



# *the* Grace TEAM to each a ministry

FEBRUARY 2017  
*Gary Coffey*

## *Grace Episcopal Church*

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

Visit us online at  
[www.graceepiscopalchurch.us](http://www.graceepiscopalchurch.us)  
and  
[www.facebook.com/graceasheville](http://www.facebook.com/graceasheville).

**The Grace TEAM**  
is published monthly. Deadline  
for articles is the 15th.

**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,

We have one month to think about it and plan it. I am talking about Lent this year. I don't know about you, but almost every year, Lent sneaks up on me. Christmas happens. Then, it's Epiphany. And all of sudden, it's Lent! Well, Beloved, this year Lent is not going to surprise us! No, we are going to be ready for it. Each of us is going to have a plan about how we are going to spend those forty days before Easter with Jesus, with our blessed Lord.

So, join me, beginning now, in making a personal plan for Lent. Of course, traditionally, we have thought about "giving something up" for Lent. The idea of giving something up for Lent is twofold, I suppose. One part has to do with making some kind of small personal sacrifice for Christ. Remembering that He sacrificed His life for us and for the sin of the world, we make some kind of token sacrifice for Him during those forty days. That token sacrifice might be something like giving up alcoholic beverages or sweets or coffee during the Lenten season.

In addition to being a sacrifice, whatever we give up is meant to be a prompt. For example, if it is sweets, then whenever we think of having something sweet, we let that be a prompt to give thanks to God or to pray for someone or to do something Christlike for someone. So, maybe you'd like to give up something for Lent this year.

More recently, I think, people have thought about "taking on something" for Lent, like reading a chapter from the Bible

each day and thinking about how it applies to your life. Or one might take on some kind of specific ministry during Lent like volunteering weekly for ABCCM or Manna Food Bank. One might take on some kind of course of study like holding a Lenten Bible Study in your home, or attending some sort of study course at church. Our Christian formation team, I'm sure, will

be offering some kind of study at Grace as a Lenten opportunity.

In recent years I have thought that whatever you do for Lent ought to bring you closer to Christ in some way. If giving up alcohol or chocolate or coffee is not going to bring you closer to Christ, then don't do it, because the object of being a Christian is following Jesus in our lives. Therefore, the object of any Lenten offering on our parts must be something that would help us follow Jesus more closely.

**"...the object of any Lenten offering on our parts must be something that would help us follow Jesus more closely!"**

I had another thought this year in addition to the one in the previous paragraph. This year, it occurred to me that whatever you and I do during the Lenten season should bring us joy. Jesus said that He came that His joy would be in us and that our joy would be full or complete. So, I invite you to join me this year in thinking of a Lenten offering to God (that sounds better than "discipline," doesn't it?), a Lenten offering to and for Jesus that will bring us joy. My hunch is that whatever we might choose to do during Lent that brings us joy will also draw us closer to Jesus because He is our joy, right?

With much love in Christ Jesus,  
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*

## Centering Prayer

*Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., CR*

## Bells and Choir Practice

*Wednesdays, Bells: 6:00 p.m.; Choir: 7:30 p.m.*

## Men of the Church

*Tuesday, February 7, 6:00 p.m., PH*

## Generational Healing Eucharist

*Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m., LI*

## TEAM Meeting

*Wednesday, February 8, 10:00 a.m., OF*

## Safe Church Training

*Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 p.m., PH*

## Order of St. Luke

*Thursday, February 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m., PH*

## Steadfast House Meal

*Friday, February 10, 6:00 p.m.*

## PubSing

*Sunday, February 12: snacks 5:30 p.m.; singing 6:00 p.m.*

## Lunch Bunch

*Tuesday, February 14, 11:30 a.m.*

## Healing Prayer Services

*Tuesdays, February 14, 21 & 28, 7:00 p.m., LI*

## Purls of Grace

*Thursday, February 16, 5:00 p.m., LI*

## Taizé Worship Service

*Sunday, February 19, 8:00 p.m., CH*

## Vestry Meeting

*Monday, February 20, 5:30 p.m., LI*

## Mardi Gras Talent Show & Artwork Silent Auction

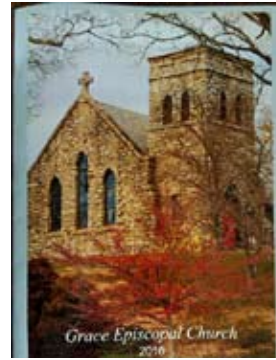
*Sunday, February 26, 5:30 p.m., PH*

## Ash Wednesday Services

*Wednesday, March 1, 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m., CH*

# Parish News

**Centering Prayer** meets Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the downstairs conference room. All are welcome.



Our new **church directory** is here! Be sure to pick your copy up in the church foyer.

The **Early Birds** meet in the library Tuesday mornings at 8:15 to learn more about the Word through book studies. All are welcome.

