



the Grace **TEAM**

to each a ministry

JANUARY 2015

Parson to Person

Gary Coffey

Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
828-254-1086

Visit us online at
www.graceepiscopalchurch.us
and
www.facebook.com/graceasheville.

The Grace TEAM
is published monthly.

Sunday Worship

7:45AM - Rite I

9:00AM - Family Eucharist

11:15AM - Festival Eucharist

Healing Prayer

Every Sunday at

9:00AM and 11:15AM

there is a Prayer Station

available with

Lay Healing Prayer Ministers.

Healing Prayer Services

Tuesdays, 7:00PM - Healing

Prayer Service;

Eucharist with Generational

Healing Service

first Tuesday monthly.

Wednesdays at 12:15PM

Healing Prayer Service and
Eucharist - laying on of hands
by the priest for God's Healing.

Taizé

Third Sunday of each month at
8:00PM there is a Taizé service
attended by an ecumenical
congregation who enjoy the
reflective form of worship
using candles, incense, chants,
meditative readings, and
prayers. Healing Prayer is also
offered at the service.

Dear People of Grace,

Happy New Year! I have a project for us to participate in this year as we read the Gospels and particularly as we hear the words of our Lord Jesus in the Gospels. I got this idea from a friend who sent me a posting from the *Huffington Post* blog. I would encourage you to read the entire posting at <http://m.huffpost.com/us/entry/6343320?ncid=txtlnkusaolp00000592>.

The article was written by Brandon

Robertson and it really caught my interest. It is entitled "4 Teachings of Jesus that His Followers (Almost) Never Take Seriously". The premise of the article is that we, as followers of Jesus, choose to blatantly ignore some of the clearest instruction of Jesus and obscure it with vague theology so

that we can get off the hook. Other times, Robertson says, followers of Jesus are taught something explicitly contradictory to the plain words of Jesus and then spend their lives obeying the instruction they received instead of the commands of Jesus. Robertson discovered this when he took time to re-read the Gospels of the New Testament and get reacquainted with Jesus himself, in his own words. He writes, "As I studied the words of Jesus, I discovered that so much of what he asks of us as his disciples is incredibly clear and yet so much of it was new to me. I have never heard it in church or Sunday School or actually heard someone teach the exact opposite of the words of Christ. It was during that season of my life where I took inventory of how I lived and what I believed and aligned to the person and teachings of Christ that my faith was radically transformed for the better."

Let's look at one of Robertson's

examples of teachings that Jesus' followers almost never take seriously. Robertson maintains, "Jesus, not the Bible, is God's living and active Word that brings life." He cites the following quote in support of this idea. "You don't have His word living in you, because you don't believe the one He sent. You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life"

(John 5:39-40 NRSV).

The point that Roberts makes from this is that it is Jesus, alive and active in our lives on a day to day basis, that assists us in cultivating an intimate relationship with Him. Yet, we often try to root our faith in the Bible rather than in the person of Jesus, as

"Jesus, not the Bible, is the foundation or center of our faith."

did (according to Him) some of his first century followers. Robertson suggests that we pursue an active relationship directly with Christ and that the Spirit of God within us, informed by Scripture, will help us draw close to Jesus, which is the point of being his follower. Jesus, not the Bible, is the foundation or center of our faith. And if we truly believe that He is alive, we should also have faith that communing with Him will produce spiritual life within us.

That said, I would invite you to join me this year in listening directly to our Lord Jesus afresh. "May we be open to hear directly from you, Lord Christ, and may we obey you in all things."

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Gary Coffey

Events at a Glance

Weekly Gospel Bible Study

Mondays, 10:30 a.m., PH

Early Birds Men's Book Study

Tuesdays, 8:15 a.m., LI (resumes January 6)

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., OF

Generational Healing Eucharist

Tuesday, January 6, CH

Order of St. Luke

January 8, 6:30 p.m., PH

Steadfast House Meal

Friday, January 9, 6:00 p.m.

PubSing at French Broad Brewery

Sunday, January 11

Potluck, 5:00 p.m.; singing, 6:00 p.m.

Men of the Church

Tuesday, January 13, 6:00 p.m.

