me to count the number of times I was assisted in recent weeks by Susie Harris and Mike Kostial in the office, or the number of times I was inspired by the faithfulness of Dr. Anne Matlack and Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte whose ministries are vibrant and essential. Nor can I even hazard a guess at the ways that Fr. Michel consistently gives of himself for Grace.

So, I commend this report to you, the record of 2018 at Grace. For all that we can count, we give thanks. And for those things we cannot calculate, we give praise!

The Wardens Report

John Garde & Tom Honohan

The year 2018 was a year of continued significance and change at Grace Church.

Most importantly our Profile Committee produced a Parish Profile for Grace Church that served as the blueprint for our Search Process. Significantly our Profile has been circulated far and wide and now seems to be a “model” for how to do a comprehensive “larger church” profile that fairly and accurately spells out our wishes and desires as a congregation. Kudos to our Profile Committee and co-chairs Bruce Rudin and Raia Wielandy for leading that effort.

Our Search Committee took that wonderful product and did a comprehensive search that resulted in a report and recommendation to the Vestry to call the Rev. Susan Ironside as our Sixteenth Rector. Much work, much time and much prayer were spent on that effort and the congregation owes it's thanks to the co-chairs Chris Wilde and Kathleen Hower Munter and the members of the committee who made that choice possible

A word of thanks to our two other clergy, the Rev. Richard Maxwell and the Rev. Canon Michel Belt. We said farewell and thank you to Max and Paul Kline as they moved on to Max's next assignment in Florida. As a congregation we are thankful and happy to have had Max with us and to have Michel continue with us. We are fortunate to have two experienced clergy of great ability, energy and good humor. They have both thrown themselves headfirst into the work of Grace Church.

Led by our Building & Grounds Committee, we began the renovation of the church offices. We thought about and planned for other building improvements. We made our space available for community and music groups in such a way that our Bishop likes to refer to Grace as the “cathedral church of Madison.”

We ran successful fund raisers and rummage sales. We brought people together for social events, book clubs, weekly breakfasts, men's and women's retreats, New Directions events, innumerable coffee hours, pancake events and much more.

With our clergy and our wonderful full time staff of Dr. Anne Matlack, Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte and Michel Kostial (with some help from Susie Harris and others) we provided

Service Information:

Weddings: 3

Baptisms: 7

Funerals: 12

Attendance at all of our services totaled 16,548, which was a small decrease from the year before. This was very encouraging given that we recently concluded our interim period in which attendance is predicted to go down.

We welcomed several new families to Grace Church. We also lost several long time parishioners to retirement and relocation. That trend will continue in 2019.

We ran a choir and music program for all ages with 71 singers.

We ran a Church School for 24 kids and a Vacation Bible School program with an enrollment of 35 students and the involvement of 16 of our teens as counselors.

For the first time in several years and thanks to Chris Wilde and Mike Cullen (and Michel Belt) we ran a mission trip for our youth during the summer.

We presented 12 children to the Bishop for confirmation.

With our Senior Verger, Kit Cone, in charge and a small army of worship leaders and acolytes we conducted at least one service of public worship every day of the week in 2018.

We contributed \$33,500 dollars to outreach programs as well as funds to support the Diocese and the National Church. Grace Church members and volunteers provided assistance to innumerable people in need and other programs who serve them.

We rolled out a new website with improved reliability and capability that continues to be refined.

As the length of this Annual Report shows, the list of what happened at Grace in 2018 goes on and on and involves a long list of dedicated, involved people.

We have much to be proud of and much to celebrate. We need to acknowledge some parish leaders who are transitioning out of roles and, in some cases, into new ones. Doug Harter and Melissa Waterstredt are leaving the Vestry after having completed their terms. John Bartolomeo had to resign mid-year for family reasons. Doug, Melissa and John have contributed so much to the life of this parish through their service on the Vestry and in so many other ways. Thank you all.

While this is the Wardens report, I want to give a special note of thanks to Tom Honohan who steps down as Warden at this Annual Parish Meeting. Tom agreed to serve as Warden during a unique time in the life of this or any parish – a time of transition. Tom served with great dedication and we all owe him a debt of thanks for his time, energy and commitment.

As you can see there is much that is good about the current state of Grace Church.

That said as we move into the new year we have some challenges.

Financially we ended the year 2018 with a small deficit. The proposed 2019 budget shows a larger deficit largely due to the need to increase stewardship. Our endowment – now invested fully in the Diocesan Investment Trust took a hit at the end of 2018 but has now bounced back to some degree.

We continue to have a pledge shortfall of almost \$95,000 for 2019 because people have not returned pledge cards. By way of information, we received our last 2018 pledge card in July of 2018. This plays havoc with our finances. We need to address this issue as a congregation.

As we move into the new year we have some New Opportunities and New Challenges.

We start the new year with a full Vestry.

We will have some issues to address with regard to clergy staffing as Father Michel will leave us at some point to resume retirement. Decisions about who replaces Father Michel will drive decisions about real estate (what to do about Surrey Lane) as well as other factors.

Mother Susan and Father Michel continue to develop and offer new adult education programs and more refined pastoral care programs. We are also beginning to address the continued development or redevelopment of our youth program.

As we have said before, we also need you to step up and volunteer your time and talent. Your Wardens have spoken about the need for greater congregational participation in some of our ministries and programs. While we are blessed with having many who give of their time and considerable talents, it is also true that in many parts of the ministries of Grace more is better. We

have outlined some opportunities to get involved in this Annual Report. These opportunities would all benefit from new volunteers. While someone else coined the phrase “It Takes a Village,” it is certainly the case that “It Takes a Congregation” to make Grace happen in the way that we all want.

Grace continues to be a strong, healthy community. We ended 2018 in a strong position on many fronts including financial, programmatically, membership-wise and with a new Rector. We start 2019 with some challenges but in an otherwise strong position.

The Priest Associate's Report

The Reverend Canon Michel Belt

It is hard to believe yet another year has come and gone. We have now gone through several whole programmatic/liturgical and calendar cycles together. Over the past two reports, I've spoken of an incredible number of “firsts” that I have been privileged to experience and share with you, and not surprisingly, I continue to add to that list.

During the winter, we welcomed Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte to head up our children's programs. That summer, I was able to help him with my third Vacation Bible School at Grace. While attendance was a little lower than 2017, there was a good enrollment, and to my knowledge, for the first time we invited children from the Madison United Methodist Church to join us. I'm always amazed, as I try to figure out who at VBS is having the most fun, the children enrolled, or the teen counselors. Actually, I guess it really doesn't matter—they all enjoy it (this includes the adults too), and all are sad when it ends. And, Dr. Elias supported efforts with our monthly Program Year (make-your-own) pizza dinners, followed by Compline for Kids.

One of my disappointments was not being able to get our Middle School Youth Group going. With the recruitment of two great volunteers (Allison Garde and Barbara Hughes), the Middle School Youth Group still struggled. Many a Sunday, the adults were in their “special room”, but no middle school youth showed up. It was disappointing, as this group is the “feeder” for our Rite 13, and our Youth Confirmation Class (the Diocese of Newark requires Youth Confirmants to be 8th grade or higher). With this group, dependent upon their parents to get them here, or keep them at Church, it is tough since

many seem to be in a rush to get on with the days' other activities, or get their children off to sports.

In the fall of 2018, we held the third Rite 13 service since my arrival. The participation was small again this year; there are simply too many school/sport/family obligations and/or conflicts for many of our young people on any given Sunday. But for those who participated, they had a good rehearsal the night before, shared a great dinner with the families, and were back the next day to be the "celebrities" for this event. It was great to have family members here, and to hear the previous class, along with other teens, offer their support as the young people began this life-transition.

In the spring of 2018, 12 of our young people made their "adult" commitment to God and were Confirmed, right here at Grace Church. Then in early October, the "new" Youth Confirmation Class began meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month, after the 6:00 pm service. There are ten eighth-graders working their way through our text (*My Faith, My Life*), learning about the history and people of our denomination, discussing their faith journey, and considering the possible places they might occupy as the next generation of faithful followers of Christ. They will be confirmed here at Grace on May 4, 2019.

Our Senior High Youth Group, with the help of volunteer Kirsten Kellstrom, gathered in their "space" almost every Sunday, after the 10:00 am service. Besides working and thinking theologically, and providing peer guidance, the group began the massive work needed to accomplish a week-long mission trip (i.e., fundraising, travel plans, etc.) to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. (*See those notes on p. 32*)

During Lent and throughout the Easter season, Fr. Max and I led an Adult Education offering, titled "The Good Book Club," focusing on the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles (offering the same class on Tuesdays (at Noon) and Wednesdays (6:30 pm)—giving people a choice, or allowing "make-ups" if one missed their regularly scheduled session). This enabled parishioners who either don't drive at night, or might not be home from work in time, to participate in weekly classes. It was a great starting point, and Forward Movement has promised to support another course starting in Epiphany (2019).

From a worship perspective, with the help and guidance of our Acolyte Mother (Jennifer McCulloch), sticking with our reduced number of services there has been some easing of the problems experienced with finding sufficient numbers of crucifers, acolytes and vergers. It eliminated some of our young people working (almost) every week, or being called at the last minute out of choir rehearsal to fill a vacancy. We offered several opportunities for training, inviting new people (3rd grade and older, along with adults!) to share the ministry at the altar—but, we are always looking for and willing to train new members!

Under Bishop Beckwith, a number of diocesan events continued to be held at Grace Church—and I have often served as the Minister of Ceremonies. We held the annual Clergy Renewal of Vows here. We hosted a Youth Confirmation Retreat and two Confirmation services (one which included Grace youth and adults). We hosted our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as he met with diocesan clergy, the day before the Consecration of our new Bishop Carlye Hughes (I was a chalice bearer at that service). And we were one of the first parishes to have our (new) Bishop's Visitation in December, 2018.

Other "smaller commitments" included working with Geoff Brooks, as we spent some time at the Madison Train Station early Ash Wednesday morning offering "Ashes To Go." I continue as the primary "visitor" offering a monthly service at two nearby nursing homes, Pine Acres and Chatham Hills. And I attended not only the Diocesan Convention for the Diocese of Newark but also that for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (as well as their Clergy Conference). And this year, for the first time in three years, I was able to make my "annual" Thanksgiving Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York.

I had the honor of joining you as we bid Fr. Richard "Max" Maxwell and Paul Kline good-bye, as they headed to their next assignment in Coral Gables, Florida. And for about two months, had the privilege of working with Fr. Keith Garrett, gaining much-needed help and support, before then bidding him (and his wife Carleen) good-bye as they moved to Virginia—not too long after we shared this year's Blessing of the Animals!

I continue as the Grace Clergy person on the Grace Counseling Center Board. 2018 seemed to go a good

bit smoother. While still somewhat handicapped by lack of knowledge, we welcomed new Board Members, and spent a good bit of time together with the therapists, working to improve the Center and our offerings. We have a new Mission Statement, and with an almost-monthly workshop offering, are working to increase our presence in the community. The Counseling Center is still struggling financially, but if the quantity of the hours and hard work both the Board and Staff are committing to this effort is any indication, we can be successful. Our own Bruce Rudin was elected Chair of the Board for 2019. And, we hope to revitalize the relationship between Grace Church and Grace Counseling Center!

On a personal note, some of you know I joined the Madison Rotary on my return to New Jersey. On July 1 (until June 30, 2019), I was installed as Club President—for my own one-year term—after completing 9 months of an unexpired term of my predecessor. I love Rotary, and believe it is “the best” service organization—and one of the best ways to serve both the community and the world—there are some days when it is a little overwhelming so I ask for your consideration and your prayers—especially on Thursdays (Rotary days)!

I feel certain there will be plenty of more firsts, as we enter this third calendar year together!

Acolytes

Jennifer McCulloch

Acolytes are the altar servers at the very heart of our church services, helping to light the way during the procession and gospel reading, bringing the collection up for blessing, assisting the priests at the altar, as well as managing the gates, bells and candles during the service. Our acolytes are so talented, you probably don't even notice all they do to help the service run smoothly!