The February meeting of **Men of the Church** is February 7 at 6:00 p.m., instead of the usual second Tuesday, which is St. Valentine's day. Ron Sims and Jim Compton will co-host in the parish hall. The cost is \$15, and a sign-up sheet is posted on the kiosk in the foyer. All men of the church are welcome. *Note: Lent begins March 1. Following Easter on April 16, Men of the Church will meet again on Tuesday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m. David Frye will host in the parish hall.*

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

The Mountain Chapter of the **Order of St. Luke** will meet Thursday, February 9, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall. We will continue our series, *Deepening our Friendship with the Holy Spirit*, by learning more about the person and work of the Holy Spirit. We'll see a video presentation entitled *Agent in the Shadows*. The video combines Pastor Jim Cymbala's teaching about the Holy Spirit and a real-life vignette of a person whose life was transformed by the Holy Spirit's influence. All are welcome. One does not have to be an OSL member to attend. *Note: We will not meet if the Asheville City Schools are closed on February 9 or close early due to inclement weather.*

**PubSing** is an informal gathering on the second Sunday evening of each month to sing hymns, old-time Gospel, and Americana inspirational music. We will meet this month on Sunday, February 12, at the French Broad Brewery, 101 Fairview Road. You may bring a snack at 5:30 p.m.; singing begins at 6:00. For more information, contact Monty Wooten at montywooten@bellsouth.net or 828-254-1114. Get directions at frenchbroadbrewery.com/directions/.

*We offer our thoughts and prayers to the friends and loved ones of Bill Hayes (father of Rick Hayes) and Alice Racine (mother of Michael Racine). In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.*

## Safe Church Training, February 8

*Ray Kuykendall*

As Christians, we live in a covenant relationship with God and with each other. Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, we have entered a sacred covenant in which we have pledged to live lives that “seek and serve Christ in all persons” and to “respect the dignity of every human being.” As we look over the past couple of years and as Father Gary warns us each week, we are reminded that “it is a dangerous world out there.” We realize “that” world can intrude on “our” world at any given moment. The threat of violence and hatred are not the only emergencies that we can face as a congregation. Fire, a medical event, a missing person are a few others.

If you are like most worshippers, you might have little or no background in what to do when faced with an emergency. The first step in overcoming an emergency is to have some idea of what to do. While it is not our intent to turn the congregation of Grace into a bunch of Emergency Responders, Father Gary, Father Bob and I are working together to would like to raise a “Sense of Awareness.” We can no longer walk through the doors of Grace Church and think “it can’t happen here.” Father Gary, Father Bob and I have worked on a training program that addresses these types of situations that we may face at Grace. We have introduced this program to the Ushers, who are in a position to serve as our “first line.” We will be offering the same program again on February 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. You don’t need to have any kind of training to attend. This information is open for anybody. If you have medical training all the better. We would love to see you there. If you should have concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you.

## Annual Youth Ski Day, February 12

Snow...friends...community! Whether you want to spend a day shredding the fresh pow pow, throwing said pow in ball form at your friends, or just hanging out in the lodge drinking hot chocolate we’ve got you set. Join us for a day of fun and celebration at Cataloochee Mountain, NC, for an Episcopal Youth Mountain Takeover! Ski/Snowboard equipment and clothing available to rent.

This year we are heading to Cataloochee. The hope in doing a rotation between the eastern and western parts of our diocese is to accommodate travel for one area of our diocese per year. The costs between Beech and Cataloochee are pretty much the same now as well, which makes this choice a bit easier to make.

Debbie Cox is coordinating the details for this trip. So please email her ([debbie@trinityasheville.org](mailto:debbie@trinityasheville.org)) by February 6 with your details such as numbers of ski, snowboard, and other equipment rentals.

## Mardi Gras Talent Show Sunday, February 26!



It’s not too late to sign up for the Mardi Gras Talent Show! A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk in the foyer. Then, performing or not, plan to come on Sunday, February 26 at 5:30 p.m. for a night of fun, fellowship and Jambalaya! Bring a side dish to share. Emcee Monty Wooten and his house band will keep the action rolling, and a silent auction will be held to benefit Grace Outreach.

Wanted: Donations of art work for the silent auction. Art will be on display Sunday, February 26 between the services, as well as at the Mardi Gras Talent Show at 5:30 in the parish hall.

Contact Sally Withers (712-1955) for show details; Ellen Brown has silent auction details ([inglesferry@gmail.com](mailto:inglesferry@gmail.com) or 785-4225).