Healing Prayer Services

Tuesday, January 13, 20, & 27, 7:00 p.m., CH

TEAM Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 11:00 a.m., OF

Martin Luther King Holiday - office closed

Monday, January 19

Vestry Meeting

Monday, January 26, 5:30 p.m., LI

Taizé Worship Service

Sunday, January 18, 8:00 p.m., CH

Join the Sunday morning coffee crew! It's one of the most appreciated ministries at Grace and volunteers are needed for the 11:15 service. Once a month, you simply put coffee in the filter, brew and pour



into the urns in the foyer. Training is available, so please contact the church, 254-1086 or grace.parish@att.net to sign on. *Meanwhile, parishioners, as the crew reorganizes, feel free to brew a pot as needed if you know how to do it. Thanks!*

Parish News

Centering Prayer meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in Fr. Gary's office. All are welcome.

The Early Birds Men's Book Study will resume meeting Tuesday, January 6.

The Men of the Church will meet in the parish hall on Tuesday, January 13, at 6:00 p.m. Oscar Starnes and Bill Crownover will be our hosts and cooks. The cost is \$10.00. Please sign up on the blue sheet on the kiosk in the foyer.

Monday Morning Bible Study meets at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall. Please join us as Fr. Bob facilitates a study of the Gospel for the following Sunday. All are welcome.

The Order of St. Luke will meet on Thursday, January 8, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome. One does not have to be an OSL member to attend. We will not meet if the Asheville city schools are closed that day or will close early because of inclement weather. Our program will be the Gospel lessons about Jesus healing the demon-possessed man at Gadara and the woman bent double. We'll watch a video segment of a powerful encounter between the Holy Spirit and the demonic spirits operating in the life of a witch doctor in India.

Come join us for our monthly **PubSing**, an informal gathering on the second Sunday evening of each month to sing hymns, old-time Gospel and Americana inspirational music. We will meet on Sunday, January 11, at the French Broad Brewery located at 101 Fairview Avenue for a potluck supper at 5:00 p.m. followed by singing at 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Monty Wooten at info@forestguide.com or 828-254-1114. For directions go to <http://frenchbroadbrewery.com/directions/>.

You still have time to become a Grace **Wedding Coordinator**. Destination weddings at Grace put approximately \$10,000 into our Building Maintenance Fund each year, but their continuation is dependent upon the volunteer help of our coordinators. If you are interested or would just like more information, please contact Becky in the church office at 254-1086. Jean Haldane will then follow up with you regarding details and/or training. We would regret ending this ministry and source of needed funds due to a lack of volunteers. We hope to have training/information meetings later this month.



Our beautiful church at Christmas! Watch for a complete list of the donors who made this possible in the next TEAM. Our thanks to photographer Terry Barnes for these great shots.



Adult Sunday School for the New Year

Adult Sunday school classes meet Sunday mornings at 10:10 a.m.

Dr. Bill Dismukes will continue to lead a Bible Study in the library each Sunday morning.

Subject to the musicians' availability, God's Word may continue to be sung in the parish hall during Sunday School time. We thank Monty Wooten, John Woodson, Jenny Knapp, Fr. Bob Reese and others who are participating in this class.

During the Epiphany Season, we are going to continue with our study of Brian McLaren's book called *We Make the Road by Walking*. This class will be led by Fr. Coffey. He would like to emphasize that

80% of this class is Bible Study on various texts as we read them and mull them over each week. About 20% of the time is spent on McLaren's reflections. That being the case, exposure to God's Word and listening to our Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit for direction in our lives is why we are meeting. Anyone would benefit from spending that time together with others as we seek to grow in our relationship with God. Those who are in this class would love to have you join us! Please consider it for the New Year.

A Preview for Lent

We all are aware that we have a sense about who God the Father is and probably a better sense about who Jesus is in our lives. However, if the truth be told, many of us struggle to get a handle on the Third Person of the Trinity, the Blessed Holy Spirit. Therefore, beginning on the first Sunday of Lent, we are going to begin a comprehensive study of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Coffey will be our facilitator and our text for the course will be *I Believe in the Holy Spirit* by Michael Green. Michael Green is one of the most gifted and spiritual teachers in the Anglican Communion. If you are interested in the course, Fr. Coffey would ask that you procure a copy of the book and begin reading it.



Grace Outreach

Sue Thompkins

It is with huge gratitude that we would like to thank all the members of this parish for the support you have given to Grace outreach programs over the last couple of months.

- We collected many coats to donate to the homeless in time to help them deal with our cold winter weather.
- You generously provided gifts for foster children who were unlikely to receive any other Christmas presents.
- You brought in lots (and lots and lots!) of cans of tuna to be used for hungry children who are served by our Backpacker program.
- You donated bags of food to be taken to ABCCM for their food pantries that provide food for the hungry throughout Buncombe County.

THANK YOU so much for your generosity and caring as we strive together to serve “the least of these.”

