

The MESSENGER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

September 2018



Grace Calls New Rector

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Members of the Grace Community:

It is with great joy and excitement that the Vestry announces the call of the Rev. Susan R. Ironside to be the next Rector of Grace Church. That call has been approved by our Bishop and accepted by Mother Susan.

Susan is currently serving as the Rector of the Church of St. John on the Mountain in Bernardsville in the Diocese of New Jersey. For you Grace Church history buffs, this is a second time that the Rector of St. John has moved on to become the Rector of Grace Church (the first being the Rev. William Louis Nieman who served as our Rector for many years). Prior to serving as Rector in Bernardsville, Susan served parishes in Chatham as a seminarian and in Westfield as a curate. She is a graduate of The General Seminary. Susan has served on various committees in the Diocese of New Jersey including the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Liturgy. She currently serves as a faculty member with the Episcopal Preaching Foundation, an organization that supports excellence in preaching in the Episcopal Church. Prior to seminary, Susan had a career as a Registered Nurse.

Susan lives in Madison with her husband, Dr. Andrew Moore and their two children, Caroline and Nathan. Andrew is the Choir Master and Organist at Christ Church in Short Hills and is the Chair of the Music Department at The Pingry School. Both Nathan and Caroline are products of the Madison Public Schools. Nathan graduated in the class of 2017 and is currently taking a gap year from culinary school. Caroline is a senior at MHS and will graduate in 2019. The Vestry has agreed that Susan and her family will continue to live in their current home in Madison for the foreseeable future and that the issue of moving into the Rectory will be reassessed in 2019.

All on the Search Committee and the Vestry who have met Susan agree that she is a bundle of energy and enthusiasm who will serve Grace well as our next Rector. Susan will start at Grace in mid-October and we expect that her first Sunday in the pulpit will be October 21. Announcements about a welcome for Susan and her family will be forthcoming. In the meantime, please keep Susan, her family and the leadership and congregation of St. John in your prayers as they say good-bye to Susan and begin to discern their own future.



The Rev. Susan Ironside

A special note of thanks to our Search Committee and our Profile Committee who spent countless hours of time and energy to get us to this point.

In the meantime—and as we say at Grace—there is a lot to do. The start of the program year is soon upon us. Until Susan's arrival we will be ably served by our two wonderful clergy, Father Michel and Father Keith. The incoming Rector and Wardens have already begun conversations with Fr. Michel and is eager to partner with all our staff!

This is an exciting time as we begin the next chapter of our corporate life at Grace. More details to follow.

*~ John Garde & Tom Honohan,
Your Wardens and Vestry*



Hello Grace Church!

I am delighted, excited, humbled, giddy, nervous, eager—a plethora of emotions really—to be called as your next Rector! Honestly, I pretty much dropped the phone when your Senior Warden called to share this exciting news with me. I have lived in Madison for 18 years, voted in your building, and driven by your church countless times. My husband and I have raised our kids here, been to Back to School nights at three different schools in town, and eaten McCool's ice-cream for years, and I am honestly thrilled to be coming as your Rector.

We are an ordinary family, pretty much. We share a home and a life together. We sometimes fight over nonsense or laugh at the stupidest of jokes. Pretty much like most families, I think. We like to travel together (when we can) and we eat together whenever possible. (Always a challenge for any busy family!) I love being a mom—even of teenagers—and my husband Andrew is a fiercely talented organist who plays beautiful music around our house and also cleans the gutters and knows how to make me laugh. (He has diverse skills!) Our son Nathan cooks for me when I am hungry (when he is around) and has just begun a gap year of different study and experiences after learning intensely in the culinary world for several years. Our daughter Caroline has the best laugh of anyone I know, and we are about



to embark on the nail-biting college search with her. We have two over-indulged dogs, Pickles and Daisy, who sleep a lot and live up to the reputation of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels who are not equipped to much other than sit on laps and look cute.

I also love being a priest. It's messy and holy, like life itself. I take special joy in preaching and worship and have a tender place in my heart for pastoral care and supporting the challenges facing families and individuals in an ever-changing world. Baptisms and funerals make me teary. Acolytes and those who serve at the altar make my own prayer and worship deeper and more joyful. I love the energy and passion of younger people and kids, who teach me new things all the time. And being married to an organist, I celebrate the work of musicians, and I tend to sing a lot.

I was intrigued by your profile, and during the search process I found myself being drawn to the vibrant community you have built together, right in the center of the town I already love. Your love for Jesus and your attention to worship, music, and service touched me, even though I have yet to worship with you and don't even know you yet! Your Search Committee and Vestry Members made me want to meet you all the more. They love you and have served you faithfully throughout this process. Their love for Grace inspires me. I look forward to sharing a common life with you and falling in love with you!

See you soon!

Joyfully yours, Susan+

P.S. I am most comfortable with the title of Mother, as I find it to be a fitting female parallel to the traditional title used by priests throughout the centuries, but I certainly don't insist on it!



PRIEST ASSOCIATE'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Canon Michel Belt
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As hard as it is to believe, regrettably, summer is almost over. Even as I write this, I'm struggling as I realize I'm working on another issue of *The Messenger*—the September one! It is already mid-August, and while the recent weather has certainly qualified as the “Dog Days of Summer” (or conversely “The Wettest August in Memory”), it is suddenly time to stop thinking about those (purportedly) lazy days of summer, and begin to prepare oneself for the hustle-and-bustle of September and a new Program Year. Yes, change is around the corner ... ready or not!

It's also hard to believe that Fr. Max and Paul have now been gone for over a month. I understand they have begun to settle in, in Coral Gables, Florida, with their new parish of St. Thomas. And now, we're blessed to have a very experienced priest, Fr. Keith (Gentry), (recently retired from St. Michael's in Wayne), with close to forty years as a priest assisting us with his services a couple of days a week (Wednesdays and Sundays).