Our Head Acolytes: Jack Baulig, Sarah Garde and Heather McCulloch [and Kristin McManus prior to starting college] - have been busy all year mentoring, scheduling, recruiting and training our wonderful group of dedicated acolytes. Kit Cone is our North Star – guiding us each week in all we do, and Jennifer McCulloch lends a hand with sending out scheduling e-mails and keeping the robes closet in order.

New acolytes this year include adults and children: Audrey Bendelius, Kiera Duff, Katelyn Finlay, Melissa Honohan, Charles Jurgensen, Emme Kassis, Peter Munter and Lucy Waterstredt.

In addition to graciously replacing worn-out cottas and cassocks, the church gave each server an Acolyte Cross/Pendant in recognition of the vital service they provide at the altar each week. Many of our acolytes are active in other programs during the church service as well, including: choir, worship leaders and ushers.

We encourage you to find out firsthand the joy of serving at the altar! Acolytes can range in age from 3rd grade to age 100. Training takes about an hour and can be arranged at your convenience. You will usually be scheduled once a month. For school-age children, acolyting can count towards Service Hours - simply bring us the form!

Please contact one of our Head Acolytes or Fr. Michel if you are interested. Thank you to our faithful acolyte team (including some alumni/college students helping at the holidays!) Jack Baulig, Audrey Bendelius, Jay & Susan Bien, Anne Bolt, Geoff Brooks, Kiera Duff, Charlie & Poppy Ehrbar, Katelyn Finlay, Sarah Garde, Melissa Honohan, Charlie Jurgensen, Emme Kassis, Heather, Grace, Kaitlin, Siobhan & Jennifer McCulloch, Kristin McManus, Mia Melchoir, Tina, Kiera & Peter Munter, Marilyn Musielski, Carson Pacheco, Peggy Potter, Hope Pratt, Zoey Ross, Lucy Waterstredt and Noah & Hallie Wilde (apologies to anyone who we've overlooked!).

Adult Education

The Reverend Canon Michel Belt

Adult Education

Our Adult Education offering this year focused primarily on “The Good Book Club,” where we participated with Episcopalians around the United States. The focus of the course was on the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. This took place during the weeks of Lent and through the Easter season, and was available to people on either Tuesdays at noon, or Wednesday evenings (at 6:30 pm).

The study, provided through the auspices of Forward Movement (the publishers of Forward Day By Day), provided readings for each day, and suggested some discussion questions. The feedback received was very positive, and on hearing Forward Movement planned the next course to begin in Epiphany 2019, there was enthusiasm for participating in that when released.

As last year, there was an Adult Inquirer’s Class, for those adults considering being Confirmed in the Episcopal Church, which subsequently occurred right here at Grace (along with our Youth Confirmants).

If you have any topical suggestions, for our Adult Education offerings, they would be greatly appreciated—we’re always looking for topics that would interest a larger population of Grace parishioners.

Adult Forums in 2018

Dora Monserrate

Advance Notice: the schedule of topics is posted in Grace Notes and The Messenger. A one page outline is posted on the bulletin board in Grace Hall lobby.

Format of Sunday Adult Forums

1. Approximately 30 – 45 minutes
 - a. Most Adult Forums are held in Nieman Hall while coffee hour continues in Grace Hall. Depending on the topic and/or activity, some were held in Grace Hall
 - b. Some forums were held in the library, such as the Bible study classes
2. Circle setup is to encourage participation

AREAS OF INTEREST (as discussed in April 2017) for Adult Forums and First Fridays

1. Faith/Spiritual
 - a. Bible Study / Psalm Study
 - b. Faith Forum – Lent, Easter, Christmas, etc
 - c. Being Episcopalian-various topics
 - d. Spiritual Journeys
 - e. Youth activities
 - f. Godly play - Sunday school program
 - g. Other Faiths
 - h. Drew, St. Elizabeth’s, and FDU are potential resources for topics
 - i. Lectio Divina - Praying with the Bible
 - j. Benedictine Way
 - k. Islam-various topics
2. Educational
 - a. Parishioner Experiences: careers, hobbies, travel experiences, outreach and ministry
 - b. Supporting Grace Church: how we support church services – ushering, acolytes, worship leaders, altar guild, hospitality, etc
 - c. Diversity and Tolerance
 - d. Grace Counseling Center
 - e. Tapping into local Universities/colleges
 - f. LEAD - Law Enforcement Against Drugs
3. Updates about Grace Church activities
 - a. Wardens’ Update
 - b. New rector, Search Committee update
 - c. Endowment/Investment/Finances
 - d. Buildings and Grounds
 - e. Outreach-programs supported by Grace
 - f. Youth Group
 - g. Current “Hot” committees and topics
 - h. Meet the Vestry (1-3 at a time)
4. General Interest/Other
 - a. New rector/associate rector background and interests
 - b. Career experiences
 - c. Hobbies/special interest
 - d. Entertainment/Recreation
 - e. Community building
 - f. Being Episcopalian - what it means to you
 - g. Faith related to social and cultural issues (current and not current)
 - h. How to talk politics
 - i. Fun Stuff: Bells, vocal lessons from Gargoyles and Daughters of Zion, etc
 - j. Game night
 - k. Parent/Child experiences and events
 - l. Alzheimer’s 101

When: depending on other events on the church calendar:

- Adult Forums – after 10:00 am service, starting at 11:30 am
- First Friday/month, at 7:00 pm -- Potluck dinner starts at 6:15 pm
- Come for just the presentation or only the potluck dinner to socialize with parishioners
- 45 minute presentation --- If topic is not suitable or not of interest to children the announcement will suggest an age level
- Weekday evenings or Saturdays: some topics, such as Bible study, were held on weekday evenings or on a Saturday

Feedback and Your Ideas: All ideas and comments are welcome and will be taken into consideration. Volunteer to be a speaker or suggest a topic and speaker. Scheduling is based on other church activities.

Adult Learning

- Inquirer's Class (February – March): What do Episcopalians believe? Why do we worship the way we do? What does "episcopal" mean, anyway?
- The Good Book Club
- Lent Madness
- Modern Art through the Lens of Painting (April – May)
- Beginning Encaustics
- How to Create a Healthy Life: series of free talks at Grace Counseling Center
- Food and You
- Listening with the Ear of the Heart
- Raising Resilient Children
- Infant Massage
- Secrets of a Happy Retirement
- Why won't my child listen to me? (Challenges of Parenting)
- Tips for Managing Emotional Eating

Adult Forums in 2018

- Wardens' Updates every month
- Jan. 21 at 9:15 and 11:15 am: Discussion about Sunday church service schedule – what needs to be considered and parishioners' input
- Jan. 28: Supporting Church Services, Part 2: Acolytes – Why are they important? What does it mean to be an Acolyte? (Jennifer McCulloch and Heather McCulloch)
- Feb. 11: What is Lent? And other related topics (Fr. Max and Fr. Michel)
- Feb. 18: Profile Committee Update
- Feb. 25: The Importance of Camp - Cross Roads Retreat
- April 15: Food And You
- April 29: The Shared Task of Children's Ministry (Elias Ortega-Aponte)
- May 20: Liturgical Seasons of the Year – How do they affect change of colors, the altar, and flowers (Fr. Max)
- June 24: Eye exam screening
- Sept. 16: Welcome Back Sunday and Newcomers' Welcome Table. Grace Church ministries on exhibit with opportunities to talk to parishioner representatives in each group.
- Sept. 23: Youth Mission Trip Report (by the adult leaders and the youth)
- Oct. 21: Free Vision Screening
- Nov. 18: Dreams and Dreaming, Part I
- Dec. 2: Advent Wreath-making
- Dec. 9: Pancakes with St. Nick
- Dec. 16: Bishop's visit: The Rt Rev. Carlye Hughes

Altar, Flower & Wedding Guilds

Chris Cullen & Judy Honohan

Regular duties of the Altar Guild include care for all sacred vessels, linens, vestments, brass and silverware used as part of our services. We monitor and order supplies such as wine, wafers and candles, as well as clean and maintain the area surrounding the high altar, chapel, Baptistry and children's chapel. After a service of Holy Eucharist, it is the Altar Guild that cleans up, removes all consecrated material, rinses out linens, and sets up the altar anew for the next service. Holidays such as Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, bishop visitations and ordinations call for more elaborate decoration, as well as employment of less frequently used items such as holy water, incense and additional vestments, linens and hardware.

Altar Guild participates in all Sunday services, at least two or three weekday services of Holy Eucharist, as well as other special services.

We urgently need some new members to replenish our ranks. We would like additional volunteers at all services (both Sunday and weekday) and Saturday setup. A photo guide of every conceivable altar, credence table and Baptistry setup is available, so there is no memorization required. Those interested in working alongside seasoned members and easing slowly into light Altar Guild duty should see Christine Cullen.

Would you like to help out, but cannot fit regular Altar Guild work into your schedule? There are some very important related tasks that are necessary, with which we can always use additional help.

Holiday de-decorating—What goes up, must come down. Answer the call for extra hands after Christmas and Easter to help remove flowers, plant stands, trees, wreaths and other items. Also on the schedule is the changeover from brass and silver to vessels and hardware made of simpler materials in time for Ash Wednesday, which falls this year on March 6. Linens care - A necessary function of conducting Holy Eucharist, we cannot do without our very able linens care team. Small linens require weekly attention while large linens that cover the altars need only occasional laundering and ironing. Additional linens care hands are urgently needed.

Supply monitor - Ordering supplies and monitoring stock of service-related inventory such as wafers, wine and candle fuel is another necessary part of Altar Guild duties.

Wafer counting—Wafers need to be counted and stored in bags of 50. This is an easy task to carry out occasionally at home (we supply the bags).

Flower Guild sees that the high altar, baptistry and children's chapel are decorated weekly with fresh flowers, arranged by a resident member. New flower arrangers are always welcome, and no experience is required—please see Judy Honohan.

We encourage participation of occasional floral arrangers at holiday and festival time, so please watch Grace Notes for decorating dates and times. Next big decorating date is Maundy Thursday, April 18, to create a garden in the chapel, followed by Holy Saturday, April 20, at 9:00 am.

Weddings at Grace may be simple or elaborate, but there are certain tasks that need to be carried out before, during and after the wedding. Attending the rehearsal, gatekeeping in the Narthex before the procession begins, and generally assisting the clergy with chancel setup are the duties of the Wedding Guild. Interested parties may contact Judy Honohan or Eleanor Rawitz.

Members of the Altar Guild include:

Christine Cullen (Director AG),
*Judy Honohan** (Flower Guild),
*Melissa Honohan**, *Elizabeth Smith*, *Susan Brueckner*,
*Crary Reynolds**, *John Goodwin*, *Peggy Potter* and *Ruth Tranberg*. *denotes both regular AG and flowers

Additional members of the Flower Guild include: *Stacy Wilde*, *Anna Bradshaw*, *Jackie Jacoban*, *Sue Nixon* and *Crary Brooks*.

Linens care is provided by *Linda Bronco*, *Sheila Chidester*, *Nancy Gates* and *Marge Van Court*.



Building & Grounds

Judy Jurgensen

Once again, 2018 proved to be a year with its share of boiler malfunctions, electrical disruptions, lighting issues, cleaning problems, and our favorite, leaks!

The Building and Grounds Committee is responsible for the care and maintenance of the church and rectory, but also for two other properties; Hayes House, which houses Grace Counseling Center, and 5 Surrey Lane, the Priest Associate's residence. Sitting around with our feet up is not an option!

Additionally, this committee takes on several capital projects each year, which are funded by a yearly Kirby grant and about \$50,000 generated from the Taber Fund.

This year these projects included a complete renovation of the main office, a new roof on Hayes House, custom vinyl windows for the rectory, and the fabrication of a new arch over the front door of the church.