Exciting news about Room in the Inn. If you haven't already heard the good news, we will be hosting Room in the Inn again. Our week to host is January 25-31, and we are hosting this week in partnership with another church, which wants to continue the ministry, but can no longer host in their facility.

Sharon Blythe will be coordinating the week and pulling in volunteers from all of the faith communities involved with RITI. That being said, it would be awesome if, in addition to providing the place, we could help out with people, too. All the usual opportunities for volunteering are the same: people are needed to stay overnight with the guests; to prepare evening meals; to provide supplies for breakfasts; to provide bag lunches; to drive the van, etc.

If you are interested in volunteering and have time to help, please contact Sharon Blythe at riti@homeward-boundwnc.org or 828-776-9741.

Here at Grace Church, opportunities come often for volunteering, helping, giving, and caring beyond the edges of our own lives. This month, as we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, his thoughts on serving come to mind:

“Everybody can be great.
Because anybody can serve.
You don't have to have a
college degree to serve. You
don't have to make your
subject and your verb agree
to serve...You don't have to
know the second theory of
thermodynamics in physics
to serve. You only need
a heart full of grace. A soul
generated by love.”



Healing Prayer Corner

Jeanne Robertson

Already it is time to change the date to 2015. Where did the year go?

January is the time of the year that I call “the quiet time.” For me, it is a time of reflection on the past year and a time to plan for the upcoming year. It is a time to enjoy the beauty of the winter landscape, stark and quiet.

Prayers of thankfulness come easier for me in this quiet time.

It is my prayer that each of you take time to reconnect with our Lord. Read a spiritual book, try meditating each morning, or if you are a writer, start a journal and write in it each morning. If you need someone to encourage you, ask a friend to be a prayer partner with you and share your daily prayer time with that person.

May this new year be a blessing to each of you and to your loved ones as well.

Blessings and God's peace in 2015.

January 2015 Ministry Schedule

Date	Service Time	Acolyte C	Acolyte G	Acolyte E	Lector, Intercessor & Presenters	Healing Team	Ushers	Chalicians	Coffee Hour	Scripture	Lesson
4-Jan											
	7:45						Jim Black	James Cannon			
Banner Stella Coffey	9:00	Andrew Best	Harrison Best	Zoe Davis	L I P - Vicki Vest, Bill Crownover, Vest Family	Louise Wernicke Patricia Hargrove	Tom and Liz Barr	1. John Woodson 2. Scott Best	Katherine Kaderabek	Jeremiah 31:7-14	1st Lesson
	11:15	Mark Silvers	Jonah Silvers	Grace Miller	L I P - Kristen Dusenbery, Sally Coburn & Alternate	Pat Davis Karen Compton	John Rigby Paul Stewart	1. Charles Carter 2. Kimberly Kneier	Volunteer	Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a	2nd Lesson & 9:00
11-Jan											
	7:45						Steve Jones	Jack Frue			
	9:00	Moira Stewart	Alternate	Cuyler Dupree	L I P - Beth and John Woodson	Sherry Coward Jeanne Robertson	Paul and Vicki Vest	1. Anne Simmons 2. Debbie Jones	Mici Newton	Genesis 1:1-5	1st Lesson
	11:15	Cheryl Aull	Sally Withers	Bob Grimes	L I P - Elaine Potter, Mary Cozine, Alternate	Mary Israel Corinne Spencer	Larry Harris Rusty Herman	1. Sally Coburn 2. Mark Silvers	Volunteer	Acts 19:1-7	2nd Lesson & 9:00
18-Jan											
	7:45						Andrew Dahm	Margaret Dahm			
Banner Stella Coffey	9:00	Gavin Knapp	Carsten Path	Zoe Davis	L - Debbie Jones I - Angie Cullen P - Jones Family	Pat Davis Jane Whitman	Kaderabek Family	1. Daphne Urquhart 2. Greg Townsend	Elaine Dephouse	I Samuel 3:1-20	1st Lesson
	11:15	Rusty McCredie	Jonah Silvers	Eric Howell	L I P - Sally Coburn and Nancy Clark	Sonny Rawls Karen Compton	Ed Woockener Ron Sims	1. Bill Spencer 2. Sally Withers	Volunteer	I Corinthians 6:12-20	2nd Lesson & 9:00
	Taizé 8:00 PM				I - James Cannon P - Henry Watts	Deb Gravatt					
25-Jan											
	7:45						Ed Duncan	James Cannon			
	9:00	Noah Clary	Laura Ellington	Alternate	L I P - Paul and Daphne Urquhart	Jeanne Roberson Shari Lane	Ray and Wendy Kuykendall	1. Ann Robinson 2. Jennifer Clary	Cuyler Dupree	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	1st Lesson & 9:00
	11:15	Cheryl Aull	Sally Withers	Mark Silvers	L I P - Charles Carter and Kimberly Kneier	Sonny Rawls Mary Israel	Henry Watts Elaine Potter	1. Kimberly Kneier 2. Nancy Remmers	Georgi Bruce	I Corinthians 7:29-31	2nd Lesson
Altar Guild											
Date	Counters	Date	Flower Arrangers	Altar Guild							
4-Jan	Steve Birkhofer	4-Jan	James Cannon	Group 1 - Jan 3 - Jan 9							
11-Jan	Martha Boyette	11-Jan	Judy Bohan	Group 2 - Jan 10 - Jan 16							
18-Jan	Sally Withers	18-Jan	Chal and Hugh Vaughn	Group 3 - Jan 17 - Jan 23							
25-Jan	Georgi Bruce	25-Jan	Anne Simmons	Group 4 - Jan 24 - Jan 30							