So, you see, even during those “slow” days of our summer, things have continued happening here. We were privileged, under the guidance of Dr. Elias, to host another successful Vacation Bible School (VBS) ... although I have to admit personally missing some of our recent high school graduates—young people who

had been faithful Counselors and helpers and musicians during my previous summers here. The good news is we have some excellent young Counselors-in-Training working their way through new experiences and into new ways of serving and helping their church's witness in the community, and helping us grow. And this year, we enjoyed having children join us from the nearby United Methodist Church, and from the Coop Nursery School.

The week before VBS, three adults (Mike Cullen, Kirsten Kellstrom and Chris Wilde) and I packed ourselves, along with eight of our youth, into two vans and headed to Frakes, Kentucky. Once down there, we undertook a building project for the Henderson Settlement (a United Methodist Church ministry) in Appalachia (the actual project location was across the border in nearby White Oak, Tennessee. Come to think of it, the heat and humidity of Kentucky kind of prepared us for what we've experienced this summer here in New Jersey. I would encourage you to view the video posted on our parish website, stop by the bulletin board across from Nieman Annex, see some photos and information elsewhere in this issue, or watch for information about a First Friday and/or an Adult Forum where our young missionaries will share some of their photos and experiences.

And now, just as I write this article, Warden John Garde has officially named our new Rector: The Rev. Susan R. Ironside. While there are still some details to work out, our new Rector will be here with us for many of our fall activities, including, but not limited to our Stewardship Campaign, Thanksgiving, and leading into our first Advent and Christmas seasons together. That should give us sufficient time to get to know her as we enter a new calendar year, and put plans in place for the foreseeable future—and beyond—as we work together to make Grace the “light shining on the hill” for our community.

Yes, many of us “fight” against change ... almost everyone—this includes me—likes things to stay the same, for familiar faces to remain, for the knowledge of what to expect “around the next corner,” or some sense of security “when trouble hits.” But change can be good ... it means that we at Grace are not sitting still, not sitting on our laurels, not allowing “things” to overcome or overwhelm us. It means there is movement and life here at 4 Madison Avenue.

But most of all, for me, it means that we are sincerely responding to Christ's call to follow the narrow path he has set for his followers. It means we don't always get to choose the simple or easy way, and that the way may

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be filled with challenges. It means we can acknowledge God's love for us, God's forgiveness for our misdeeds, and the times when "we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves." There are so many things going on in our community, our nation and our world—things some of us like, and some of us abhor. If we seek allegiance not to civic leadership, nor trust in a mistaken belief of the exceptional nature of our nation, but rather place our trust in the one true and holy God (and God's Son Jesus Christ), we can not only survive whatever change we face, but we can thrive.

Plan on joining us as we prepare for a happy September, together!

Welcome!

The Rev. Cn. Keith A. Gentry just recently retired as rector of St. Michael's, Wayne, NJ. He has been in active ministry just shy of 40 years. He has served dioceses from East to West Coast and is currently doing consulting work for the Diocese of Newark. When our Interim Fr. Max left, Fr. Keith was invited to come and work with Fr. Michel as Priest Associate for a short time until Grace's new Rector comes on-board. He has a previous career in medicine and has done teaching missionary work in Central and East Africa. He is a graduate of Loyola University Maryland, The General Theological Seminary in New York. He was ordained a Deacon in the Diocese of Maryland in 1979, and priested in the Diocese of Long Island in 1980.



Our next baptismal service will be during the 10:00 am service on September 2 and November 4, All Saints' Sunday. Please speak to one of our clergy if you are interested in being baptized, or having your child baptized.



Our Next Bishop of Diocese of Newark



God willing and the people consenting, the Rev. Carlye J. Hughes will be ordained and

consecrated a Bishop in the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and Eleventh Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Newark on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at 11:00 am in the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, One Center Street, Newark.

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will be the Chief Consecrator.



HOLY DAYS

Friday, September 14, **HOLY CROSS DAY**

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Friday, September 21, **ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST**

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Saturday, September 29, **ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS**

8:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, October 7, **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI** (*Observed*)

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Blessing of the Animals

6:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II





MUSIC AT GRACE

Dr. Anne Matlack

(201) 274-4617

Anne.Matlack@ChoralCommunities.com

You get what you give

I recently returned from a week of singing really hard music (Howells, Langlais) for long hours of standing, in un-air conditioned churches for a demanding conductor, with children –for FUN!

Choir camp is so inspiring because it is filled with adult and young singers who recognize the value and satisfaction of this activity. I particularly loved our conductor, Richard Webster (Trinity Copley Square, Boston) because, although he was as demanding as anyone I've ever sung for, he always did it in a positive, joyful, and inspiring way. (He runs marathons—what's a little heat!?)

He was full of pithy sayings, games and tricks to keep us on our toes. One thing I appreciated the most, was that he would often take the time to point out the value of our mistakes. "oh THANK YOU for making that mistake, so we can LEARN from it! Don't be afraid of mistakes, that is how we LEARN!" I realized this message was so important and needed for our kids today, who seem to hold themselves to an impossible standard, and sometimes give up quickly if something is not easy or perfect at first. MUSIC gives our kids the gift of understanding process and perseverance.

When you are making your hard choices for the fall, remember that church choir is not just another program, it's not just something we do—it's something we give. The kids truly lead the service, they help people worship, they help the other singers become better singers, they learn about the satisfaction of preparing something over the long haul. Like sports, they learn teamwork, commitment—but there is not really competition. Instead they put themselves where they can hear, taste, and see the word of God, where they might be inspired, they might be bored, they might meet friends from a different school, they might sing a deep text which will stay with them forever. And Dr. Anne is the most understanding of directors, because I would ALWAYS rather have you sometimes than never. But the more you come, the more you will get out of it.