## Artüm Ensemble on Sunday, March 5

Please join the Artüm Ensemble on Sunday March 5, 3:00-4:00 p.m. for an afternoon of chamber music in the Grace Church. We will perform a free concert with string quartet works by Johannes Brahms (String Quartet No. 1, Op. 51) and Felix Mendelssohn (String Quartet No. 2, Op. 13). The Artüm Ensemble is formed by young musicians who are committed to encouraging the appreciation and values of music, and to promoting education, creative, and professional opportunities in the community. Read more about our ensemble and the Artüm Project at [www.artumproject.com](http://www.artumproject.com). We look forward to sharing music with you!



# Discovering Lent

*If you're like me, you learn new things about Lent every year. Here, from a previous TEAM issue, is a reprint of some Lenten trivia you may find interesting:*

## **Why do Episcopalians observe Lent?**

Lent is a solemn observance in the liturgical year of many Christian denominations, including the Episcopal Church. Probably originating in the fourth century of the Church, it is one of the oldest observances in the Christian calendar. Its traditional purpose was the preparation of catechumens through prayer, penance, repentance, almsgiving and self-denial for baptism and acceptance into the Church. Today, often through a variety of Lenten disciplines, Christians continue to use the period of time leading up to Easter for introspection, self-examination, repentance and good works.

## **What does the word “Lent” mean?**

The word “Lent” is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words “lencten” meaning “spring” and “lenctentid,” which means both “Springtide” and “March.”

## **Why do some traditions refer to Lent as the Bright Sadness?**

Because Lent is observed as a season of sorrowful reflection, it is called in Eastern Orthodox traditions the season of Bright Sadness.

## **When does Lent occur?**

In most western traditions, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes either on Maundy Thursday morning or on Easter Eve. At Grace, Lent is observed from Ash Wednesday (March 1) until sundown on Holy Saturday (April 15). Sundays are not counted in the forty days of Lent.

## **What is the significance of keeping the Lenten fast for forty days?**

The number forty is connected with many biblical events: forty days and forty nights of rain in the story of Noah and the ark; the forty days and forty nights Moses spent on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments; the forty years the Israelites spent in the desert. The number is particularly significant for Christians during Lent because it is a time of spiritual preparation mirroring the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry.

## **What is carnival?**

More than just a big indulgent party in places like New Orleans or Rio de Janeiro, carnival is the three-day period preceding the beginning of Lent — the Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday immediately before Ash Wednesday (some traditions consider carnival to be the entire period of time between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday). The word “carnival” is derived from the Latin phrase “carne vale” which means “farewell to meat.”

## **What is Clean Monday?**

Also known as Ash Monday, Clean Monday is the first day of Lent in the Eastern Orthodox Christian tradition. Clean Monday refers to the leaving behind of sinful attitudes and it is often commemorated by giving one’s house a thorough cleaning. Kite-flying is another widespread custom for Clean Monday.

## **What does “Mardi Gras” mean?**

“Mardi Gras” is French for “Fat Tuesday.” It was traditionally the day when people emptied their pantries of food items restricted during Lent. Today the phrase is often used to refer to the entire three-day period prior to the beginning of Lent. In some parts of the Christian world, the commonly-used term for the Tuesday before Lent is Shrove Tuesday. To “shrive” means to present oneself for confession, penance and absolution.

## **Why eat pancakes on Fat Tuesday?**

Pancakes are made using fat, milk and eggs, foods that were traditionally restricted during Lent. Thrifty homemakers would make pancakes on Fat Tuesday to empty their pantries of those items. The day is also called Pancake Tuesday.

## **Where do the ashes for Ash Wednesday come from?**

The ashes for Ash Wednesday are typically gathered from the burning of palm fronds from the previous year’s Palm Sunday.

## **Why make pretzels in Lent?**

Around the year 610 (supposedly in preparation for Lent) a monk was using unleavened bread to make a treat for children who had learned to recite their prayers. Christians in those days prayed by folding their hands across their chests with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. The clever monk twisted strips of dough to look like hands folded in prayer. He gave his creation the name “pretiola,” Latin for “little reward.”

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# The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

*A message from Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry on November 14, 2016.*

Last week I shared what I pray was a reconciling post-election message to our church, reminding us that ‘we will all live together as fellow Americans, as citizens.’ Today I want to remind us that during moments of transition, during moments of tension, it is important to affirm our core identity and values as followers of Jesus in the Episcopal Anglican way.

Jesus once declared, in the language of the Hebrew prophets, that God’s “house shall be a house of prayer for all nations” (Mk 11:17). He invited and welcomed all who would follow saying, “come to me all who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens” (Mt. 11:28).

We therefore assert and we believe that “the Episcopal Church welcomes you” – all of you, not as merely a church slogan, but as a reflection of what we believe Jesus teaches us and at the core of the movement he began in the first century. The Episcopal Church welcomes all. All of us!

As the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement today, we Episcopalians are committed, as our Prayer Book teaches to honor the covenant and promises we made in Holy Baptism: To proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ; To seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves; to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being.

As Christians, we believe that all humans are created in God’s image and equal before God – those who may be rejoicing as well as those who may be in sorrow.