Our Prayer List

January

We publish the Parish Prayer List each month so you may include those listed in your daily prayers. We have included the last names of people with their permission, so you will have a better idea for whom you are praying and so you may contact that person if you desire.

For Parishioners: **Jo Brokenshire; Randy Carson; Sherry Coward; Mary Cozine; Ed Denison; Eunice & Rhea Ferguson; Catherine Godfrey; Buddy Greenwood; Jess Gregory; Olivia & the Haller family; Mary Hayes; Mary Israel; Wendy Kuykendall; Michelle Lee; Charlotte Melson; Deb Pegel; Nancy Porter; Ray Robertson; Tsz-yan Snyder & family; Corinne Spencer; Lucinda Watkins; Chuck Wilcox.**

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: **Henny Caldwell; Bob Hall; June Kelley; Neill Mason; Maryli Perkins; Martin Shaw; Laura Stephens; Pat Woodard.**

For Others (names to stay on the list for four weeks; call the church office to keep names on the list for a longer time): **Roberta Alexander; Jerry & Mary McAuliffe (friends of Barbara Wilcox); Nancy Bailey & daughters Allison & Kristen (friends of Barbara Wilcox); Carolyn & Winn Baker (friends of Bob & Jeannette Reese); Bethany (daughter of Joan); Deane Boggs (sister of Joyce Noble); Bobbie Bradshaw (grandmother of Geoff Bradshaw); Chris Carson (son of Martha & Randy); Bill & Steve Creasman, Carolyn Creasman (friends of Barbara & Chuck Wilcox); Jim Crownover (brother of Bill Crownover); Debbie D. (friend of Lynda McCredie); Kelli Davis (daughter of George & Pat Davis); Ann & Joe Derwart (sister & brother-in-law of Jeanne Sims); Kaci Epley (cousin of Vicki & Paul Vest); Emily Fisk (former parishioner); Margaret Frazier (friend of Jim & Karen Compton); Hammitt family (friends of Jeanne & Ray Robertson); Bill & Mary Hayes (parents of Rick Hayes); Donald Israel (brother-in-law of Mary Israel); Meg Karayiannis (niece of Nancy Ackermann Cole); Roger & Sherry Martin (parents of Wendy Kuykendall); Fr. Tim & Beverly McRee (friends of Grace Church); Forest Pivrotto (great-nephew of Nancy Clark); Ann Sparks (mother of Angela Taylor); Erik & Susan Stoops (brother-in-law & sister of Wendy Kuykendall); Jennifer Svenstrup (friend of Paul & Vicki Vest); Kathy Taylor (friend of Barbara Wilcox); Stephanie Tugurian (daughter of Jeanne & Ron Sims); Sandy White (sister-in-law of Sylvia Greenwood); Hershel Williams; Alan & Melissa Wood; Alicia; Ashley (daughter of Henry Watts); Dan; Don & Patricia; Elizabeth; Linda; Lou (mother of Kim Hayes); Mary Dee (cousin of Walt Noble); Judah & Rachel; Julie (daughter of Rita Spragg); Richard; Sue; Susan; Will; for all those affected by our struggling economy.**

For Those in the Episcopal Church: **Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Porter & Robert, our Bishops; the clergy; the vestry; the staff; the ministries of this Parish; Church of the Advocate; ABCCM; Consider Haiti; Episcopal Relief & Development; Food for the Poor; Manna Food Bank; Meals on Wheels.**