Here are some fun sayings from Richard Webster to inspire you:

- "Never louder than lovely"
- "the furnace is just as hot when you close the door" (piano/forte)
- "sad people look down, happy people look up— which do you want to be?"
- "a leaky garden hose leads to heartache and dead flowers" (about breathing)
- "WOW! quadruple Anglican chant—what fun!"
- "...sounds like Church of the Holy Mumbler's"
- "life is not a cornucopia of comfort to be consumed"

Evensong

In the time of King Henry VIII and the beginnings of the Anglican Church, Bishop Thomas Cranmer combined the evening prayers of Vespers and Compline into one act of worship: Evensong. Evensong or "evening song," is said or sung monthly or weekly in many American Anglican churches, and daily at many British cathedrals. (In 2015, the Grace Church Choirs sang "in residence" for a week at Winchester Cathedral.) Evensong is a beautiful and calming candlelight service.



Our Fall Evensong will be Friday, September 28, 5:30-6:00 pm for the *Eve of St. Michael and All Angels*, allowing us to sing some of our favorite fun songs about angels!



Our Advent Evensong in December will include Pergolesi's *MAGNIFICAT* with Chamber Orchestra!



Choir Start-Up JOIN US!

The choir stalls may look full but we can always make room! I love this time of year, when the new 2nd and 3rd grade singers ("novices") come into my room for training! For kids, the choir program at Grace offers priceless training in music reading, good vocal production and the music of the church. Have your first lesson before the first rehearsals! All new or potential new adult singers can also have three free voice lessons with Dr. Anne! Send her an email: anne.matlack@choralcommunities.com

Official Choir Schedule

Adult Choir

Thursdays 7:15-8:45 pm beginning September 6 (childcare if requested)
Choir Call Sundays at 9:20 am (for 10:00 am service)

School Choir I "Red Choir"—Grades 2-5—Fridays, 3:30-4:45 pm

School Choir II "Blue Choir"—Grades 6-12—Fridays, 4:15-5:30 pm

OR Alternate rehearsal:

Thursdays, 6:45-8:05 pm beginning September 6

Daughters of Zion—High School Girls (*more challenge & a cappella*)
Thursdays, 6:00-6:45 pm, beginning September 6

The Gargoyles tenors and basses—Boys Grades 7-12, 8:00-9:30 pm, beginning Friday, September 7, overlapping and following Adult Choir. The Gargoyles welcome new members. If interested, text director Eric Roper at (908) 463-9120 for more info. The Gargoyles sing in the community, as well as church.

Chapel Choir—Ages Pre-K-Grade 1—Fridays at 3:30-4:15, beginning September 6. They will be singing October 7 (St. Francis observed), November 4, December 2, and December 24 (Christmas Pageant.) Chapel Choir has a great team of leaders again this year, Linda Bowden and Katie Hendrix!

IMPORTANT: CHOIR PARENTS MEETING

Sunday, September 9—briefly after lunch at the Parish Picnic

We will meet for about 10 minutes. Come hear our exciting plans, learn best practices, and sign up for to bring choir snack during the program year!



Requiem Concert

It's a Requiem Year—and I have found a new one! *The Shadows of War* by British composer Paul Mealor which was written in 2016 to commemorate the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. Join us Saturday, November 3 for a short 7:00 pm concert with strings and percussion, and adult and children's choirs. We will be doing some of the short movements in church all fall as well.

See the Fall-Winter Grace Community Music Full Flyer and share it!

Thank you to George Moser and Karen Coates, our guest organists who played during services when Dr. Anne was away! Thanks for sharing your talent!



Eleanor Wroath visited this summer and Dr. Anne got to have

GRACE COMMUNITY MUSIC



Our first event in our program year is LYRA—the wonderful Russian Group who was here in 2014. They will perform on Wednesday, September 12 at 7:30 pm, here at Grace Church. Admission is by donation at the door.

LYRA is a community of professional musicians. Most members are students or postgraduates of Saint Petersburg Conservatoire, working in different choirs of Saint Petersburg. Though the members represent different musical professions: choir conductors, opera singers, instrumentalists, music teachers—they are all united by love for choir and ensemble singing. The choir community LYRA includes about 25 people who usually tour in small groups of soloists consisting of 4-6 people. In 2001, they were awarded the Montreux (Switzerland) international choral festival diploma. In 2005, they were winners at the Coleraine International Choral Festival (Northern



Ireland).

The main goal of LYRA is exploring and popularizing Russian choir music. Through performances, they introduce the enormous musical heritage of the Russian Orthodox Church, as well as traditions of Russian folk music. Music ranges from ancient songs of the Orthodox Church to works of little-known, but remarkable composers of the XVIII-XX centuries, as well as famous masters—Bortnjansky, Tchaikovsky, Tchesnokov, Gretchaninov, Rachmaninov, Stravinsky and others. Members of the Grace Church Adult Choir and School Choir II (6th grade and up), and Harmonium Choral Society will join them for the finale of the first half of the concert in a work by Rachmaninov. For the second half of the concert, the quartet, in traditional dress, will perform different folk songs of lyric, dancing and ritual nature, as well as their own arrangements of folk songs, as well as secular songs of Russian classics, such as Taneyev,

Summer's Music

♪ Many thanks to all the summer soloists, who included Eric, Ted and Will Roper, Matt Palmer, Elizabeth Monkemeier, Katie Hendrix, Susan Goodman, Linda Bowden, Grace van Cleef, and another short visit from Eleanor Wroath (all the way from Texas). Thank you!

♪ Catie Gilhueley, Claudia Sydenstricker, Dr. Anne and Jabez attended the RSCM Newport Course, while Arthur Brooks, and Will Roper were proctors at the RSCM Kings college



♪ Chickie and Dr. Anne helped with music at AVP (alternative to Violence Project) Camp at the Quaker Meeting in June, and were able to use some of the same music and body percussion for Vacation Bible School at Grace in July.