Supporting us, as we take on all of the above, is an amazing group of contractors, whose names now fill three pages. Many of them give us reduced pricing, priority service and have worked with us for years. Our other unsung hero is Kit Cone, who is often the first on the scene to assess the impending disaster and triage the situation!

The Building and Grounds Committee meets at 9:00 am the second Sunday of each month. Its members include Mike Cullen, David Gates, Judy Jurgensen, Ed Nunn, Sam Partridge (Vestry liaison), Mark Sacher and Wardens John Garde and Tom Honohan.

Following is a list of the larger projects completed and a look at 2019:

List of Completed 2018 Projects Church Projects

- A flat roof is replaced and repairs and replacement of damaged slates is completed.
- A complete renovation (lighting, painting, carpeting, new desks) of the main office in the Old Rectory is accomplished.
- A switch-over to LED lighting for all areas is continued.
- A new wireless radio transmitter system is installed on our fire and burglar alarm systems.
- The large sign on the front lawn is repainted.
- A new arch over the front door of the church is fabricated.
- The terrace and steps are repaired and re-sealed.
- The water cooler is replaced.

Rectory Projects

- Automatic garage door openers are installed.
- Custom vinyl windows are installed throughout rectory.

Hayes House Projects

- New roofs are installed on Hayes House and the adjoining garage.
- A new boiler system is installed.

Projects Anticipated for 2019

- Do necessary masonry repair work on the exterior of the church.
- Rebuild retaining wall and steps next to handicapped parking.
- Resurface the parking lot and driveway.
- Move forward with the architect on sacristy renovations.
- Assess columbarium masonry and walkways.



Children's Ministry

Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte

In 2018 Grace continued ministering to our children and families through a variety of ongoing programs and special events. While this has been a transition year marked by staff transitions and programmatic changes, we have not only maintained our current programming but we are also exploring new ways to engage our families. Our ongoing programming this year included weekly Children's Chapel, Gospel Gatherings, Sunday School, and First Wednesday Compline Service for children in pre-K through 5th grade.

Additionally, we also have our traditional yearly events. These events ranged from special Lent and Easter kids' activities and services, Pajama Day, the celebration of our Girl and Boy Scouts Troops, Closing of the School Year Celebration, Vacation Bible School, Thanksgiving Food Collection, and the annual Christmas pageant.

About Children's Programming

Sunday School and Children's Chapel: In our Sunday School program we nurture our parish children's understanding of the Episcopal Way. We reflected on the Christian Story through, "Weaving God's Story," a Lectionary-Based Curriculum. We engaged in wonder through exploring Old and New Testaments stories via Godly Play, and learned about the liturgical calendar. We also made space for play-based learning when, for example, we built what our vision of the Kingdom of God looks like using Legos. Our Sunday School program runs from September to May and there are currently 24 children actively enrolled in the Sunday School program.

What does a typical Sunday School class look like? First, we gather for a time of play followed by a directed activity. These activities provide a launch point for exploring the theme of our Sunday Lesson. After the activity, the children move to the Epiphany Chapel or the Godly Play room, for the story of the day.

I would like to extend a special word of gratitude to the pre-K through 5th-grade teachers and volunteers for 2018: Kathryn McManus, Katie Harter, Han Huang, Laura and Greg Bendelius, Doris Fernandez, Scott Waterstredt, Angela Finlay, Hilary Tabish, Beth

McKeever, and Diane DuBrule. I would also like to recognize Jabez Van Cleef for his commitment to leading Gospel Gatherings. And finally, I would like to also recognize members of the Altar Guild for their love and care with which they set up the space for Children's Chapel. Since my time here, many of you have helped with my onboarding by sharing Grace Church's history and institutional memory with me; I would like to thank Barbara Hughes for walking me through the details of Children Ministries at Grace.

Compline for Kids: On the first Wednesday of the month we have pizza compline—a family event. The children make pizza in the kitchen then work on a project. We eat dinner together and then go into the church for the Compline service, which is a children's bedtime prayer service with a homily and children's songs. The children get to perform all the church jobs.

Vacation Bible School: During the month of July, we held a TimeLab themed VBS. This year, we enrolled 36 campers and were staffed by 16 counselors. During VBS, the children learned about Creation, Reconciliation, and God's Kingdom, through a curriculum combining songs, games, Bible stories, and stories of scientific discoveries.

Planning and executing a Vacation Bible School would be impossible without the support of parents, staff, and volunteers who make things happen. I would like to thank our extraordinary group of counselors from our Grace Youth: Sigourney, Brendan, Tyler, Julian, Elizabeth, Kieran, Emme, Catie, Meredith, Julian, Kathryn, Kristin, Tina, Lulu, Luna, and Bryson. Without your support, this VBS could have happened.

A Special thanks go to **Stacy Wilde, Matt Palmer, Wendy Nunn, and Father Michel for their help in setting up this project.** The VBS service project was to collect school supplies and backpacks for Family Intervention Services. On Thursday we put together a show for the parents. Thank you, Dr. Anne. On Friday we took a walking field trip to visit the Police Department and Fire Department. We closed the VBS with water balloon fights and other water games.

Christmas Pageant: The pageant is a family and congregational event. Cast parents, members, and other volunteers give of their time during this busy season to participate in the Pageant. There's the wrangling angels, the guarding props, fitting costumes, helping cast members remember their positions and lines and having snacks ready, among many other things. Then, on Christmas Eve, we get to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ. This year, I want to recognize the work of:

Kathryn MacManus and Wade Kirby teamed up to direct and coach the cast for our annual Christmas Pageant.

Volunteers who make this work lighter: Heather Crimmins-Fraser, Katie Harter, Elizabeth McKeever, Wendy Nunn, Wade Kirby, Kathryn McManus and Julian McManus

And finally, I would be remiss if I were not to recognize Mike Kostial and Susie Harris for all the ways in which they have helped me in my time at Grace Church. From helping me find stuff around the building, to finding forms, collecting registration forms, communication support, and many other things. Thank you!

Communications & Technology

Tom Honohan & Sam Partridge

As usual our staff has worked diligently to produce a myriad of communications to keep us all informed of what is happening at Grace. Regular production of Grace Notes, Service Bulletins, The Messenger, Annual Report and special announcements along with key email updates on important issues and events has been a monumental effort by our dedicated staff. Mike Kostial, Susie Harris and Susan Steel have led the charge so thanks to them!

Mother Susan is now working to further improve our communication efforts and processes during 2019.



Our central parish membership database, Servant Keeper, continues to be populated with information and data useful in the administration of the Parish. Production of the Parish Directory is now much more efficient and less of a burden on staff. We continue to improve the quality and completeness of the database and routinely ask parishioners to review their entries in the Directory prior to each new issuance. Mike Kostial and Susan Steel continue to improve this critical knowledge base that will increase overall efficiency of communications and reporting of stewardship information as well as providing information to complete required reporting to the Diocese.

Our IT infrastructure was completely replaced this year with all new computers and a new central server unit. Security of our information is now greatly improved, staff access to all files is simpler and more efficient and we have 24/7 technical support

reducing the need for staff to trouble-shoot issues. As part of this project all our IT expenses were assessed and the result has been that, even with all new equipment and services, our budget remains about the same, as we were able to eliminate a variety of costs associated with our older systems and software. We also have a new printer with improved capabilities and better cost management for the variety of printing done in our offices. Thanks to Mike Kostial for all the time and work devoted to this very successful project.

The new Grace Website has been operating since the beginning of 2018 and has been stable and kept up-to-date throughout the year. We averaged between 600 and 800 user sessions per month during 2018. Now that the site is stable and being used by our congregants, improved design will address appearance, ease of use, financial donations, access to the Grace Membership

Directory as well as resource to manage the site into the future.

Notes: During our Search Process 80% of the candidates submitting applications came through our website.

Community Soup Kitchen

Tom Honohan & Kirk Nixon

Again Grace Church members participated as food preparers and servers at the Community Soup Kitchen (CSK) at Redeemer Church in Morristown. Grace volunteers served 600 meals on five Tuesdays in 2018 and parishioners generously donated bread, milk, fruit, salad and baked goods for each of our work days in 2018. Since 2005 Grace volunteers have cooked and served almost 12,000 meals! We also increased the number of trained kitchen food preparers qualified to work in the CSK kitchen, a priority for the CSK.

Kirk Nixon joined Tom Honohan this year in coordinating and managing Grace's Soup Kitchen program.

Thanks to the following Grace volunteers who worked in 2018 at the CSK: Cindy Barilla, Sheila Chidester, Alison Cummins, Heather Cummins-Fraser, Rob Fraser, Charlie Ehrbar, Laurie Ehrbar, Rob Ehrbar, David Gates, Nancy Gates, John Goodwin, Melissa Honohan, Tom Honohan, Judy Jurgensen, Ginger Maione, Doug Motzenbecker, Marilyn Musielski, Kathleen Munter, Kirk Nixon, Sue Nixon, Missy Partridge, David Partridge, Margie Paul, Irene Potter, Sue Streater, Ruth Tranberg, Marge Van Court, Peter Vereb, Raia Wielandy and Stephan Wielandy.

This past year the CSK, among many other things, moved 25 homeless individuals into safe permanent housing! **Meals have now been served every day of the year for over 33 years – not one day has been missed.**

The Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center provides nutritious meals in a warm, safe and caring environment, free of charge, no questions asked, to anyone who comes seeking nourishment. As part

of hospitality, they also encourage and assist people in need in accessing community resources, services and educational programs.

In 2018, the CSK served more than 75,000 breakfasts and lunches and also provided more than 500,000 pounds of food for guests to take home. 125 camp lunches were provided each day to children not receiving free school meals over the summer, and 500 dinners were provided to camp families over the summer. But that's just the beginning! Providing a breakfast and a noon-time meal allows the Outreach Center the unique opportunity to connect with their guests to offer:

- Mental health counseling
- Substance abuse outreach
- Outreach to veterans
- Employment counseling and an Annual Job Fair
- Housing and daily living assistance such as accessing food stamps
- Nursing consultations and health screenings
- Emergency assistance for food, clothing and basic necessities
- English as a Second Language classes and translation services

The Free Farmers Markets provide fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy items and meat for guests to take home three times a week. With a generous grant from the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation, we rescue produce from Trader Joe's, Whole Foods Market, Stop & Shop and local farms. Many mothers with young children come each week to pick up fresh items to cook healthy meals for their families.

Contact Kirk Nixon or Tom Honohan if you'd like to volunteer on a Grace team or in some other way at the Community Soup Kitchen. You can always designate a monetary contribution through Grace Church that will go toward the purchase of food for the Community Soup Kitchen.



Flower Committee

Peggy Oakes

The Grace Church Flower Committee is comprised of a team of volunteers who deliver altar flowers to those on our prayer list and to others on most Sundays during the year. The flowers are delivered after the Sunday 10:00 am service. We have a team of two volunteers each week. If needed, one can arrange for a substitute either by switching with another deliverer, or finding one from our substitute list. Our 2018 committee was: *Nancy Gates, Janet Molstad, Margie Paul, Alison Cummins, Katie Harter, Eleanor Rawitz, Beverly Wand and Peggy Oakes.*

Following Christmas and Easter, we have a group of parishioners who volunteer to deliver altar poinsettias and Easter plants. These ladies helped with either or both of the deliveries during 2018: Sheila Chidester, Alison Cummins, Ginny Easley, Nancy Gates, Katie Harter, Francine Ling, Maureen Link, Ginger Maione, Janet Molstad, Sue Nixon, Margie Paul, Eleanor Rawitz, Beverly Wand, Stacy Wilde and Peggy Oakes.

Please contact me at (973) 377-1854 if you might be interested in joining us for this rewarding church outreach.

Food For Friends

Kit Cone

Food for Friends is an outreach food ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, collecting non-perishable food at churches all over the diocese and distributing it to those in need. In a working example of ecumenical cooperation, the food gathered at Grace Church is distributed by Trinity Lutheran Church, Dover, an ELCA Lutheran church. This small but amazingly active urban church runs a very busy food pantry and is host to Faith Kitchen, a soup kitchen serving 85 to 100 people every day in the church hall.