As a Church, seeking to follow the way of Jesus, who taught us, “you shall love your neighbor as yourself,” (Mt. 22:39) and to “do to others as you would have them do to you” (Mt. 7:12), we maintain our longstanding commitment to support and welcome refugees and immigrants, and to stand with those who live in our midst without documentation. We reaffirm that like all people LGBT persons are entitled to full civil rights and protection under the law. We reaffirm and renew the principles of inclusion and the protection of the civil rights of all persons with disabilities. We commit to the honor and dignity of women and speak out against sexual or gender-based violence. We express solidarity with and honor the Indigenous Peoples of the world. We affirm the right to freedom of religious expression and vibrant presence of different religious communities, especially our Muslim sisters and brothers. We acknowledge our responsibility in stewardship of creation and all that God has given into our hands. We do so because God is the Creator. We are all God’s children, created equally in God’s image. And if we are God’s children we are all brothers and sisters.

“The Episcopal Church Welcomes You,” is not just a slogan, it’s who we seek to be and the witness we seek to make, following the way of Jesus.



## Becoming An American - Congrats, Valerie!



*Our own Valerie Heavens became a U.S. citizen on December 29, in Charlotte, NC. She shares below some thoughts about the process and her new country.*

You may wonder what brought me from Canada to the USA? I met my American husband at a two week spiritual retreat outside of Toronto in the summer of ’93, and six months later, after my fiancé visa was approved, we were married. We started our life together in a little log cabin near Tuxedo, just outside of Hendersonville, NC. It seemed I was always too busy to apply for citizenship, but in May, with my permanent residency card coming up for a third renewal, I decided to apply for citizenship. With all the things I learned during the process of studying for my exam, I wish I had done it much sooner.

I didn’t understand why there was so much gridlock in government. As I learned about the checks and balances that are written into the Constitution and its amendments, I began to feel increasingly at peace during this tumultuous election season, trusting that nothing too radical is likely to happen that changes the fabric of the freedoms that we enjoy. It takes a lot of agreement between members of the Senate, House of Representatives and President to get a bill passed. In other words, no matter how enthusiastic someone might be about change, they can’t turn this big ship on a dime.

At the same time, I do understand that the balance can shift in the Supreme Court, and that interventions in the international community can have grave consequences. We have a leader who is keeping everyone on their toes. We have to stay awake. We can’t be lulled into just thinking along party lines. We need to think for ourselves, and I see more and more senators, house members and pundits questioning things and being willing to speak out. My hope is that we will keep moving in the direction of an evolving consciousness, where it is recognized that individuals have free choice as long as they are not infringing upon the free choices of others. Overall, I must say, that it feels good to be using the term “we!”

# Grace Ministries in Action

*“Grace Ministries in Action” spotlights reports from our ministry leaders, keeping us informed about the ministries, their programs, and ways in which each of us can get involved. The ministry leaders listed here would love to hear from you.*

## MINISTRY LEADERS

**ADULT FORMATION:** Greg Townsend,

gwtownsend@outlook.com

**ALTAR GUILD:** Zoe Davis,

zoedavispastry@gmail.com

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:** Bill

Crownover, billcrownover@gmail.com

**CHILD FORMATION:** Mark Silvers,

mhswwjak@hotmail.com

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Eric Howell,

eric\_howell@att.net

**FELLOWSHIP:** Sally Withers,

sallybwithers@gmail.com

**FINANCE:** Oscar Starnes,

oscar.starnes@wellsfargoadvisors.com;

Joe Aull, jaull@charter.net

**FLOWER GUILD:** Mary Israel,

tobarranged@bellsouth.net

**HEALING MINISTRY:** Jeanne Robertson,

jerobertson38@me.com

**NEWCOMERS:** Ray Kuykendall,

brk1442@gmail.com

**OUTREACH:** Sue Thompkins,

susan.thompkins@gmail.com

**PASTORAL CARE:** Kathleen Griffin,

gkcgiffin7@att.net

**PUBSING:** Monty Wooten,

montywooten@bellsouth.net

**STEWARDSHIP:** Kimberly Kneier,

kkneier@yahoo.com

**TAIZÉ:** James Cannon,

imjcannon@frontier.com

**YOUTH FORMATION:** Elaine Potter,

elaine@graylineasheville.com

**WEDDING MINISTRY:** Jean Haldane,

halejd2071@yahoo.com

**WORSHIP:** Gary Coffey,

garycoffey77@gmail.com

**CHOIR:** Rusty McCredie,

rebscape@att.net

**ENDOWMENT:** Mike Nery,

mnery.nam@att.net



## Adult Formation

Now through March 19, join us during Sunday school hour in the parish hall for the *Genesis Seminar*. Our oldest stories, the Book of Genesis tells the beginning of our story as the People of God. The ten stories within it are not remote, dusty tales, but archetypal ones of human strife, family conflict, perseverance, and love, themes readily seen in our lives today. We'll consider each story separately, looking for human failings and human triumphs, and for the presence of God even in times of conflict and struggle.