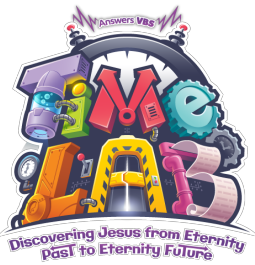
Dr. Anne Matlack
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CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte
(973) 377-0106 x113
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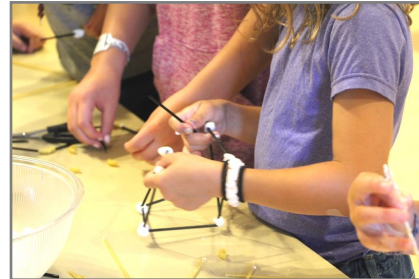
For five days in July, with the help of parent volunteers, youth counselors, Dr. Anne, and Fr. Michel, Grace Hall was transformed into the space to hold our Vacation Bible School (VBS) "TimeLab." This year's theme took us back in time to learn about great episodes of the Christian Story. We opened our week with the Creation Story, were amazed at the story of Moses and the Burning Bush, celebrated Jesus' incarnation with "Christmas in July Day," learned about the particularities of different animals; like the hollow bones of sparrow, a lamb's four stomachs, and the fantastic story of how the St. Bernard became rescue dogs. We also celebrated the genius of human creativity, particularly when inventions, otherwise considered mistakes, are put to innovative uses like Play-Doh and Silly-Putty. On Thursday evening, we delighted parents and guests with a "Music and Crafts Show" lead by Dr. Anne, and we closed the week with a trip to Madison Fire Department, raucous games of GaGa Ball and water games.



These things named represent only a portion of the things we did during our VBS week. They were possible because of the commitment of volunteers. A heartfelt "Thank You" to each and every one of you who gave of our time! Programming such as VBS succeeds through our commitment to shared ministry. It is when we make space in our schedules between different competing obligations, and prioritize activities that nurture the spiritual life of our congregation that we see our collective growth. And we need your support for the ongoing success of our Children and Family Programs. Whether you are able to volunteer as a teacher a few Sundays' a month, to be a caring presence assisting other teachers, or lending a helping hand during special events, you will be partaking in our shared ministry. Stay tuned for news of upcoming Sunday School events!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



W O R S H I P



***A great way to worship
with your kids?***

The word Compline (pronounced COM-plin) comes from the Latin word *completorium*, signifying the end of a complete day. The service of Compline is found in the *Book of Common Prayer* on page 127. There is a longstanding monastic tradition of praying various points of the day, and Compline was the last hour one prayed before going to sleep.

For kids, it's a brief prayer service, with lots of jobs for them to lead themselves. Its is a fun way to worship together.



WITH GRATITUDE

THE RITE 13 CEREMONY

is an acknowledgement of approaching adulthood for the youth of the church. The service is open to anyone who has turned 13 since our last ceremony, or was unable to attend the last ceremony in October, 2017. The ceremony will take place during the 10:00 am worship service on September 30.

On Friday, September 28, the candidates and their parents are invited to attend Evensong in the church at 5:30 pm. There will be a short rehearsal at 6:15 pm, followed by a dinner for Rite 13 participants and their families at 6:30 pm in Nieman Hall. Forms are available in the office and online:

www.GraceMadison.org

choose from the pull-down:

**Education / Youth / Special Events/
Rite 13 Questionnaire**

Contact Fr. Michel with questions.



Angels Amongst Us

We have a quiet but mighty group of volunteers that help us stuff the bulletins each week, and sort, collate, address and stamp all of our mailings. In June, we thanked them for their dedication and cheerful assistance with a luncheon. A special thank you to Peggy Oakes who organizes and schedules all our Office Angel gatherings

With Thanks!

For the third consecutive year, parishioner Lynne Gorman has funded the services of a professional to plant the flowers in the eight large planters that highlight our gardens. They create a cohesive look, tying together the various garden areas. **Thank you Lynne!**



Thank you to our wonderful Acolyte Team whom we celebrated on June 3rd including our

“true North Star” Kit Cone (*above*), our departing Seniors: Noah Wilde, Kristin McManus and Zoe Ross, and our newest acolytes:



Audrey Bendelius, Sue Bien, Emme Kassis and Peter Munter. We also welcomed our new Head Acolyte: Sarah Garde (*left*), who joins Heather McCulloch and Jack Baulig in leading the team! A big thank-you to Mike Cullen (*right*) for



building the amazing cubby to hold all our individual Acolyte pendants so neatly that we can find them in a flash each week!

As we head into the Fall and await the arrival of our new rector, Mother Susan, I encourage you to consider serving at the altar and becoming a vital part of the celebration each week! Acolytes usually serve one Sunday a month, and only need a single, brief training session to get up to speed. Service points are available for school credit as well! Reach



out to one of our head acolytes, or Jennifer McCulloch at j4galmom@gmail.com to check it out!
~ Jennifer McCulloch

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Long-Awaited Office Renovation: **Completed!**



Two years ago the new windows were installed. LED lighting was added a year later. This summer, the rest of the office renovation, which included removing the long-standing office divider, stripping wallpaper, painting, carpeting and adding state-of-the-art desks and computers, was completed. We are, once again, open for business!

Our thanks go to architects Nancy Dougherty and Samantha Kane of Studio 1200 in Short Hills for their assistance with office layout and paint and carpet choices.

Administrator, Mike Kostial and Susie Harris bore the brunt of the upheaval, making a multitude of operations decisions, moving files,

cleaning out shelves and cubbies, all while trying to keep the office operational. Their flexibility was the key to the success of the operation. Mike became a “master assembler” along the way as the new standing desks and mail boxes were put together.

The muscle of the operation was the Buildings & Grounds Committee. Filing cabinets of every size, office furniture, and the entire contents of the infamous closet, found a home elsewhere while the renovation commenced. And now we have the job of getting

everything back in place, or in a new place. Finally, Wes, our custodian, wins the award for most trips to the dumpster!

Thanks to all for getting the job done. Please stop by to see the finished result.

~Judy Jurgensen for B&G



A New Arch for the Front Door

The arch over the front door had been slowly deteriorating over many years. The decorative florets attached to each end of the arch were in poor repair and becoming detached from the arch itself. Help was needed!