Food for Friends is gathered at Grace Church in a market cart in the entrance lobby, loaned by Stop & Shop of Madison. Grace Church Re-Start Ministry volunteers sort, pack, and deliver the food donations to Trinity Church. It must be emphasized that Trinity Church does not accept food that is past the expiration date stamped on the can or box. Every week the Grace volunteer sorters must throw into the dumpster donations of food that are several years past their expiration date.

A few Grace Church families make periodic trips to Costco and other “big box” stores to purchase large donations to the Food for Friends program. Often this is done as a learning experience for children, aiming for “the most nourishment for the dollar.” The most useful items are canned meats such as ham, chicken, and beef, chili, corned beef hash, ravioli, “chunky” soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, stew, pork and beans, Vienna sausages, tuna and other fish, boxed macaroni and cheese dinner, and similar non-perishable foods. Foods in “rip-off-top” cans are especially valued by homeless people who do not have can openers, dishes, or stoves. Donations of new warm socks and blankets for the food pantry clients are also very welcome.

One Grace parishioner gave a very innovative gift to the food pantry at Trinity Church. Shopping at a “big box” store, he saw peanut butter offered at an economical price. Celebrating his 83rd birthday, he bought 84 jars of peanut butter – adding “a year to grow on” to his age. This unusual gift inspired several other parishioners to make similar gifts to charity!

Gifts of funds for the purchase of food may be made by check to Grace Church with “Food for Friends” on the memo line. This is a useful option for people who want to support this ministry, but are not physically able to move cases of canned goods, or who want to join with other donors to take advantage of discounted bulk food prices. The annual ShopRite “can-can sale” is one such opportunity, and “eight-packs” and other bulk lots from Costco are always welcome.

In addition to non-perishable foods for distribution at the Trinity Church food pantry, the Food for Friends ministry also solicits gifts of party leftovers, desserts, sandwich trays, casseroles, main courses, fruit baskets, baked goods and other prepared foods from church functions, individual parishioners' social events, and outside donors who call the church wanting to contribute leftover food. Donations must be untouched full containers, and not remnants. Disposable pans and bowls are recommended to avoid the need to return containers. Gifts of food for up to 220 people are picked up by the Grace Re-Start Ministry and taken to Faith Kitchen at Trinity Church in Dover, Market Street Mission in Morristown or the Morristown Community Soup Kitchen.

Fundraisers

Tom Honohan

First, thanks to all those who were involved in planning and execution of our fundraising efforts this year. The Rummage Sale, Clothing Sale and Annual Auction were our major events along with Shrove Tuesday and St. Nicholas pancake events.

Overall, our fund raising efforts yielded, after expenses, a contribution of more than \$45,000 in support of our ministries. Equally important, these major initiatives involve teamwork and socializing, and some stress sharing, among our parishioners and community throughout the year.

Grace Church Rummage Sale

May 12, 2018

The sale took six days to set up, six hours and over 100 volunteers to run, and netted more than \$12,000 when post-event sales were added in. Just as important, many customers were able to obtain goods for their families that they might not otherwise be able to afford and social service organizations received valuable items as well.

April was the beginning of the effort with Boxing Days to encourage the collection of donations. A pre-sale party on Friday night provided first access to sale items to our parishioners – a great social event. The sale day was very well attended and all was cleaned up that evening with remaining donations ready to be distributed to a host of social service organizations.

The Salvation Army took much of the unsold materials for their ministry, and the Madison AAUW collected most of our unsold books and other media for their annual sale held at the College of St. Elizabeth. Some children's goods went to North Porch Women's and Infants Center in Dover. Other recipients of goods from Grace were St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center, Madison Cooperative Nursery School and Grace's own Re-Start Ministry.

Rummage Sale Team: Judy and Tom Honohan, Dora Monserrate, Missy Partridge, Eleanor Rawitz, Beverly and John Wand and Stacy Wilde.

Oktober / Decemberfest

2018 Grace Auction held on December 1, 2018

The original event was rescheduled from October to December thus the name change to Decemberfest.

Beer experts Matt Palmer, Mike Kostial and Scott Albiston journeyed to an authentic German beer brewery to taste and select the beers for our event. John Garde and Tom Honohan went as well but just drank beer. As a sign that good choices were made, all kegs were emptied by the end of the Decemberfest event!

The evening was enlivened by an Oompah Band, and the decorating team did a great job giving Grace Hall a beer hall feel. Many came in costume with Randi Albiston, Jennifer McCulloch and Michael Petite being judged winners.



The Live Auction was led by Matt Palmer and, for the third very successful year, auctioneer John Bartolomeo.



Judy Honohan chaired the event with a lot of help from auction pros Eleanor Rawitz, Randi Albiston and Stacy Wilde for design and decorating, Diane DuBrule for catalog, Jennifer McCulloch and Wendy Nunn for check-in/check-out mechanics, and Mike Kostial, Susie Harris, Susan Steel and Wes Marrow for in-house support.

Over \$25,000 was raised to support Grace's ministries.

Clothing Sale

September 8, 2018

John Wand led the first clothing sale Grace has sponsored in some time. An amazing amount of clothing was collected from parishioners, filling Grace Hall, our hallways and Nieman Annex. The quality of the clothing was exceptional and hundreds came to buy needed items. It was a wonderful outreach effort with remaining clothing going to the Salvation Army.

John and key workers Beverly Wand and Stacy Wilde worked for a full week prior to the sale and dozens of people helped sort clothing and worked the day of the sale.

Along with serving those in need the Clothing Sale produced a profit of more than \$3,000.

Pancake Events:

Two Pancake Events led our other fund-raising efforts: The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper by our Men's Group and organized by Ed Nunn and the Visit with St. Nicholas pancake breakfast organized by John Bartolomeo and John Garde. These are both important community-building events for our church and were well-attended.



Hospitality

Heather Crimmins-Fraser & Evangeline Tross

Hospitality is defined as the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers. Also known as friendliness, warm reception, welcome and helpfulness.

Grace Church hospitality provides coffee and refreshments for adults and children after Sunday morning services, and plans and provides the refreshments for the annual Parish Picnic and Welcome Sunday in September. Hospitality also helps, as needed, with preparations for receptions after funerals and Diocesan events held at our church.

Heather Crimmins-Fraser has taken over for Laura Norwalk Bendelius in this ministry, and we thank Laura for her leadership and service.

Hospitality after the 8am service is provided by a dedicated group of parishioners organized by Sheila Chidester. If you are interested in joining this group of volunteers, please speak with Sheila.

Sunday hospitality for the 10am service is provided by weekly shoppers, who purchase refreshments for both children and adults for coffee hour on a particular Sunday and bring the supplies to church on or before that Sunday, and hosts, who serve the refreshments and clean up. In 2018 approximately 35 parishioners provided hospitality as shoppers and/or hosts. This is a significant drop from the 47 or so parishioners who volunteered in 2017. While we have been able to provide refreshments after every Sunday service in 2018, many of the same people volunteer time after time despite appeals for volunteers throughout the year.

Many people enjoy fellowship after Sunday services. While we could outsource some or all of the components of Hospitality, we believe that the participation of parishioners is essential and a ministry in itself. Reimbursement is available for purchases made for Sunday hospitality, and we can use your help even if you can only help with set up, or clean up, or at the spur of the moment. You can also be both the shopper and host on a particular Sunday if you prefer. Please consider joining us by clicking on the link to the signup sheet that appears at the end of the weekly message sent by email from the Grace Church office, by adding your name to the signup sheet at coffee hour, or by contacting one of us.

Parish Picnic and Welcome Sunday

Thanks again to Laura Norwalk Bendelius and Melissa Waterstredt for organizing this year's parish picnic on September 10, 2018. It was a rainy Sunday, but Dr. Elias kept the children entertained with crafts and indoor activities. Dr. Anne Matlack arranged for both the Gargoyles and the Daughters of Zion to perform, and children were able to enjoy the traditional bounce house, despite the weather. It was a great opportunity for parishioners to mix and mingle after the Summer.

Welcome Sunday is an event to ensure all interested members and newcomers to the parish have an opportunity to learn about the different ways to get involved at Grace. As part of the Sunday ministry, Hospitality provided refreshments during Welcome Sunday on September 16th.

Extra thanks are due to Bruce Bensley and John Goodwin for providing special treats when they host, and to Barb Montague, who provides a birthday cake on the first Sunday of every month.

2018 Hospitality Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people who acted as shoppers and/or as hosts for coffee hours in 2018:

Randi Albiston, Joyce Alexander, Greg Bendelius and Laura Norwalk Bendelius, Bruce Bensley, Linda Bowden, Sheila Chidester, Mary Lea Crawley, Heather Crimmins-Fraser, Ruth Deane, Cindy and Erik Donough, John and Angela Finlay, Doris Fernandez, Allison and John Garde, John Goodwin, Melissa Honohan, Tom and Judy Honohan, Kristin Kaldor, Helen King, Maureen Link, Dora Monserrate, Kathleen Munter, Marilyn Musielski, Kirk and Sue Nixon, Joan Nolan, Han Huang and Pat Northrop, Wendy and Ed Nunn, Peggy Oakes, Missy Partridge, Sam Partridge, Margie Paul, Eleanor Rawitz, Kate Rummel, Mark Sacher, Evangeline Tross and Melissa Waterstredt

Layweedeers

Bruce Bensley & Judy Jurgensen

A group of intrepid volunteers called "Layweedeers" do the planning and maintaining of the gardens that surround the church and rectory.

A meeting of the group is held in March to decide on our Spring Cleanup date, which we ideally like to schedule to coincide with May Day in Madison. At this time we also discuss new project ideas, maintenance assignments, and make the big decision of how much mulch we will need for the gardens!

Spring Cleanup features a large group of volunteers of all ages that come together to clear brush and debris from the hillside, mulch the gardens, and plant flowers. This year our younger volunteers also helped put flags on the gravesites of veterans who are interred in the columbarium. Hickory Tree Landscaping loans us a truck for the event which we usually manage to fill to capacity by 11:00!



In 2018 we made two improvements to the gardens. Upon the completion of the large construction project next door, we negotiated with Kushner Real Estate Group to plant eight pin oak trees along the border of our parking lot. These trees will eventually give us a green space between the church and the condominiums. Secondly, we removed an iris garden on the rectory side of the driveway that had become very difficult to maintain. Fill, topsoil and seed were added by Hickory Tree Landscaping and a nice lawn should emerge this spring.

If you enjoy putting on some gardening gloves and working outside, please join us. If you have ideas to share, we would love to hear them. Talk to any one of the Layweedeers; *Bruce Bensley, Sue & Tom Brueckner, Alison Cummins, Judy & Tom Honohan, Melissa Honohan, Judy & Charlie Jurgensen, Barbara Montague, Margie Paul, Mark Sacher and John TenBroeck.*

Men of Grace

Bruce Rudin

During the year we met 12 times for book group. Six of the fourteen members are Grace Church parishioners and we average about nine men per meeting. We alternate meetings at our various houses with wonderful refreshments in addition to stimulating conversation about the books and other topics. Once a year we meet at a restaurant.

Books read during 2018 were:

- December 2018 *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure
- November 2018 *The Soul of America* by John Meacham
- October 2018 *Born a Crime* by Noah Trevor
- September 2018 *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Bachman

- August 201 *The Things They Carry* by Tim O'Brien
- July 2018 meeting cancelled
- June 2018 *The True Flag* by Stephen Kinzer
- May 2018 *Killing a King* by Dan Ephron
- April 2018 *The Stranger In The Woods* by Michael Finkel
- March 2018 *The Gatekeepers* by Chris Whipple
- February 2018 *Deep As The Marrow* by F. Paul Wilson –meeting was at Grillera with the author
- January 2018 *The Righteous Mind* by Jonathan Haidt

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Bruce Rudin at brucedora@verizon.net.