For Those in Service to Our Country: **Ryan, Tommy & Danny Brown (grandsons of Ed & Marla Woeckener); Matthew George (son of Zoe Davis); Steven Grenier (son-in-law of Jean & Doug Haldane); Austin Harrison (grandson of Joan Sanderson); Jon Holland (parishioner); Spencer & Erica High; Gregory Melson (grandson of Charlotte Melson); Jason Marino (son of Lynda McCredie); Daniel Schultz (son of Judy Rhodes); Karl Tenney (nephew of Chuck & Barbara Wilcox); Fr. Rick Tiff (friend of Ray & Jeanne Robertson); Caitlin Vest (niece of Vicki & Paul Vest).**

For our President Barack Obama, his Cabinet, Congress and our Country; for victims of violence across the world; for local agencies & those who work for relief of the poor; for better stewardship of water; for resolution of the political crises across the world.

January Birthdays

1 Mike Bohan	15 Jenny Thomas
1 Rick Hayes	17 Elly Withers
2 Lockie Hunter	20 Brady Blackburn
4 Sarah Wilkey	20 Alexander Sanderson
5 Annie Dephouse	22 Gavin Knapp
5 Wade Edwards	23 Judy Bohan
5 Lily Elder	23 Cade Wooten
5 David Perez	24 Tamara Calabria
8 Michael Potter	25 Cheryl Deyton
8 Sarah Vallely	25 June Kelley
9 Stella Coffey	25 Ray Kuykendall
10 Gordon Greenwood	27 Walter Adamson
10 Adam Southwell	27 Laura Frances Ellington
10 Moira Stewart	27 Emma Hall
11 Greg Plank	27 Kim Hayes
12 Deb Gravatt	27 Angela Taylor
13 Arlo Elder	29 Kathleen Griffin
14 Neill S. Mason	31 Billy Gray
14 Mike St.Clair	31 Jim Siemens
15 Peter Oesterling	31 Tsz-yan Snyder
15 Joan Sanderson	

January Anniversaries

Andrew and Margaret Dahm	5
Robert and Maggie Green	10
Walter and Mariza Adamson	12
Walt and Joyce Noble	14
Patricia and Keith Hargrove	20
Ron and Jeanne Sims	27
Ben and Margaret Grimes	31
Ed and Marla Woeckener	31

To the Glory of God

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Georgi Bruce and David and Sally Withers in memory of Mary and George Royer and Stella and William Bruce.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

- Doris Lederer in loving memory of her husband, Edwin Lederer;
- Randy and Martha Carson in honor of their parents;
- Ed Denison in loving memory of his wife, Pat;
- the Herman family in memory of Oz and Jo Herman.

Budget Update

Pledge receipts of \$32,014 in October brought year-to-date pledges to \$326,869 compared to budgeted pledges of \$329,086. Considering all other income sources, income for the first eleven months totaled \$410,534 resulting in a negative variance of (\$6,017).

The negative income variance for the first eleven months was offset by under-budget Program costs of \$339, under-budget Operations costs of \$7,102 and under-budget Personnel costs of \$13,247. These positive variances total \$20,688, but this number is reduced somewhat by over-budget expenses of \$564 in Outreach giving us total savings from budgeted expenses of \$20,124. When applied to the negative income variance of (\$6,017) and adjusted for suspended costs of \$480, year-to-date income less expenses at the end of November totaled \$13,627. We are prayerful that all needs will be met with continued offerings.

Your Vestry

Year to Date - November 2014

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income:			
Pledges	326,869	329,086	(2,217)
Prior Year Pledges	6,510	-	6,510
Non-pledged Offerings	42,455	56,360	(13,905)
Open Offering	9,486	9,167	319
Interest	39	138	(98)
Misc.	25,175	21,800	3,375
Total Income:	410,534	416,550	(6,017)
Expenses:			
Outreach/Mission	52,935	52,371	564
Parish Programs	11,578	11,917	(339)
Operations	59,494	66,596	(7,102)
Personnel	272,420	285,667	(13,247)
Suspense Acct-credit card charges to be coded	480	-	480
Total Expenses:	396,907	416,551	(19,643)
Income Less Expenses:	13,627	(0)	13,627

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church
871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28804

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- In this issue look for:*
- *January Events at a Glance*
 - *Some great Christmas photos*
 - *Grace to host Room in the Inn*
 - *Budget update*
 - *and of course, "Parson to Person"*

JANUARY 2015

to each a ministry

TEAM

the Grace