Parishioner Ed Monkemeier, a master craftsman and owner of Edmo Woodworking, was hired to save the day. Over a few months Ed fabricated and installed new cedar Gothic arch trim above the front door of the church and then reattached the newly repaired and painted florets. The attached pictures show the beautiful result.



Successful Youth Mission Trip

During the week of July 9, twelve missionaries—eight high school youth and four adult leaders—ventured to Frakes, Kentucky, a small, Appalachian town in the southeast corner of the state near the Tennessee border. Amidst the natural beauty of the land, this population faces severe economic challenges. Frakes is part of a county that has per capita income of just \$13,700 with 38% of the population living below the poverty line, including 52% of all children.

Our host for the week was the Henderson Settlement. It is a non-profit organization founded in the 1920s by a Methodist minister, as a way of more intentionally caring for people in the area. Their motto is "Creating Opportunities for Better Lives Through Christ-Centered Service." Henderson's single largest outreach component is their "workcamp." Each summer, dozens of groups from across the US make mission trips to the Settlement, working on house projects: building small decks and storage buildings, replacing windows and floors, and applying vinyl siding. This was actually our second encounter with Henderson Settlement, as Grace did a mission trip to Frakes in 2003. They are extremely well organized and an outstanding group of people to work with.

This year, our group stayed on the Henderson Settlement campus in the "Brick House," which provided us with ample space to fix and share meals, worship together, play, and perhaps most importantly, rest from our long

days of work. During the week we built an 8'x12' porch on the front of the trailer home of Lisa, a middle-aged woman living on her own just across the border in Tennessee. Porches are popular projects because they provide the residents with a place to go outside and cool off, as most of the trailer homes are not air-conditioned. On Wednesday—which Henderson requires to be an "off day"—we traveled to Cumberland Falls Park and enjoyed a hike, the falls, a picnic lunch and then an afternoon at their outdoor pool. We also carved out time for our spiritual lives by holding daily Morning Devotions and Compline in the evening, along with two Eucharist services during the week. Our work was tremendously rewarding, and after a tiring but fulfilling week, the missionaries returned home with large smiles and enthusiastic stories to tell.

This was the first Grace Mission Trip outside the area since 2012. Hopefully, it re-establishes a longstanding tradition at Grace of



Before Monday morning, July 9



After Friday afternoon, July 13

youth summer mission trips to places like South Dakota, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, but also pilgrimages to England, California, Canada and New Mexico. Thank you to everyone in the parish for your support and prayers. We look forward to planning our 2019 trip!

~ Chris Wilde



Video of their week! www.youtube.com/watch?v=NylsrwW7YKI&feature=youtu.be



Annual Parish Picnic!

*Sunday, September 10 after the
10 am service*

We will provide the sandwiches and drinks as well as music, food and a bounce house.

Please plan to attend and join the festivities! Bring a friend!

We'd love volunteer to help:

- * set up
- * bring a side, salad, ice or dessert
- * help with the bounce house
- * clean up

Sign up on the sheet in Grace Lobby, or sign up online:

www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4dada92dab9-its



Welcome Sunday

Sunday, September 16

The beginning of the program year is a perfect time to learn about all the different groups that make Grace Church run. Interested in serving during a worship service, like to arrange flowers, can you help out during the day with a parish mailing?

Stop by the special coffee hour before and after the 10:00 am service, in Grace Hall where many of the ministry groups will have information and people to answer your questions. Your time and talents are an important way to support our church and put your God-given talents to work!

FUNDRAISER



Grace Annual Auction

Saturday, October 27

Get out your lederhosen and dirndl for the Grace Church Auction on Saturday, October 27. Oktoberfest is back at Grace! Celebrate the harvest, pretzels, sausage and beer. Our biggest fundraiser of the year needs you to make it a success.

Planning is underway with many new ideas as well as traditional offerings. There will be baskets of amazing things, *Experience Grace* opportunities, and a live auction with our own John Bartolomeo as auctioneer. Great food, great friends, great beverages and maybe even a chance to polka or do "the chicken."

Watch for more information and your invitation to party, but for now, save the date. If you can help in any way or have an incredible *Experience Grace* idea or sought-after live auction item, please contact Judy Honohan at jhonohan@mac.com.



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 7

All are invited to bring their pets (stuffed, real, or a photo) to 10:00 am worship on **St. Francis Sunday**, when we remember the saint who honored all animals.

Note: the services held at 8:00 am and 6:00 pm will be "pet-free." There will not be Children's Chapel or Sunday School that day.

Topics-ideas?

Talk to us!

We have a list of topics and potential speakers but we are interested in your ideas and suggestions. Please let us know what you would like to hear about at Sunday Adult Forums and First Friday evenings after the potluck dinner each first Friday of every month. Contact Dora Monserrate: doramonserate@gmail.com or Mike Ling: miling31@yahoo.com.

Did you know?

Jabez's daughter,
Lucy Van Cleef,
married
Johannes Held
in Germany
on August 25!



OUTREACH



Fall Clothing Sale

September 8, 9 am-2 pm, in Grace Hall

Collection begins on Sunday, September 2 from 1:00-7:00 pm; Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-7:00 pm, and Friday, 9:00 am-noon.

Of particular need this time of year is children's clothing, as well as winter coats and outerwear. We can use supplies like wire hangers & bags for shoppers; if you have some, drop them off as well!

How can you help?

There are many ways! You can help sort and hang clothing during the collection periods, organize tables & racks during the sale on Saturday, and for post-sale help bag items for donation OR If you'd like to provide a lunch or drinks during the week, or on sale day, that would be most welcome!

Over the past 20 years of clothing and rummage sales, left over clothing donated has been forwarded to schools and daycare centers, *Dress for Success* for men and women, theater groups, homeless shelters, a soup kitchen, and various women's and children's services. In addition, summer weight clothing has been sent as far as Honduras and Nicaragua, while boxes of winter clothing, hats and gloves have been forwarded as far as the Ukraine. Clothing which is sold helps fund Grace Church's outreach grants to some of these same and other charities and services for the needy and homeless. All remaining clothing has gone to the Salvation Army or similar organizations.