Music Ministries

Dr. Anne Matlack

This year our choir has continued to deal with transition, especially in the change of service times which allowed our combined adult choir some rather exciting challenging music, but continued with more sports conflicts than ever for our choir kids on Sunday mornings. Katie Hendrix continued to nurture our children, and also acted as my assistant conductor, while Eric Roper continued to inspire Gargoyles, sang beautiful solos, anchored the tenor section, provided technology, and was always available for drumming to enhance anthems! Linda Bowden (in our soprano section) retired Kindergarten teacher, managed and nurtured our youngest chapel choir members. Elizabeth Monkemeier was an amazing student assistant to Chapel Choir and has moved on to Music Ed at Rutgers, ably replaced by 8th grader Claudia Sydenstricker. Crary Brooks remained my invaluable choral librarian!

Our Adult Choir remains strong and growing and continues to give extra for those beautiful services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Easter Vigil, funerals, and more. We continued a Wednesday Tenebrae service for which a Schola Cantorum of women/Daughters of Zion sang Couperin's stunning *Leons de Tenebres*. We had Evensongs for Summer, September. (St. Michael and All Angels) and Advent (with a full performance of Pergolesi's *Magnificat*.) Many kids returned from fall sports to sing in our Christmas pageant service; Adults sang a glorious "midnight" service with a Gallery Carol Prelude; and family singers were present for one of the area's few

Christmas morning services with choir.

The Gargoyles (teen tenors and basses) graduated senior Noah Wilde, (who gave a wonderful senior sermon) and recruited some NEW teen guys in the fall! They were joined by alumni at the Holiday Arts Festival, and Christmas Pageant. Our High School Girls, the Daughters of Zion, had a great year, graduated Head Choirsters Peri Munter and Elizabeth Monkemeier, but transitioned in three very strong rising 9th graders. The combined group sang a full concert at Short Stories in June.

School Choir I, AKA the "Red Choir" 2nd-5th grade, provided strong leadership. They are smaller (about a dozen), younger (lots of 2nd-3rd graders) and yet better leaders than ever! The "blue choir," School Choir II, (about 20) is particularly strong, and led from the gallery, often pop down at the Offertory for combined anthems. Many took advantage of the "alternate" Thursday evening rehearsal. Choristers continued to earn Royal School of Church Music leadership medals with extra musical training, worship and service. A large number were again in Elementary and Junior High All-State Chorus in May, sponsored by Dr. Anne. We continued to use bells liturgically and as Christmas Eve preludes. Combined choirs presented a moving WWI remembrance concert in November with the U.S. Premiere of British composer Paul Mealar's *Shadows of War* with strings and percussion. Lent and Holy Week were a time of Friday organ recitals by Anne and friends—again projected on the wall for better viewing—and followed by lunch from Slamwich. As part of this series. Patricia Ruggles offered her special Helen E.J. Thomas Memorial performance. Dedicated choirs chanted Compline Thursdays during Lent and sang service after service from Ash Wednesday to the Taizé Easter Vigil and the triumphant brass and full choir Easter morning services.

Summer Choir was always fun with a turnout averaging about 8 adults and 4 kids, with many guest soloists. Vacation Bible School included lots of singing, dancing, bells and instruments, for ages 3-12, presented in a Thursday night program. Elizabeth Monkemeier again assisted Dr. Anne. Several Grace choristers attended RSCM Choir Camp in Newport, RI.

Many, many people came through Grace as a rehearsal site (Coro Lirico, The Baroque Orchestra of NJ and Philadelphia Brass), a recital site for

Grace Community Music 2018

Dr. Anne Matlack, Artistic Director

Musicianship Workshop: Body mapping with Dr. Heather Buchanan.

Sunday, January 28, 2018 2:00 - 5:00 pm

"Robert and Clara: A Musical Love Story"

Patricia Ruggles, mezzo; Robert Long, piano; Joseph McKee, bass-baritone

Sunday Feb. 11, 2018 3:00 pm *Donation at door*

Friday Lenten Organ Recitals 12:15-12:45 pm Feb. 16-Mar. 23, 2018

Pedals and keyboard projected for viewing! \$6 LUNCH AVAILABLE from Slamwich

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Feb. 16 | Anne Matlack <i>and friends</i> |
| Feb. 23 | Anne Matlack <i>Reformation Celebration</i> |
| March 2 | Eric Stroud <i>clavichord, harpsichord, and organ</i> |
| March 9 | Pingry School <i>Upper School String Ensemble/snowed out, John Pivarnik</i> |
| March 16 | Anne Matlack <i>All Bach</i> |
| March 23 | Patricia Ruggles Monteverdi <i>Pianto della Madonna</i>
<i>With Darren O'Neil, guitar; Anne Matlack, organ</i>
<i>Helen E.J. Thomas Memorial Concert</i> |
- Compline is chanted by candlelight in the choir stalls*
Thursdays in Lent 8:45-9:00 pm March 2-April 6

Harmonium Chamber Singers: *Songs of Farewell*

Featuring the complete set of C.H.H. Parry songs of the same name and other *a cappella* works

Saturday, April 28, 2018 7:30 pm Tickets \$25/\$20 www.harmonium.org

Harmonium Choral Society *Let the River Run*

Variety of works, with the winner of the 21st annual High School Student Composition Contest

Saturday, June 2, 2018 and Sunday, June 3, 2018 7:30 pm tickets at www.harmonium.org

Summer Evensong

Sunday June 24, 2018, 4:00 pm *FREE, reception follows*

Grace Community Music 4 Madison Avenue at Kings Road, 973-377-0106 x17 www.gracemadison.org

RUSSIAN VOCAL ENSEMBLE LYRA from St. Petersburg

Chants of the Russian Orthodox Church and folksongs from Russia

Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 7:30 pm *Donation at door*

Evensong for st. Michael and all angels

Members of Grace Church treble and adult choirs, music by Bartle, Hawes, Webster

Friday September 28, 2018, 5:30 pm *Free--community welcome, reception*

Musicianship Workshop: Empowering All Singers Through Contemporary A Cappella

Sunday October 14, 2019, 2:00 - 5:00 pm www.harmonium.org

MAX'D OUT! JOHN PRIORI MAX MORDEN ANDERS BOSTROM

performing on a variety of trumpets, flutes, pianos, synthesizers, guitars & vocals, this trio fuses jazz, pop, rock, Broadway, movies and beyond, from Miles Davis, Al Jarreau, Chick Corea, to The Beatles

Friday October 19, 2018, 7:30 pm *Donation at door*

The SHADOWS of WAR a Requiem by Paul Mealor

Commemorating 100th anniversary of the end of WWI

Grace Choirs, percussion and strings, U.S. Premiere

Saturday Nov. 3, 2018, 7:00 pm *Donation at door*

Madison Holiday Arts Festival Free events all over Madison!

Friday & Saturday November 23-24, 2018 See www.madisonartsnj.org

Advent Evensong

Advent hymns, combined choirs, chamber orchestra, Pergolesi's Magnificat

Saturday, December 22, 2018, 5:00 pm *FREE, Wassail reception follows*

many area teachers and a teaching site (Martin Hurt, voice Monday evenings). As well as paying a reasonable rent to us, these groups appreciated and got to know our facility and other musical offerings. We are seen as true leaders in the cultural community of Madison.

Finally, Grace Community Music's 22nd season is reported on the previous pages. Highlights included our collaboration with local world-class harpist Merynda Adams, who presented Chamber Music for Charity with proceeds going directly to local charities, and another cultural exchange/visit from our Russian friends in LYRA Vocal Ensemble. Please support these programs! Soli Deo Gloria!

North Porch

Crary Brooks

Do you ever wonder what to do with those extra baby supplies and baby clothes you have been storing in the basement? Donate them to North Porch! We supply diapers, formula and baby supplies to families in need in New Jersey. We work with Kit and the Food for Friends program so you can add them to the cart in the Grace Hall entrance to the church.

Grace parishioners Crary Brooks and Stacy Wilde serve on the Board of North Porch. North Porch is an outreach ministry created by Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Newark to assist needy parents who could not otherwise afford to properly care for their infants and young children. The name "North Porch" comes from an Anglican tradition of helping needy families by placing clothing, food, and other necessities on the North Porch of the church, where they could be picked up anonymously.

This year we are excited to announce a new facility in Jersey City, home parish of our former Priest Associate, Tom Murphy. The official ribbon cutting was held in November, and we are already seeing some adorable children and their families from the Triangle Park area of Jersey City. There are North Porch facilities in Newark, Paterson, Dover, Morristown and Hackettstown. In 2018, North Porch served over 3,200 infants in these centers.

Many members of Grace Church are major

contributors to North Porch year round and the Grace Outreach Committee has made donations to help support our mission. North Porch has partnered with the NJ Food Bank and the Interfaith Food Pantry for some supplies. Donations from individuals and parishes are also very important to meet the needs of our clients. Our needs include diapers of all sizes, Enfamil formula (which is very expensive!) as well as baby food, baby wipes, and clothes for children from birth to size T-5. Additionally, the mothers love donations of toiletries such as shampoo and diaper rash ointment. This year, Kathy Meyer who now works for Johnson and Johnson, facilitated the donation of numerous bottles of baby wash! Parishioners who are not able to go shopping for big packages of diapers and baby wipes can make cash donations, and volunteer parishioners will do the shopping and hauling. Monetary donations may be made by check to Grace Church, with "North Porch" on the notation line. For more information, please see our webpage at www.northporch.org and "like" us on Facebook.

Office Angels

Peggy Oakes

The Grace Church Office Angels are a group of parishioners (listed at end) that prepare the Messenger for mailing, usually every month, as well as stuff the weekly service bulletins and help with other church mailings, office work and special projects. The bulletin stuffing is done on either late Friday afternoon or Saturday morning each week, and the Messenger mailing is usually done during the last week of the month. This year, the following parishioners volunteered their time for these important church tasks:

Helen King, Sheila Chidester, Kit Cone, Alison Cummins, Ginny Easley, Mary Fleming, Lyn Foster, Sue Hilgendorf, Ginny Karl, Ginger Maione, Cordelia Manning, Barbara Million, Janet Molstad, Barbara Montague, Peggy Oakes, Margie Paul, Crary Reynolds, Ruth Tranberg, Marge Van Court and Stacy Wilde.

In addition, I owe a special thank you to Father Michel for his support and participation.

If you are interested in joining our team please feel free to contact me at (973) 0377-1854.

Many thanks! Peggy Oakes

Outreach Projects Committee

Melissa Waterstredt & Ruth Deane

Grace Church is dedicated to ministering to the needs of the greater community and the world. From parish-wide collections to adult seminars, outreach ministry is a vital part of the Grace community. Throughout the year, parishioners demonstrated their commitment to this ministry and generously responded to the needs of those less fortunate. They kindly donated socks for the homeless, pajamas for children in need, food for the hungry, and so much more! Some outreach highlights from this past year include:

Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP).

Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP) was formed to assist vetted Middle Eastern and other refugee families transition to productive lives of dignity, safety, and hope in the Morris County area. Grace participates with 12 other churches, synagogues and mosques to further this goal.

During 2018 RAMP added a new refugee family from Afghanistan composed of mom, dad and a newborn baby girl. All three are thankful to be in America and are adjusting well to life in their new home. RAMP, with Grace Church's help, is now assisting 12 individuals in three families. RAMP hopes to welcome a fourth family in 2019 as our original families reach full independence.

Ongoing support efforts include assisting with expenses, food, clothing, employment, medical needs, transportation, social services, and language instruction. Grace has also supported RAMP through financial donations from our Outreach Committee, furniture from the Restart Ministry and presents through the Angel Tree.

Backpacks and school supplies

This past summer we were reminded of the many children who return to school unable to purchase essential school supplies. The Grace parish – in collaboration with children attending Vacation Bible School – donated and delivered backpacks stuffed full of school supplies, along with additional supplies, for children served by Family Intervention Services.