## Altar Guild

New members needed! Read more on page 10 about a fulfilling ministry that impacts us all as we worship at Grace. Younger, older, female or male, the Altar Guild could be a perfect fit as you seek out your ministry.

## Outreach

We will be having our first food drive of 2017 for ABCCM on Sunday, March 5. We will provide you with lists of the needed food items on Sunday, February 26. For those of you who want to shop early, ABCCM has requested canned chicken, spaghetti sauce, and vegetable oil for this food drive.

*An open letter from Outreach Coordinator Sue Thompkins:*

Dear Grace Parish Family and Vestry Members,

I want to let you know that the Grace Outreach Committee is undergoing a transformation and would like your input, support, and prayers as outreach changes. My husband and I have made the decision to move to the Seattle area to be closer to our daughter and her family. This is not a move that we are undertaking lightly, but it is one that we anticipate with much joy. Those of you who have grandchildren can understand the pull that the idea of being a more frequent person in their lives and the lives of their parents allows. Being three thousand miles away is difficult.

As I leave and as I have talked with members of the outreach committee, it is apparent that Grace is a church that prides itself on being an “outreach church.” We have many active programs that are run by our outreach committee — Back Packer, Angel Tree, Back to School, food drives for ABCCM, building the Episcopal Habitat House, and coat drives for the homeless are a few that come to mind. In addition, our parish is pledged to give financial support on an annual basis to Room in the Inn, Consider Haiti, Habitat for Humanity, ABCCM, and ERD.

As I leave, Grace is faced with trying to decide how it wants to “do outreach” in the future. Here are some questions that I think both the parish members and the Vestry may want to consider as you move forward.

1. Do you want to try to continue all the programs we are doing now, but with some new volunteers? Are you willing to volunteer?
2. Do you want to focus on a smaller number of programs? If so, what are they and who will do them? What should we keep and what do we need to let go?
3. Is there someone who is willing to write the checks and cover letters to the charitable organizations we have been supporting? This is not a difficult job, but one that

*continued on the next page >>>*

needs oversight.

4. Are there new areas of outreach that you would like to start? If so, who will manage them?

5. Should outreach activities be very focused and short term like a coat drive, or should they be long-term and ask for a longer time commitment, like our Back Packer program?

6. How does Grace as a parish want to define outreach: as making a one time commitment to a program, as making a longer term time commitment to a program, as giving money but not time, or are there other ways?

7. Should you, as a parish, let the outreach committee as it exists now phase out? Or can we move forward in a new way?

8. Do you have other thoughts or suggestions?

These are not questions for me to ponder but for you, the parish and Vestry, to struggle with as you move forward. I am thankful and grateful for my experiences here at Grace and am asking for your prayers as I move forward in my search for a new parish home. You will all be missed and I am grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of the Grace parish family and to have had the pleasure of helping with Outreach while I have been here.

Peace,

Sue Thompkins

*Sue, thank you so much for your loving oversight of the Outreach Committe for all these years. Many lives have been made better because of your hard work. You will be greatly missed, but know that our prayers will be with you as you begin this exciting new adventure.*

## Pastoral Care

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**FRIENDS IN CHRIST:** “Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.” – St. Teresa of Avila

In every faith community, there are parishioners who, for various reasons, are no longer able to participate in the life of the church. Dr. Virginia T. Monroe, a priest, has developed a ministry to reach out to these folks, which she has called “Friends in Christ.” We have adopted that program here at Grace. The link to the parish with our homebound friends is accomplished through brief visits as well as an occasional handwritten note or a phone call. This is a ministry of presence whereby a lay person commits to make a brief thirty-minute, pre-arranged monthly visit for a year. This “Friend in Christ” comes in the name of Christ on behalf of our Parish, as a friend, not as one who will counsel, solve problems, and do tasks or errands for the parishioner. The role of a Friend is just that — to be a friend. We have been relatively successful at Grace because six of you have made the commitment to visit eight of our eleven homebound parishioners. If you have small children in your home, you are encouraged to consider this ministry. Our homebound friends do not get to visit with many children and the blessings you receive will far surpass the time you spend. We are hopeful that, if you have not yet found your ministry at Grace, you will consider making a commitment to becoming a Friend for a year. Training will be provided by Jarod Coffey, a social worker in our parish, later in the year. Please call Kathleen Griffin at 337-8241 if you have any questions.

**FEED MY SHEEP:** This ministry, under the coordination of Jennifer Clary and Cheryl Deyton, continues to flourish by providing soup to those who are ill or may appreciate an occasional meal. Call Jennifer or Cheryl if you have questions, would like soup or want to help.

**TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY:** This ministry is not often utilized but there is a real need on occasion for someone to provide medical transportation. It does not yet have a coordinator. Call Kathleen if you are interested.

**CARDS AND CALLS:** This ministry is coordinated by Pat Anderson and Chal Vaughn. A card from your friends at Grace means so much.



**PURLS OF GRACE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** Alive and well, this powerful ministry has started up again under the coordination of Beth Woodson. The next meeting will be in the Edwards Library at 5:00 p.m. on February 16. If you have questions, please call Beth at 645-4293 or email her at dryridge@aol.com. “We give shawls to those who are ill, homebound, grieving - to anyone who needs a hug,” says Beth. “We have a lot of yarn and some needles. Come to continue work on a shawl, to begin work on one, to look over our yarn, to get help with a project, or just join us to see others’ projects.” Instructions available for knitting and crocheting simple shawls. Even if you don’t come to the meeting, Beth would like to know if you’re making a shawl for the ministry.

## February 2016 Ministry Schedule

Date	Service Time	Acolyte C	Acolyte G	Acolyte E	Lector, Intercessor & Presenters	Healing Team	Ushers	Chalicians	Coffee Hour	Scripture	Lesson
<b>Feb 5</b>											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt		Ed Duncan	James Cannon			
	9:00	Cade Wooten	Cheryl Deyton	Maira Stewart	L, I, P - Ray Kuykendall, Jeanne Robertson, Kuykendall Family	Louise Wernicke Patricia Hargrove	Tricia & Mickey Trinite	1. John Woodson 2. Cuyler Dupree	Cuyler Dupree	Isaiah 58:1-9a	1st Lesson 9:00 Lesson
	11:15	Mark Silvers	Ellie Silvers	Jonah Silvers	L, I, P - Rusty McCredie Jenny Thomas	Pat Davis Karen Compton	Larry & LuAnn Harris	1. Bill Warren 2. Carol McMichael	Volunteer	I Corinthians 2:1-12	2nd Lesson
<b>Feb 12</b>											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt		Steve Jones	James Cannon			
	9:00	Daphne Urquhart	Zoe Davis	Cuyler Dupree	L, I, P - Bill Crowmover, Vicki Vest, Vest Family	Jeanne Robertson Kathy Oesterlin	Paul and Vicki Vest	1. Carol Booth 2. Greg Townsend	Paul Vest	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	1st Lesson 9:00 Lesson
	11:15	Bob Grimes	Olivia Nery	Elly Withers	L, I, P - Nancy Remmers	Marzy Israel Corinne Spencer	Ron Sims Elaine Potter	1. Elaine Potter 2. Bill Warren	Volunteer	I Corinthians 3:1-9	2nd Lesson
<b>Feb 19</b>											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt		Andrew Dahm	Margaret Dahm			
	9:00	Liesl Ellington	Maya Bell	Laura Ellington	L, I, P - Paul and Daphne Urquhart	Pat Davis Jane Whitman	Ray Kuykendall Bill Crowmover	1. Debbie Jones 2. Ann Robinson	Micki Newton	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18	1st Lesson 9:00 Lesson
	11:15	Rusty McCredie	Sally Withers	Eric Howell	L, I, P - Joel P. Rogers Kristen Dusenbery	Sonny Rawls Karen Compton	Ed Woeckener Paul Stewart	1. Charles Carter 2. Kimberly Kneier	Georgi Bruce	I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23	2nd Lesson
	Taizé 8:00 PM				L - Monty Wooten I - James Cannon	Deb Gravatt					
<b>Feb 26</b>											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt		Ed Duncan	Jack Frue			
	9:00	Daphne Urquhart	Aleena Bennett	Louise Wernicke	L, I, P - Louise Wernicke, Cuyler Dupree	Jeanne Robertson Shari Lane	Derek and Wade Edwards	1. Cuyler Dupree 2. Greg Townsend	Elaine Dephhouse	Exodus 24:12-18	1st Lesson
	11:15	Cheryl Aull	Elly Withers	Grace Miller	L, I, P - Nancy Clark Eric Howell	Marzy Israel Sonny Rawls	Bob Turner Ed Woeckener	1. Sally Coburn 2. Elaine Potter	Mary Ann Warren	II Peter 1:16-21	2nd Lesson 9:00 Lesson
<b>Feb 26</b>											
Date	Counters	Depositors	Date	Flower Arrangers	Altar Guild						
5-Feb	Steve Birkhofer	James Cannon	5-Feb	Jones	Group 1 - Feb 4 - 10						
12-Feb	Martha Boyette	Judy Bohan	12-Feb	Israel	Group 2 - Feb 11 - 17						
19-Feb	Sally Withers	Chat & Hugh Vaughn	19-Feb	Israel	Group 3 - Feb 18 - 24						
26-Feb	Georgi Bruce	Anne Simmons	26-Feb	Newton	Group 4 - Feb 25 - Mar 3						