Sign up in Grace Lobby or contact John Wand at (973) 377-3123.

Great Start to the School Year

Thank you for your generous support! In July, the Vacation Bible School campers, along with donors across the Grace Church community, collected backpacks and other school supplies for preschool through high school students in Morris County. Three young parishioners, Meghan, Caroline, and Olivia (pictured top right), delivered 31 backpacks along with bins full of crayons, pencils, notebooks, and binders, etc. to Family Intervention Services of New Jersey (FIS) in Denville.

Terry Viera, who celebrated her 90th birthday last month and has been with FIS for 18 years, met us with a warm embrace and words of gratitude. Terry showed us where she, and other employees and volunteers, sort the school supplies and divide them among the age-appropriate backpacks for children in need in our community. The Harter girls added Grace Church's donations to the boxes of school supplies which will be distributed to local students prior to the first day of school. We were proud to take part in this important ministry in our local community and couldn't have done it without your generosity. Thank you to the VBS families, and others, who donated!

To find out more about the services provided by FIS, or to make a donation, visit www.fisnj.org ~Katie Harter



CONNECTIONS



Fun Day in Madison!

Celebrate our hometown and downtown on **Bottle Hill Day**, Saturday, October 6. Grace Church will have a presence. Check out the full schedule when it comes out.



We welcome your ideas for activities at our booth. In the past, we provided information about Grace Church, our activities and ministries, handed out balloons, pencils, also did face-painting (very popular). And most importantly, parishioners took some time to meet and talk to people.

Please volunteer to help set-up our booth in the morning, represent Grace Church for an hour or two, participate in some fun activities, and take it down at the end.

Look for the full schedule and sign-up sheet in Grace Lobby.
Thanks! John Garde

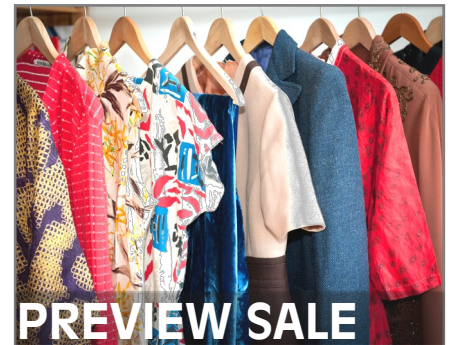


First Friday Returns!



No surprise, this gathering is on a Friday!

Come Friday, September 7 at 6:15 pm for a potluck supper and fellowship in Nieman Hall. Clothing Sale preview and shopping from 7:00-8:00 pm in Grace Hall follows—no entry fee, “first looks,” and bargains galore! Questions, speak with John Wand. Sign up in Grace Lobby.

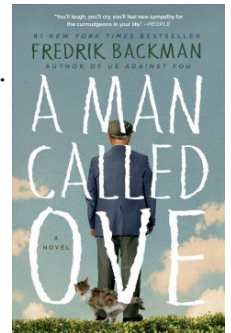


Men's Book Group

Our next book is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Bachman. We will meet on Tuesday, September 18 at Steve Hauge's house. There are 33 copies available in the Morris County library system.

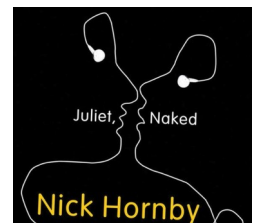
“Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon; the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him 'the bitter neighbor from hell'. But must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time? Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.”

Contact Bruce Rudin with any questions—brucedora@verizon.net



Women of Grace Book Group

Monday, September 17 at 7:00 pm, Nieman Annex
Our September selection is *Juliet Naked* by Nick Hornby—a powerful, engrossing, humorous novel about music, love, loneliness, and struggle to live up to one's promise.



Planning ahead: We will be discussing *Friends Divided* by Gordon Wood in October. A majestic dual biography of two of America's most enduringly fascinating figures, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, whose partnership helped birth a nation, and whose subsequent falling out did much to fix its course. Join the conversation!

~ Joan Nolan (973) 267-2638

Solar Power is coming to Goll Farm School



Thanks to the generosity of donors from Grace Church, the Goll Farm School in Suakoko, Liberia, will be installing a solar power system in coming weeks. The new system will eliminate the need for the present gasoline-powered generator, which means not only the end of buying and hauling gasoline, but also the end of the many maintenance problems associated with one-cylinder gas engines. The school is one of several projects led by Fr. Prince Wreh over the last 20 years of his close association with Kit Cone; most of these projects have been motivated by Fr. Wreh's strong belief that education is the way out of poverty, and self-sufficiency is the way out of dependence on handouts and charity to survive.

Members and friends of Grace Church have supported the Goll Farm School very generously over the past decade. Starting with the construction of the school buildings, making the desks, benches and chairs, building and stocking the school library, hiring of the faculty, and the purchase of textbooks and other materials, Grace Church members prepared the school to move ahead on its own. In recent years that is exactly what has happened! Donations are

still sought for scholarship support for the almost entirely indigent student body, but the school is becoming more and more self-supporting. An example of income generation for self-sufficiency is the relatively new school store, completed with Grace donations, which sells food, water, and other items to people walking past the campus along the road leading to the regional center at Gbarnga, about ten miles away, or Cuttington [Episcopal] University, just down the road..

One of the biggest drains on the school's very limited funds has been the cost of electricity for the small computer lab and for classroom lights for night adult education classes for people from nearby villages. Liberia, only a few degrees off the equator in a tropical rain forest, would seem to be an obvious location for a solar power system, but there have been big problems with the cost of the equipment, importing and transporting the materials to the interior, and finding competent installation personnel. Recently, however, Phebe Hospital, only a short distance from the school, put in a very large solar installation, supported by Lutheran World

Service. Encouraged by that project, and with prices coming down, Fr. Prince Wreh and his wife, Relhetta, who has served as the school's de facto construction manager, have been looking closely at the prospect of solar electricity.