Hunger Walk

Thanks to the dedication of parishioner Melissa Honohan, Grace Church supported the Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center in Morristown, NJ. Parishioners participated in the

October Hunger Walk in recognition that hunger exists in our community and in support of services that address it.

Thanksgiving food

November again reminded us of the needs of the hungry and homeless. In anticipation of Thanksgiving, parishioners donated food items above and beyond our year-round collection. Adults and children gathered together to sort food and pack bags. Each bag provided a Thanksgiving meal – and holiday cheer – to a family in need.

Angel Tree

Thanks to the amazing generosity of parishioners, Grace Church again shared the magic of Christmas with another successful Angel Tree program. We fulfilled the wish lists - and so much more! - of moms and children served by Jersey Battered Women's Services and families served by the Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP) and Family Intervention Services. We brightened the holidays of so many and the season of giving was alive and well at Grace Church! As one mother wrote, *To our "secret angel": My kids started the term, and I can only think to call you that. How do I begin? I was blown away by your generosity. Thank you is not enough. Thank you for the extra joy you brought us this Christmas. Thank you for supporting women and children like me. I am so thankful for the support group which is helping me and reminding me that the life I left was not a life at all. Thank you for being so thoughtful and making me and my kids feel special.*

Outreach Grants Committee

Michael Ling

Grace Episcopal Church has a long history of providing financial gifts, subsidies, and grants to many social programs and organizations throughout the world and within the Diocese. In addition to these grants, Grace parishioners regularly volunteer their time at many of the organizations that Grace financially supports. Outreach ministry at Grace Episcopal Church continues to make a positive effect on the lives of many. Thank you to the members of the committee and the entire parish for their continued support of Grace's outreach activities.

It is the objective of the Outreach Committee to make grants to local, regional and national causes that may have a connection with Grace Parishioners, and the

diocese. During 2018, the demand for services from food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters continued to remain strong. The goal of the committee is to continue to provide grants to these worthy causes. If any parishioners are aware of social programs that may be interested in applying for such grants, please direct them to someone on the Outreach Committee.

2018 Outreach Gift Recipients

World and National

- Episcopal Relief & Development: Hurricanes, wildfires, etc.
- Seaman's Church Institute: Pastoral care for Mariners
- Episcopal Divinity School: UTS-Gifts in honor of The Reverend Michel Belt
- Union Theological Seminary: Gifts in honor of The Reverend Richard (Max) Maxwell

Diocese and Regional

- Apostles House: Homeless shelter, food pantry, advocacy
- Chaplaincy Program MCCF: Annual support
- Church of the Good Shepherd Wantage: Food pantry
- Community of St. John Baptist: Good Shepherd Home, Daytop retreat
- Faith Kitchen: Food pantry
- Grace Counseling Center: Annual support
- Heartworks: 9/11 ongoing support
- House of Prayer, Newark: Annual health fair
- Family Promise of Morris County: Emergency shelter /food for families
- Madison Eagle Christmas Fund: Annual support
- Madison Rotary Club: "End Hunger 3.6 "
- Madison Volunteer Ambulance Dept.
- Newark School of Theology: Scholarships/ support
- North Porch: Formula, diapers, baby food drop in centers
- Our Promise: Drop in center for homeless
- St. Paul's CDC: Food pantry

Youth

- Crossroads Camp & Retreat: Spiritual retreat center
- Diocese of Newark Prison Ministry: Mentoring programs
- Haven of Hope for Kids: Retreat center for terminally ill children
- Project Community Pride: Counseling program for youth at risk
- St. Luke's-Afghan School Project: Pen pal program

Total Gifts paid 2018=\$33,500

In addition to above, \$3,580 was raised from the 2018 "Souper Bowl" collection and was donated to the Community Soup Kitchen, "End Hunger 3.6" and Faith Kitchen.

The Church provided space at a subsidized charge to numerous organizations, including the Grace Counseling Center.

Grace parishioners have been very generous in donating time and money directly to causes such as the Community Soup Kitchen, , the Re_Start Ministry and many other outreach organizations.

Outreach Committee Members-2018:

Michael Ling, The Rev. Susan Ironside, The Rev. Richard (Max) Maxwell, The Rev. Michel Belt, Kit Cone, Kirk Nixon, Jennifer McCulloch

Re-Start Ministry

Kit Cone

The Re-Start Ministry gathers furniture and household items from donors, and delivers them to needy people moving out of group housing into their own apartments. Clients are referred to the Re-Start Ministry by battered women's shelters, welfare departments, drug rehabilitation programs, homeless shelters, AIDS/HIV centers, alcohol treatment facilities, churches, and community mental health programs.

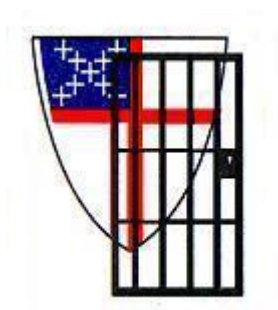
This is one of Grace Church's most active ministries, and it is moving toward new horizons as conditions change. During 2018 we lost the use of half of the rectory garage as a furniture storage area, in anticipation of the arrival of a new rector who might need that



Seamen's Church Institute



Crossroads Camp & Retreat Center



*Diocese of Newark
Prison Ministry*



Re-Start Ministry



Community of St. John The Baptist



Grace Counseling Center



Faith Kitchen



The Apostles' House, Newark

space for an automobile. One of our most regular volunteers, Suzanne Young, moved to New York. In addition, “the old man who drives the truck,” Kit Cone, was diagnosed with colorectal cancer and was unavailable for some of the year. Despite these setbacks, in 2018 the Re-Start Ministry handled 423 jobs, a decline of about 38 percent compared to 688 jobs in 2017.

This work load is carried on by a very small group of volunteers, some of whom ride the truck and move furniture, and others who sort and pack food, bed linens, tableware, and kitchen utensils for clients. Nancy Willis, a Madison resident, is the volunteer communications link between donors, clients, agencies, volunteers, Kit’s truck Bruno, available stock, and the weather predictions, putting together the deliveries and pickups.

The Re-Start Ministry has storage space for furniture and kitchen supplies in the garage behind Hayes House, next door to the church. The basement of Hayes House is used for storage of bed linens and lamps, as well as donations to the next church rummage sale. Food for Friends is stored in the Mystery Room off Nieman Hall.

The Re-Start Ministry works closely with agencies that refer their clients for assistance and others that share in the work of redistributing furniture and other supplies. Major referral agencies include Homeless Solutions, Family Intervention Services, RAMP, Jersey Battered Women’s Service, The Lighthouse, Norwescap, and Family Promise of Morris County. Toward the end of 2018 the Re-Start Ministry lost a major referral agency when New Jersey AIDS Services closed the Eric Johnson House in Morristown. Sharing agencies include Furniture Assist in Springfield, the Medical Equipment Ministry of the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge, St. Elsie’s Thrift Shop at Messiah Church in Chester, North Porch at St. John’s Church in Dover, Family Promise, and Trinity Lutheran Church in Dover. One of the major goals of ministry co-founder Eliot Knight has been to replicate the Re-Start Ministry, and during 2018 Homeless Solutions and Family Promise both created storage facilities and teams of volunteers to furnish apartments for people “graduating” from their shelters.

The food pantry at Trinity Lutheran Church, Dover, has become a major partner of the Re-Start Ministry.

Gifts of non-perishable food are gathered at Grace Church and taken to Dover on a regular basis. The Re-Start Ministry is a major supporter of St. Elsie’s Thrift shop at the Church of the Messiah in Chester – named in recognition of the church’s previous life as a dairy barn.

Connections with other agencies, and resulting referrals, are among the most valuable functions of the Re-Start Ministry. Virtually every day the Ministry receives inquiries about where to donate a refrigerator, where to take large quantities of left-over party food, where to find a hospital bed at no charge, how to donate an automobile to charity, and an endless variety of similar questions. Dealing with so many agencies, the Re-Start Ministry is able to make the needed referrals for these potential donors and clients. As the Re-Start Ministry volunteers grow older or move out of Madison in retirement, referrals are becoming a larger part of the overall work load.

The work of the Re-Start Ministry is made possible by the generosity of individual donors. Storage space in the garage behind Hayes House is provided by Grace Church at no cost, but the Re-Start Ministry receives no funding from Grace Church. Cash gifts by individuals enable the ministry to purchase pillows, mattress covers, bed sheets, shower curtains, furniture for special-needs clients, small appliances, grocery cards and other essential household items. In addition to direct financial gifts, parishioners also contribute grocery store, gasoline, and “big box” store gift cards to be given to clients when they move in to their new apartments. It is hard to overestimate the value of grocery cards to indigent families who have to decide between paying the rent to keep a roof over their heads and buying food for their children.

This ambitious and very active community outreach ministry could not function without the generous support of so many Grace Church members who donate furniture, money, energy, and time to help those in need!

Tenant Relations

Kirk Nixon

Grace has three long term tenants: the Madison Cooperative Nursery School, Rainbow Montessori School and Grace Counseling Center. During 2018,

Grace continued to review relevant issues and assure the interests of both the church and these three tenants were addressed.

Space and Equipment Use Contracts were updated and revised for both Montessori and the Cooperative Nursey School in order to clarify issues concerning the rules and regulations for church property usage, maintenance and fees. There was a nominal raise in rent for Rainbow Montessori. In lieu of a rental increase, the Madison Cooperative assumed specified maintenance costs previously provided by the church. This resulted in a small savings of labor for Grace. As part of our service to the community, Grace continued to subsidize the Cooperative Nursery School and Grace Counseling Center.

In 2017 the Madison YMCA entered into a financial agreement to utilize Grace facilities for overflow Y programs. This agreement was renewed in 2018, however, was cancelled at the YMCA's request during the year due to low class enrollment.

In December 2018 Grace finalized an agreement with Adams Dental for their use of 14 parking spaces in the Grace lot. As a result, Grace will realize new additional income of \$3000 annually beginning in 2019.

Our tenants as a whole provided Grace Church with substantial revenue. In addition, we received revenue from church space rental to groups and community organizations. Combined income resulted in approximately \$119,000 for the calendar year.

The Rector, Wardens and Vestry plan to continue reviewing and enhancing our working relationship with the community and our tenants in 2019.

Ushers

Dan Baulig

2018 was another successful year and a year of change for our 13 Usher Teams. After more than a decade of unfailing service, Kirk Oakes stepped back from the leadership role and I took up the Head Usher mantle. I am grateful for Kirk's dedicated service and guidance throughout the transition, and I hope to uphold and improve

upon the strong tradition of ushering at Grace Church.

2018 was the first time having just two Sunday morning services for the entire year (no more Fall/Winter, Spring/Summer schedules). With one annual schedule, everyone knows in January what the entire year's assignments are, allowing everyone to plan and make adjustments as needed. We also consolidated the 11:15AM teams into the 10:00AM teams which allowed for more consistent coverage and better substitution ability. On average, teams were on duty every six or seven weeks.

We held our annual Usher Meeting in the Spring, holding two sessions (April & May) to accommodate everyone's schedule so more ushers could participate. We focused on the themes of welcoming and efficiency, and reviewed our usher responsibilities, safety protocol, logistics and the order of service procedures. We also distributed a General Logistics document and Service Procedures to all ushers, and posted them on the narthex bulletin board for everyone's easy reference.

In addition to managing the normal Sunday morning services, usher teams were called upon to assist with special services and funerals. Most notable of the events were two Confirmation services—which turned out record attendance from parishes all over our Diocese—the Bishop's visit, and services at Easter, Thanksgiving and, of course, Christmas.

Attrition is an anticipated and ongoing challenge. We were able to counter the higher-than-usual attrition in 2018 by recruiting several new ushers to join our ranks; however, our net usher headcount decreased year-over-year and there remains a serious need for new ushers. Ushering is a perfect opportunity for those that don't have the ability to make a major time commitment, yet want to give something back to the Church. Please contact me at (201) 323-4119 if you would like to serve as an usher.

Thank you to all Ushers for their dedicated service throughout the year. Their friendly, attentive service is appreciated by me, the clergy and the Grace Church community.