# Our Prayer List

February

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; Betsy Buchanan; Chris Carson (son of Martha & Randy); **Arnold Clark; Barbara Crownover; Nathan Crownover (son of Bill & Barbara Crownover); **Carol; Ed Denison; Eunice Ferguson; Rebecca Harris; Mary Hayes; Rusty Herman; Mary Israel; Wendy Kuykendall; Straudia & Mel Luedtke; Joyce Noble; Nancy Porter; Elaine Potter; Sonny Rawls; Nancy Remmers; Doris Rigsby; Leeann Shearouse; Laura & Tsz-yan Snyder; Rita Spragg; Mike St. Clair; Harrison Taylor; Mickey, Tricia & Marcus Trinite; Barbara Wilcox; Don Wills.******

*For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities:* **Henny Caldwell; Dave Carey; Mary Hayes** (mother of Rick Hayes); **Lou** (mother of Kim Hayes); **Rusk Henry; Donald Israel** (brother-in-law of Mary Israel); **June Kelley; Neill Mason; Joan Sanderson; Mary Ida Sprague; 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):* **Anna** (niece of Jackie Ewendt); **Deane Boggs** (sister of Joyce Noble); **Jenn Chenowith** (friend of Joyce & Walt Noble); **Ryan Conrad** (friend of Julia Anne Dawson); **Logan Cooper** (great grandson of Ben and Peggy Grimes); **Lyman Coxe** (friend of Liz and Tom Barr); **Debbie D.** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Kelli Davis** (daughter of George & Pat Davis); **Kacie Epley** (cousin of Vicki & Paul Vest); **Al Fadel** (friend of Nancy & Arnold Clark); **Joanne Giezentanner Greene** (friend of Nancy & Arnold Clark); **Danny Hall** (brother-in-law of David Gentry); **Priscilla Hickey** (sister-in-law of Barbara Wilcox); **The Rev. Ed Hillman & family** (friends of Don Wills); **Kathleen Johnson** (friend of Barbara Wilcox); **Jeff Johnston** (cousin of Eva Dupree); **Phyl Mathias** (friend of Don Wills); **Meg; Missy** (friend of Jeannette and Bob Reese); **Jim Monroe** (friend of Jeannette & Bob Reese); **Dick Senneff** (friend of Don Wills); **Sladky family** (friends of Don Wills); **Jennifer Svenstrup** (friend of Paul & Vicki Vest); **Nancy Temple** (friend of Billy Gray); **Marcus Trinite** (son of Mickey Trinite); **Lara Weaver** (daughter of Jackie Schauer); **Kelly Wiggen** (granddaughter of Nancy Remmers); **Tim Yehl** (son-in-law of Jeanne & Ray Robertson); **Elizabeth; Pam** (friend of Cheryl Aull); **Sue; Susan.**

*For Those in the Episcopal Church:* **Michael, our presiding Bishop; José, Porter & Robert, our Bishops; the clergy; the vestry; the staff; the ministries and people of this parish; Church of the Advocate.**

*For Outreach Agencies through Which We Minister:* **ABCCM; Consider Haiti; Episcopal Relief and Development; Food for the Poor; Habitat for Humanity; Manna Food Bank; Meals on Wheels.**

*For Those Who Have Died and Their Families:* **Alice Racine** (mother of Michael Racine).

*For Those in Service to Our Country:* **Tommy & Danny Brown** (grandsons of Ed & Marla Woeckener); **Dave Ely** (son of David Ely); **Matthew George** (son of Zoe Davis); **Austin Harrison** (grandson of Joan Sanderson); **Spencer & Erica High; Jason Marino** (son of Lynda McCredie); **Daniel Schultz** (son of Judy Rhodes); **Caitlin Vest** (niece of Vicki & Paul Vest).

**For our President Donald Trump, 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 crises throughout our world.**

*The Bulletin and TEAM prayer list is one of many prayer lists at Grace. Please get permission from anyone you would like to add to the list and contact Kathleen Griffin at gkcggriffin7@gmail.com or the church office at grace.parish@att.net*

## February Anniversaries

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Clifford Albertson & Anne Jarema	7
Glenn and Brenda Haller	11
Greg and Emma Plank	12
Bob and Shirley Turner	15
Paul and Angela Taylor	25
Jim and Karen Compton	29