There is plenty of motivation for solar power. There is no electric utility in the area, so the school has to make it on-site with a generator. In addition to the cost of buying gasoline, which is of poor quality and often contaminated by water or kerosene, it has been necessary to transport the fuel from Monrovia, about 120 miles away. Maintenance on the one-cylinder generator is a never-ending task. A solar installation would eliminate the high cost of gasoline, the dangers of hauling it in a pickup truck from Monrovia, the cost of maintenance, and the uncertainty that comes with one-cylinder gas engines running on contaminated fuel.

Encouraged by the recent changes in the availability and

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

cost of solar power in the interior of Liberia, Fr. and Mrs. Wreh met with contractors and supply sources and put together a plan for a solar power system for their school. The LED lights have already been installed by American volunteers as part of the generator system, and will be used with the solar panels. Although the school does not receive any funds from the Grace Church budget, gifts from individuals including a major gift from an anonymous parishioner, made it possible to raise the \$4,500 cost of the solar installation for the school.



In response to the message that the funds were being sent by wire transfer to the school's bank account in Monrovia, Fr. Wreh sent an e-mail message saying: "It is very difficult for us to find words adequate to express how deeply we appreciate ... your invaluable contributions to our work in Liberia." To all those donors who made this project possible, I extend my personal thanks as well as those of Fr. and Mrs. Wreh and all their students!

~ Kit Cone

Financial Update

In an effort to keep our parishioners better informed of our finances, on an ongoing basis, we anticipate including regular reports throughout the year. This is our first report.

Grace Church Financial Report

June 30, 2018

This report covers from January 1—June 30, 2018

Total Income:

Budgeted Amount:	\$379,562
Actual Amount:	<u>\$365,556</u>
Amount Actual is Under Budget:	(\$ 14,006)

The primary contributor to the budget underrun is Current Year Church Support (Pledges), which is \$12,799 below the budgeted amount. Plate Offerings are also below budgeted amount by \$2,205.

Total Expenses:

Budgeted Amount:	\$490,273
Actual Amount:	<u>\$473,704</u>
Amount Actual is Under Budget:	(\$ 16,569)

There is no primary contributor to this underrun. Many expense items are right at budget, or are unevenly "loaded" due to programmatic requirements or time when payments are due.

Net Ordinary Income:	\$365,556
Total Expenses:	<u>\$473,704</u>
Net Ordinary Income:	(\$108,148)
Endowment Income Applied:	<u>\$ 78,199</u>
Net Income:	(\$ 29,949)*

Summary

As of June 30, 2018, we are \$2,503 below where we expected to be, based on our 2018 budget. Since we originally forecasted a deficit budget, the fact that we are a reasonable amount under budget means we are watching our expenses carefully. So while the Vestry will continue to watch both income and expenses, we believe we should end the year in the positive.

* \$1 rounding error



All are encouraged to keep their pledges up to date.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS

PhilanthrOPERA: *Musical Celebration of Philanthropy*

The Madison Area YMCA will hold its second PhilanthrOPERA concert on Saturday, September 29, from 7:00-9:30pm here at Grace, with a reception following the program. This special benefit concert features the Y's own Controller and Metropolitan Opera performer Gary Pate, along with other professional musicians from the New York metropolitan area who will perform familiar opera and Broadway selections accompanied by the Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey. PhilanthrOPERA is a wonderful opportunity to hear world-class performers in a beautiful local venue and mingle with friends, members and supporters of the YMCA in our community. Proceeds from PhilanthrOPERA benefit the Y's Annual Fund, which supports families and individuals in our community, assuring that everyone has access to YMCA programs and services regardless of their ability to pay.



To purchase tickets for this unique event, please visit the Y's website:
www.madisonareaymca.org/philanthropera



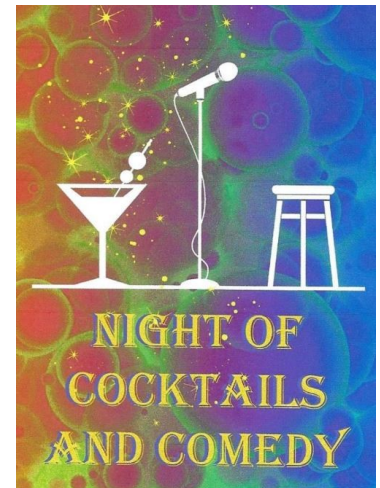
GRACE COUNSELING CENTER

Fun & Funny Fundraiser

Grace Counseling Center serves as a mental health resource for the Madison community. For over 30 years we have been here to help the community deal with the challenges of life. From providing therapy to those who face depression and anxiety; to helping someone cope with the death of a loved one; to providing counseling for couples; and assisting parents in improving their relationship with their children, we are there. We provide free workshops to the community on a variety of psychological topics, all with the purpose of helping the community.

Once a year we hold a benefit to raise money so we can continue this good work. This year we are hosting "Cocktails and Comedy", a night of laughter and fun. The Benefit is Friday, September 14, from 6:30 -9:30 pm. It will be held at the new Rose Hall Theatre here in beautiful downtown Madison.

Tickets are \$100 per person, with donations over \$25 tax deductible. In lieu of a silent auction, donations toward therapy sessions for families in need are also accepted. Tickets for the event will be on sale September 2 after the 10:00 am service and September the 9th, at the family picnic. Tickets are also available by sending a check to the Grace Counseling Center at 16 Madison Ave, Madison, NJ 07940. You can also contact the center at (973) 822-0707 or at email info@gracecounseling.org. Hope to see you there!