West African Missionary Outreach

Kit Cone

The West African Missionary Outreach supports the missionary work which parishioner Kit Cone began he first went to Liberia in 1958. The Grace Church Missionary Fund receives individual donations in support of West African church projects. The Missionary Fund does not receive any financial support from the Grace Church budget.

Liberia, about the size of Ohio, is rebuilding after an Ebola epidemic that killed more than 4,800 people. At the same time, Liberia was trying to recover from a 14-year-long civil war in which the United Nations estimated 250,000 people were killed. The country's education, medical, transportation, farming, and other essential facilities were destroyed. They are now coming back very, very slowly. Even the capital city, Monrovia, with about two million people, has virtually no electricity, running water, or toilets.

In December, 2017, Liberians elected George Weah, a former soccer player with several top European teams, as its president. The previous administration was led by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a Harvard graduate with very strong international credentials. A Nobel Peace Prize winner, she was the first woman to be elected head of state of an African nation. She brought relative stability to the country's political and military establishments, but Liberia remains among the poorest and most corrupt countries in the world.

The West African Missionary Outreach supports a big educational scholarship program in Liberia, run by the Rev. Abby Flemister, a retired Liberian priest now living in Westerville, Ohio. Through this program, six Liberian students are attending St. Andrew's Episcopal School in the village of Mbaloma. The students send report letters to supporters on a regular basis.

Goll Farm Elementary School

By far the biggest Grace Church Missionary Fund outreach project of the postwar years has been a new elementary school near Cuttington (Episcopal) University in the rain forest of central Liberia. The literacy rate in Liberia is one of the lowest in the world, and the Rev. Prince T. Wreh, a Liberian priest who has worked closely with Kit

Cone for nearly 30 years, is an active supporter of education as the way out of poverty for his people. In addition to academic education, Fr. Wreh has built and continues to operate trade schools to teach women widowed by the war to support themselves with sewing, tie-dying and soap making, as well as business, secretarial and computer skills which can lead to employment.

In 2011, Fr. Wreh secured a gift of land upon which to build an elementary school. The Grace Missionary Fund raised \$15,400 to build the school. Most of this amount came directly from Grace Church parishioners; no church budget funds were used in this project. Fr. Wreh's wife, Relhetta, was the construction supervisor for the building of this large K-8 school, which now serves 250 pupils. At the same time, Relhetta earned her master's degree in education. Her goal for the school is self-sufficiency, and with the initial construction completed she has moved steadily toward that goal. A new campus store was completed in 2018 with financial support from the Grace Church Missionary Fund. The store has been successful in attracting villagers walking past the campus.

With construction completed, the great need is for scholarships. Almost all of the pupils are the first in their families to go to school. Since the school opened in September of 2012, the Grace Church Missionary Fund has raised \$30,750 for scholarships. The total cost per pupil is \$200 for a full academic year, which includes tuition, uniform, a daily feeding program, and other necessities.

In a Christmas message, Fr. Wreh wrote: "We write to extend our heart-felt thanks for the contributions you continue to make in the lives of our Liberian children. They are the victims of the insatiable greed and shameless corruption which permeate almost every fabric of our country's society. What is so painfully frustrating is that, when these things happen in a country like ours where the culture of silence becomes the order of response, it is the poor and innocent kids, not the perpetrators, who suffer most. Again, we say thank you for intervening in the lives of these children through education. May the Almighty God continue to replenish your blessings."

Nearly all of the school's more than 250 pupils depend on scholarships, and the effort to raise funds continues. Tax-deductible donations may be made to Grace Church, with "Goll Farm School" on the memo line.

Women of Grace

Book Group

Joan Nolan & Paula Roper

The Women of Grace Book Club met monthly throughout the year, varying the participation format. We read the following stimulating books alternating between fiction and nonfiction and rotating discussion leaders:

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine
by Gail Honeyman

The Woman in the Window by A.J. Finn

Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

Straight Spouse by Vivian Franzen

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

Magpie Murders by Anthony Horowitz

Juliet Naked by Nick Hornby

84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanff

Educated by Tara Westover

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk
by Kathleen Rooney

Craft Guild

Joyce Alexander

One of the most enduring groups of women at Grace Church is the Craft Guild. They meet every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm to work on crafts, enjoy one another's company and some members even fold laundry!

Women's Centering Prayer Group

Paula Roper

The Women's Centering Prayer and Meditation Group meets most Wednesday mornings following the 9:30 am service. Each week we alternate the type of prayer/meditation that we do. Our format is simple beginning by letting each other know how we are, followed by quiet attention to our breathing.

In Centering Prayer, the leader then reads a passage and the group thinks about what they have heard. In Guided Meditation, however, the

leader suggests things to think about or envision, leading us to a place of peace, healing and love.

Following our quiet time, we spend a few more minutes sharing what we have experienced during the prayer or meditation.

Meditation & Centering Prayer have many wonderful health benefits too! Everyone is welcome.

Worship Leaders & Vergers

Kit Cone

Worship Leaders are lay parishioners who read the Bible lessons, lead the psalms, and offer the Prayers of the People at Sunday services, and are licensed by the bishop to conduct the Daily Offices on weekdays. There are 37 parishioners who serve as Worship Leaders, ranging from teenagers to senior citizens, and more are always very welcome. At Grace Church, Worship Leaders are also licensed by the bishop as Eucharistic Ministers, to distribute Communion during church services, and some are licensed as Eucharistic Visitors, to take Communion to nursing homes, hospitals, and private homes for parishioners who are unable to attend services in the church.

Grace has at least one public worship service every day of the year – an ambitious schedule unmatched by any other church in our diocese. The consistency of coming together with God every day of the year is an essential part of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Orthodox monastic tradition. The volunteer Worship Leaders conducted an average of more than five Daily Office services every week during 2018. The Daily Offices – Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Compline – are Prayer Book services which can be conducted by lay people, in church or at home.

Grace Church conducts monthly group worship services at Pine Acres and Chatham Hills Subacute Care Center (the former King James Nursing Home). Worship Leaders and other volunteers from Grace Church join the clergy in presenting these services, for which residents – most of them in wheelchairs – gather in a large meeting room. The daily Noonday Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer is expanded to include readings from the Bible, a homily, and sometimes Grace parishioners provide music.

Additional Worship Leader volunteers are very welcome, especially for conducting the Daily Offices on weekdays and Saturdays. Further information and instruction to prepare for licensing are available from the clergy or Senior Verger Kit Cone.

Vergers are the volunteer "stage managers" of the Sunday liturgy. Grace Church has nine active vergers: Geoff Brooks, Carlotta Budd, Kit Cone, David Gates, Wade Kirby, Michael Kostial, Jennifer McCulloch, Ted Roper, and Chris Wilde. All of the Vergers are experienced Worship Leaders, and they continue to serve in that role as well. Vergers arrive an hour before the first service on Sundays to open the building and set up the chancel and sanctuary, take part in the liturgy for the morning services, and then work with the Altar Guild to clean up after the last morning Eucharist and secure the building. In the case of complex liturgies, such as Christmas and Easter, advance preparations are extensive. In addition, Grace Church is often the site for major liturgical functions of the Diocese of Newark, requiring detailed planning as well as participation by the Grace clergy, Vergers and Worship Leaders.

For the "Last Chance Mass" on Sunday evenings, an experienced Worship Leader or Verger is in charge of setting up for the service, reading the lessons, leading the Psalm and the Prayers of the People, serving as acolyte, assisting with distribution of Communion, and then cleaning up after the service and securing the building. During 2018 this Sunday evening ministry was carried on principally by Judy Honohan, Wade Kirby, Helen King, Amy Motzenbecker, Ed Nunn, Peggy Potter, Cindy Steffens, and Chris Wilde.

Youth Ministry

The Reverend Canon Michel Belt

This is an area that continues to struggle a bit here at Grace—at least partially because our youth are involved in so many activities, it seems hard to get their commitment to attend anything else at church.

Even with the successful recruitment of Allison Garde and Barbara Hughes, the Middle School Youth Group is not functioning (it was to meet after the 10:00 am service on Sundays, just like the Senior High Group). This group also "feeds" our Rite 13 program, and our Youth Confirmation Class (the Diocese of Newark requires Youth Confirmands to be in the 8th grade or higher), and a Middle School Youth Group could continue "formation" (teaching them to listen, to think both critically and theologically, and to consider what it means to have a ministry of one's own). With this group, dependent as they are on their parents to get them to, or keep them at Church for a Youth Education session, it is tough since many of their parents are in a bigger rush to get on with the days' activities than are their children.

As we entered 2018, volunteer mentor Kirsten Kellstrom continued to assist me with the Senior High Youth Group. We gathered in their "space" most Sundays, after the 10:00 am service. During our time, we continued using Rev'd Rob Bell videos, a "starting point" for some advanced theological thinking, and discussions about individual spiritual journeys and life experiences. The group began their work on a mission trip, and put things in place to accomplish it (i.e., fundraising, travel plans, etc.).

We raised funds with a Parents' (Christmas) Day Out, hosted a parish-wide Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner, helped at the Rummage Sale, and held a plant sale, all to help fund our trip—we also thank an anonymous donor and the Grace Outreach Committee for assisting our efforts! These funds paid for some scholarships, and kept the price lower by funding some of the project, transportation and lodging costs. So in mid-July, eight teens (*Grace Hughes, Heather McCulloch, Kristin McManus, Tina Munter, Hope Pratt, Zoey Ross, Alan Schiller, and Noah Wilde*) along with three adults (*Mike Cullen, Kirsten Kellstrom, Chris Wilde*) and myself, headed out at 5:00 am one

Sunday morning driving to Frakes, Kentucky. During our week in Appalachia, we torn down an old and decrepit porch, building a new stable and safe front porch from scratch, for a family-in-need (we did enjoy a day off, when we hiked, swam and picnicked). In addition to the 13-hour-each-way rides, we spent a lot of time together, worked very hard in the southern heat, worshipped with and cooked for each other, thought about the many blessings God had given us, and considered the lives many people in the U.S.A. are forced to live. A lot of hard work, but worth it!

On our return, the Youth presented a Sunday morning Adult Forum, where they shared their pictures and their experiences about the Mission Trip. Everyone, including the Youth, seemed excited and thankful. And, shortly after our return, we bid Kirsten Kellstrom a tearful good-bye as she moved to Colorado.

With the incredibly active music program at Grace, a great deal of effort needs to be expended to make alternative gatherings for all of our youth equally attractive; to ensure that all of them have the time and energy to gather together beyond choir rehearsals and services. Good things are happening to and with our Grace Youth, but we need to do more to support them as they study and struggle about the place of faith in their lives. Now we just need some adults willing to give some time for our youth.

Financial Reports

Stewardship—2018

John Garde

Stewardship is about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. The tradition of giving back to God and to the church comes from the Biblical practice of “tithing,” which means to give back a tenth of our earnings to God (Numbers 18:26). The Episcopal Church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing money to the church; it’s also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It’s about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.

This definition of stewardship comes from our national church stewardship office. There are many other definitions of stewardship. At its core stewardship is about our own personal commitment to the work of our church in Madison and the work of the church in the Diocese and in the greater world. Every year we ask our members to make a pledge to the church so that we can make a budget and fund the many obligations that it takes to make Grace happen from salaries and benefits to buildings and grounds to outreach and everything in between.

Stewardship is always a challenge at Grace Church as while we always seem to get where we need to be, it takes a great deal of time and effort to get pledges received in a timely manner.

This year the Vestry set a goal for pledges of \$535,000. Even with that number we go to the congregation with a budgeted deficit for 2019. At present we stand at 172 pledges for a total of \$440,000. It is important to the life of this parish that we hit the \$535,000 number. You will hear more about this at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Pledges Received for 2019—Thank You!