## February Birthdays

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1 Bob Grimes	13 Julian Nemethy
3 Dick Krueger	14 Al Dawson
4 Mike Nery	14 Gary Roper
4 Evie Perez	15 Vicki Sanderson
6 Andrew Best	16 Rusty McCredie
6 Joanna Best	17 Doug Mahin
6 Brenda Layden	18 Cooper Green
6 Charlie Perez	19 Bob Bell
10 Hannah Pennell	20 Larry Harris
10 Cheri Potter	23 Sam Snead
11 Margaret Crum	24 Pat Starnes
12 Mel Luedtke	24 Tricia Trinite
12 Bill Spencer	25 Bill Dismukes
12 James Wallace	25 Liesl Ellington
13 Molly Coffey	25 Marion Mayfield-Johnson

## Special Gifts

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The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God by Rita Lyda in thanksgiving for Grace Church and in loving memory of her parents, Disa and Jens Krestensen.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God:

by the Drake and Duncan families in memory of Marguerite Alexander;

by Katie and Mike Nery in thanksgiving for their family;

by the Flower Guild and the Altar Guild in thanksgiving for the clergy and staff of Grace Episcopal Church;

by Cheryl Aull in thanksgiving for Joe's birthday.

Special thanks also to these additional donors of Christmas greens and flowers:

the Townsends in memory of Brice and Zilla Kinyon and Ruth Ann Fair and in thanksgiving for Grace;

Bob Brown-Barrios in memory of his mother;

Kathleen Griffin in memory of Dr. Bob Griffin and in thanksgiving for their daughters;

the Eblens in memory of Joe and Margie;  
seven anonymous gifts.

## "Busting" Some Altar Guild Myths

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**Myth 1. The Altar Guild is an exclusive church club.** Busted. So not true. If you love Grace Church and want to be part of a fascinating behind-the-scenes ministry, you qualify.

**Myth 2. The Altar Guild at Grace is "women only."** That myth is busted, too, along with the gender gap. Women *and* men, young and old, have served on the Altar Guild at Grace.

**Myth 3. You have to be an Episcopal church "expert" to serve on the Altar Guild.** Yet again, that's a busted myth. You don't need to know anything to get started; however, in no time at all, with plenty of expert training and mentoring, you'll be amazed at how much "Episcopal wisdom" you'll gain.

**Myth 4. Serving on the Altar Guild takes too much time.** Total myth. All it takes is one hour on one Saturday and Sunday each month — a total of just two hours a month.

**Myth 5. Serving on the Altar Guild is exactly what I'd like to do.** Now *that's* a myth that just might be true. Why not contact a current volunteer and find out more?

By now, you've probably realized that a lot of your pre-conceived notions about the Altar Guild at Grace Church are, in fact, myths. Truth is, it's enjoyable. It's an opportunity to learn more about your church. It's a ministry that touches the lives and souls of everyone who comes to worship at Grace.

To learn more, call the church office for an altar guild contact who will be glad to bust the myths and give you the facts.



# A Healthy Surplus at Year-End

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## Statement of Activities - Grace Church Year to Date - December 2016

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Income:</b>			
Pledges	346,128	329,000	17,128
Prior Year Pledges	5,190	4,490	700
Non-pledged Offerings	50,342	41,195	9,147
Open Offering	15,944	10,443	5,501
Interest	66	70	(4)
Misc.	12,958	17,256	(4,298)
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>430,628</b>	<b>402,453</b>	<b>28,175</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Outreach/Mission	51,917	51,414	504
Parish Programs	11,144	12,061	(917)
Operations	68,270	69,463	(1,193)
Personnel	276,970	269,515	7,455
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>408,302</b>	<b>402,453</b>	<b>5,849</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses:</b>	<b>22,326</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,326</b>

Pledge receipts through the end of December totaled \$346,128 compared to projected pledges of \$329,000. Considering all income sources, income received for the year totaled \$430,628, while we projected income to be \$402,453. We ended the year with a positive income variance of \$28,175. Excluding a large donation received early in the year, we still experienced a positive trend in overall income.

The positive income variance thus far was reduced somewhat by expenses which were greater than budgeted amounts by \$5849. When subtracted from the positive income variance of \$28,175 our income less expenses resulted in a still healthy surplus of \$22,326 at year-end.

Once final adjustments are made to year end balances, the surplus will be transferred to our capital reserve account for future needs.

While we ended the year in a very positive position, we do need to be aware that a single donation has greatly influenced our financial position. We continue to encourage prayer and attention to our stewardship efforts.

Your Vestry

## ECW Year-End Report

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Our 2016 Rummage Sale total was \$2,773, and was allocated as follows:

### For Outreach:

Diocese of WNC: \$300  
Episcopal Relief and Development: \$200  
United Thank Offering: \$200  
Broughton Lunch: \$118  
Broughton Teens Christmas: \$100

### For Grace Special Projects:

Camp Henry Scholarships: \$200  
Grace Women in Hospital Bud Vases: \$40  
Grace Angel Tree/Outreach: \$300  
Grace Easter Baskets: \$14  
Parish Hall Tablecloths: \$95  
Acolyte Robe Replacement: \$145  
Celtic Fence Art: \$1000