Grace Counseling Center
Comedy Night
Featuring The Stand-Up
Comedy Trio
**Joe DeVito,
Buddy Fitzpatrick
& Dan Wilson**

Friday, September 14,
6:30-9:30 pm
Rose Hall Theatre,
10 Kings Road, Madison

COMMUNITY OFFERINGS



Tai Chi Continues

Tai Chi starts up again — beginners welcome! Beginning September 10, instructor Brian Coffey offers Tai Chi and Qi Gong classes on Mondays in Grace Hall. Beginners session is from 9:30 am to 10:30am, participants will learn the easy & graceful Sun Style form (or choreography) of Tai Chi. There is also a Beyond Beginners class from 10:30 to 11:30 am. The benefits of Tai Chi include becoming more aware of your Body, Breath, & Mind, AND how you can use them as tools to become more relaxed and peaceful. Reduce stress, improve balance, and to have fun!



The classes are \$15 per class, or \$40 for the month.

Instructor Brian Coffey has been teaching Tai Chi in the Tri-County area since 1994. He is an authorized Instructor for Qi Gong Master Tzu-kuo Shih and Tai Chi Master Kuo-Piao (William) Ting, and a

Licensed Massage Therapist, Certified in Acupuncture, (Nanjing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine) and a Clinical Qi Gong Therapist.

Please call (908) 647-1563 for more information, or email maher.coffey@verizon.net to register.



SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

MADISON, NJ

We are a group of survivors who have all lost a loved one to suicide. Who is a "Survivor of Suicide"? To quote the AFSP, "We use this expression to refer to the family and friends left behind after someone dies by suicide. Survivors are the ones left to pick up the broken pieces and find a way to move forward through grief and emptiness. Survivors are some of the strongest people we know."

If you have survived a suicide loss, we are here to help." The meetings are open to all survivors to attend and there are no fees. The meetings are nonsectarian and the Grace Church graciously allows us to use their facilities. We gather together to share our thoughts and experiences in a safe, supportive environment with others who also have suffered a similar loss of a loved one.

The group is a peer-led meeting and there are no professional psychologists or psychiatrists in the group. The meeting is held in a small meeting room and typically 15-20 people attend each meeting. Participants must be at least 18 years of age to attend.

The meetings begin with a brief introduction followed by an open floor for people to discuss how they are coping with the loss of their loved one. You are free to sit quietly and listen, or feel free to share as much as you choose. You do not have to speak. You are not required to preregister, but we appreciate if you drop us an email before you plan to attend, just in case the meeting is canceled due to weather or other cause.

*Questions: contact Jack Klingert—
email: sosmadisonnj@gmail.com
phone: (908) 605-0325.*

Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction for Adults

will begin on Monday, September 10 (date change) at 7:00 pm in the Senior High Room (located on the second floor of the Old Rectory). Usually the group meets on the first Monday of the month.

Most of the group has taken a *Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction* (MBSR) course that I have taught, however, any one who is interested can attend. We always do different meditations. Because of life challenges, we often discuss how difficult it can be to practice daily. However, usually a member will share a time in the last month where meditation has really helped them. There is no charge. I am a licensed clinical psychologist with a great deal of training in MBSR.

*If you have questions, contact Evelyn Callahan at
evelyncallahan1@icloud.com.*

GRACE-AT-A-GLANCE

Mon., Sept. 3	Labor Day	Parish Office Closed
Fri., Sept. 7	6:15 pm	First Friday Potluck, <i>Grace Hall</i>
	7:00-8:00 pm	First Friday: Clothing Sale Preview , <i>no entry fee</i>
Sun., Sept. 9	11:00 am	Parish Picnic — invite some friends!
Mon., Sept. 10	7:30 pm	Mindfulness Meditation begins, <i>Sr. High Room</i>
Wed., Sept. 12	7:30 pm	LYRA Concert, <i>followed by reception in Grace Hall</i>
Fri., Sept. 14	6:30-9:30 pm	Comedy Night Fundraiser for Grace Counseling Center <i>Rose Hall Theatre, 10 Kings Road, Madison</i>
Sun., Sept. 16	11:00 am	Welcome Sunday & Newcomers Info Grace Ministries Fair, <i>Grace Hall</i>
Sun., Sept. 23	9:00 am	Sunday School Begins
	9:00 am	Adult Forum
	9:30 am	School Choir Call
	10:00 am	Commissioning: Sunday School Teachers & Acolytes
Fri., Sept. 28	5:30 pm	Evensong: <i>Eve of St. Michael & All Angels, Church</i>
	6:15 pm	Rite 13 Rehearsal, <i>Church</i>
	6:30 pm	Rite 13 Family Dinner, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
Sun., Sept. 30	10:00 am	Rite 13 Ceremony during service
Wed., Oct. 3	5:30 pm	Pizza Making with service project
	6:30 pm	Compline for Kids, <i>Church</i>
Fri., Oct. 5	6:15 pm	First Friday Potluck followed by presentation
Sat., Oct. 6	<i>All Day</i>	Madison's Bottle Hill Day— <i>visit our booth!</i>
Sun., Oct. 7		St. Francis Day (<i>observed</i>)
	10:00 am	Blessing of the Animals <i>No Sunday School or Adult Forum</i>

Weekly Groups

2nd Sunday	9:00 am	Buildings and Grounds Committee
Mondays	9:30 am	Tai Chi, <i>Grace Hall</i>
1 st Monday	7:00 pm	Pastoral Care, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
3 rd Monday	7:30 pm	Finance Committee, <i>Library</i>
3 rd Monday	7:00 pm	Women of Grace Book Group, <i>Nieman Annex</i>
4 th Monday	7:30 pm	Vestry Meeting
Tuesdays	7:30 pm	Craft Guild, <i>Library</i>
3 rd Tuesday	7:30 pm	Men's Book Group, <i>contact Bruce Rudin details</i>
3 rd Tuesday "even" months		Grace's Day at Community Soup Kitchen
Wednesdays	10:15 am	Women's Meditation & Centering, <i>Library</i>
	noon	AA (Men's Group), <i>Grace Hall</i>
2 nd and 4 th Wed.	7:30 pm	Survivors of Suicide, <i>Library</i>
Fridays	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Waverly Place Restaurant</i>

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4 MADISON AVE, MADISON NJ 07940

PHONE: (973) 377-0106

FAX: (973) 377-0828

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Tom Honohan, Warden

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