Nancy Adamczyk	Erik & Cindy Donough	Mary Serpico Keller	Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Oakes
Art Albiston	Mary Doodly	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kellstrom	Karen & Michael O'Keefe
Joyce Alexander	Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. D'Stefan	Mr. & Mrs. Ellwood	Peter & Kelly Ostberg
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Barilla Jr.	Joanne Duff	Kerkeslager	Mathew Palmer
Barbara & John Bartolomeo	Ginny Easley	Helen King	Mr. & Mrs. David Partridge
Madeleine & Daniel Baulig	Laurie & Rob Ehrbar	Mr. & Mrs. Wade Kirby	Sam & Heather Partridge
Curt Beaudouin	The Finlay Family	Mr. & Mrs. Eliot Knight	Margie Paul
The Rev. Canon Michel Belt	Timothy & Caitlin	Michael Kostial	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald J. Percy
Amanda & Park Benjamin	Fitzsimmons	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Layton	Paul & Sandra Petrell
Ruth Bennett	Mary Fleming	David & Kelly Leach	Jacquelyn Lauria & Don Post
Diane & Bruce Bensley	Judith Forbes	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Leamer	Peggy Potter
David & Wendy Berg	Lyn Foster	Ms. Jessie Lee	Michael & Eleanor Rawitz
Sue Bien	Tom Fox Jr.	Marian J. Lee	Crary Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bodnar	Heather & Rob Fraser	Paul & Laura Lemaire	Mr. & Mrs. William Rice
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Bolt	Mr. & Mrs. John Garde	Norman & Martha Lewis	Franklin Ritt
Anne Bolt	Julia Gard-Zuzick	Michael & Francine Ling	Mr. & Mrs. Allen J. Rooney
Mariam Bora	David & Nancy Gates	Maureen Link	Paula & Ted Roper
Nancy Boucher	Andrea & Peter Gilhuley	The Love Family	Ms. Janet Ross
Linda Bowden	Susan Goodman	Virginia Maione	Patty Ruggles
Linda & Michael Bronco	John Goodwin	Donald & Alberta Marcy	Bruce & Patti Sanford
Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Brooks	Suzanne & Sean Graham	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Margosian	Mary & Doug Schaenen
Mr. & Mrs. James Brown	Mr. & Mrs. James Greene	Robert & Karen Martin	Alfred P. Smith
Tom & Susan Brueckner	Bob Guempel	Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Massey	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Smith
Michael Siebert & Diane	Katie & Doug Harter	Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McCarthy	Allan & Barbara Staats
Du Brule	Christopher Hauck	Judith McClellan	Rich & Cindy Steffens
Carlotta Budd	Stephen Hauge	Jennifer McCulloch	Marion Streater
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Burgess	Mike & Sue Hilgendorff	Bill & Katy McSorley	Ethne Swartz
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burks	Al & Ann Marie Himmelsteib	Mr. Paul DelaCruz & Ms.	Hugh Symonds
Dennis S. & Evelyn J. Callahan	Mr. & Mrs. John Holm	Christine McIntyre	Douglas & Hilary Tabish
Gene Carpenter	Judy & Tom Honohan	Elizabeth & Tucker McKeever	Mr. & Mrs. John M. Tonzola
Donald & Susan Carter	Melissa Honohan	Marthe & Michael McLinden	Ruth & James Tranberg
Sheila Chidester	Marie Hopkins	Mr. & Mrs. William Meyer Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Trimble
Chris & Melissa Ciolino	Beth & Mark Hopkins	Suzanne & Ed Monkemeier	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Tross
Mr. Stephen Clarke	Peter Munter & Kathleen	Douglas & Janet Molstad	Nancy Van Giezen
Dr. Anne Matlack & Mr. Jabez	Hower	Bruce Rudin & Dora	Jennifer & Bob Vessecchia
Van Cleef	Jim & Barbara Hughes	Monserate	Scott & Melissa Waterstredt
Ken & Rosemary Cole	Tim Hussey	Barb Montague	Val Wagner & Megan Watt
Christopher Cone	The Rev. Susan Ironside	Amy & Doug Motzenbecker	Mr. & Mrs. John K. Wand
Ted & Elizabeth Corvino	Leonard & Jacqueline Jacoban	Marilyn Musielski	Stephan & Raia Wielandy
Margery Van Court	Scott Albiston & Randi	Ole Nielsen	Chris & Stacy Wilde
Rob Pratt & Mary Lea Crawley	Jermansen	Susan & Kirk Nixon	Miller Wood III
Mr. & Mrs. Michael G. Cullen	Bob & Jannan Joseph	Mrs. Joan Nolan	Frank & Joanne Wulff
Alison Cummins	Mr. Thomas Judd	Han Huang & Patricia	Andrew & Cali Yost
Bruce & Wendy Davies	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jurgensen	Northrup	Marco Zarbin
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Day	Kristin Kaldor & Jim Kassis	Greg Bendelius & Laura	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Zietsman
Philip & Ruth Deane	Ginny Karl	Norwalk-Bendelius	
Mrs. Georgeann DiGiovanni	Mr. & Mrs. William L.	Nancy Nubel	
	Keefauver	Ed & Wendy Nunn	

Investment Committee

Bruce Rudin

Investment Committee Report for the year ended 2018

Members: Bruce Rudin: Chair, Scott Waterstredt, Mark Kellstrom, Doug Harter, Dave Gates: Treasurer, John Garde

This has not been a good year for the stock market. The Endowment is primarily invested in the DIT (Diocesan Investment Trust set up by The Newark Diocese) run by TIAA. Overall the Endowment had a loss of 5.45% as compared to the 2017 growth of 13.19%. The loss in our Endowment was due primarily to the sudden December 2018 decline in the stock market caused by many factors. The DIT funds at year end are at 59% equity and 30.6% fixed income with the remainder of 10.4% in Merrill Lynch.

At Merrill Lynch we keep \$205,837 in fixed income and \$184,380 in cash for usage. Merrill is used for our required collateralized account pledged against our loan of \$100,000 from Lakeland Bank.

The value of the Grace Church Endowment dropped from \$4,217,139 as of December 31, 2017 to \$3,737,278 as of December 31, 2018. As you can see from the table below the portfolio lost 5.45% for a total real loss of \$229,646, compared to the 2017 gain of \$502,526 with a mixed investment of equities and fixed income. In 2018 \$250,215 was withdrawn from this fund to support Grace Church's operating expenses and Taber Fund usage.

The S&P lost 4.38% for the year. The committee uses a benchmark of a combination of 95% Vanguard Balanced Index plus 5% Vanguard Prime Money Market % which was down 2.66%.

The Taber Estate funds are accounted separately for income and expenditures. The funds are comingled with all other Endowment Funds and receive a prorated share of income and appreciation. As authorized by the Vestry funds of \$119,269 were utilized from the Taber Fund to fund capital expenditures.

Grace Episcopal Church Endowment Fund

Detailed Holdings Report
12/31/2018

	Mkt Value	Weight
DIT Equity Fund *	\$2,204,791	59.0%
Total Large Cap Blend	\$2,204,791	59.0%
Fixed Income		
DIT Fixed Income Fund *	\$1,142,270	30.6%
Vanguard Short Term Corporate ETF	\$105,998	2.8%
Morgan Stanley PV bank CD8/16/19 2.35%	\$99,839	2.7%
Total Fixed Income	\$1,348,107	36.1%
Total Cash+Cash Equivalents	\$184,380	4.9%

Total Account Value (sum of sectors) **\$3,737,278**

Grace Episcopal Church Endowment Fund

Annual Performance Report

	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2016</u>	<u>12/31/2015</u>	<u>12/31/2014</u>
Ending Balance Per Account Statements					
Schwab	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,553,790	\$2,509,053
Merrill Collateral Account	\$230,121	\$230,280	\$225,671	\$270,559	\$515,779
Merrill	\$160,096	\$409,613	\$363,098	\$693,641	\$948,219
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	3,347,061	3,577,246	3,221,913	263,672	267,301
Total	3,737,278	4,217,139	3,810,682	3,781,662	4,240,351
Ending Value current period ⁽¹⁾	\$3,737,278	\$4,217,139	\$3,810,682	\$3,781,662	\$4,240,351
add back cash outflows - schwab	0		0	0	54,050
subtract cash inflows - schwab	0		0	0	0
add back cash outflows - ML	250,150	96,069	411,799	107,300	94,234
subtract cash inflows - ML	0	(140,000)	(50,694)	0	0
add back cash outflow - ML Collateral	65	0	50,694	0	0
subtract cash inflows - ML Collateral	0	0	0	0	0
add back cash outflows- DIT	0	470,000	0	0	0
subtract cash inflows - DIT	0	(330,000)	(200,000)	0	0
Ending Value for Performance	\$3,987,493	\$4,313,208	\$4,022,481	\$3,888,962	\$4,388,635
Beginning Value (prior year ending value)	\$4,217,139	\$3,810,682	\$3,781,662	\$4,240,351	\$4,180,401
Annual Performance **	-5.45%	13.19%	6.37%	-8.29%	4.98%
Annual Cash flow: (inflow)/outflow of the endowment	\$250,215	\$96,069	\$211,799	\$107,300	\$148,284
Rolling five year cash (inflows)/outflows	\$813,667	\$670,546	(\$207,138)	(\$231,690)	(\$178,064)
Yearly Gains (Losses)	(\$229,646)	\$502,526	\$240,819	(\$351,389)	\$208,234
One Year Performance - Benchmark	-2.66%	9.28%	8.07%	0.49%	9.49%
Five year Performance - Benchmark	5.55%	9.93%	8.28%	10.77%	12.65%
Five year Performance - Endowment	1.71%	6.93%	8.15%	6.30%	10.55%
Ten year Performance - Endowment	6.20%	3.09%	2.74%	3.19%	4.83%
Five year Performance - S&P 500	8.49%	13.95%	14.55%	16.37%	15.45%

Finance Committee

Carlotta Budd

The Finance Committee monitors the finances of the parish. It makes recommendations to the Vestry throughout the year on issues affecting the parish. The work includes preparing, with the assistance of the Treasurer, the annual budget. We review income and expenses on a monthly basis. We also work with the Building & Grounds committee about capital expenditures, looking at sources of funding.

We make recommendations to the Vestry for actions that will assist in the financial management of the parish. We also review audit results and new developments that might occur.

Members of the Finance Committee include the Clergy, Wardens, Treasurer, Chair of the Investment Committee and Ed Nunn.

Grace Church Balance Sheet				
	\$ Thousands	YE 2017	YE 2018*	
Assets				
	Cash and Equivalent	256	190	
	Endowment Cash and Securities	4217	3737	
	Other Assets	5	5	
	Total Assets	4478	3932	
Liabilities				
	Accounts Payable	33	26	
	Loans Payable	100	100	
	Prepaid Accounts	162	90	
	Other	1	1	
	Total	296	217	
Fund Balances		4182	3715	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		4478	3932	
* Unaudited				

Grace Church Income Statement and Preliminary 2019 Budget				
	\$ Thousands	<u>2018 Budget</u>	<u>2018 Actual*</u>	<u>2019 Draft Budget</u>
Income				
	Pledge Income	500	494	535
	Other Church Support	110	99	100
	Fund Raisers	60	53	54
	Occupancy / Other	132	133	137
	Endowment Transfer	142	141	137
	Total Income	944	920	963
Expenses				
	Personnel	503	494	529
	B&G Operations	158	157	160
	Diocesan Share	143	139	146
	Office Expenses	70	65	70
	Outreach Committee Gifts	34	34	34
	Inreach / Other / Search	54	49	53
	Total Expenses	962	938	992
Surplus / Deficit		-18	-18	-29



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Susan R. Ironside, Rector

The Reverend Canon Michel Belt, Priest Associate

Kit Cone, Senior Verger & Sacristan

Dr. Anne Matlack, D.M.A., Organist & Director of Choirs

J. Eric Roper, Assistant Choir Director

Lindsey Kellstrom, Chapel Choir Director

Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte, Director of Children's Ministries

Michael Kostial, Parish Administrator

Susie Harris, Communications

Susan Steel, Bookkeeper