



the Grace TEAM

to each a ministry

DECEMBER 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. Articles and info are due on 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,

Happy New Year! As many of you are aware, the Church Year begins with The First Sunday in Advent which is Sunday, November 29, and the word "Advent" means coming and refers to the coming of Christ.

On the First Sunday of Advent, the Gospel reading is always about a future event called the Second Coming of Christ when He will come to gather

His followers to be with Him forever. We also call that event the consummation of history, as Christ will establish a new heaven and a new earth for humanity to enjoy. The Revelation of St. John the Divine describes it as a day when "God himself will be with us and

will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying will be no more, for the first things have passed away." (Rev. 21:3-4) So we begin Advent, thinking of Christ's Second Coming realizing that, even now, we are watching and waiting for that great day. Come, Lord Jesus!

Then, on the Second Sunday of Advent, our attention shifts to preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's first coming as a babe in a manger on December 25. Both the Second and Third Sundays of Advent will have Gospel readings about John the Baptist and how he was sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus' coming as the Messiah or Christ (God's Anointed One). Then, on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our attention always shifts to the Virgin Mary and her part in being chosen to be the Theotokos or God-bearer as she consents to giving birth to the Savior of the World.

It is very difficult for us in this day and time to have or to keep a Holy Advent Season of watching and holy waiting. Advent is a very busy time as we make and buy gifts for those

whom we love. We may be the midst of doing more at our jobs in order to take a little time off at Christmas. On top of that, often Christmas involves travel plans and packing and time on the road or in the air. Add to all this elaborate holiday food preparation and it's easy for the celebration of our Lord's birth to be crowded out by all the other activities of the season.

"...it's easy for the celebration of our Lord's birth to be crowded out..."

This year, I ordered one hundred Advent devotional books to be given out, one per household, prior to Advent. Our bishop, Porter Taylor, is one of the contributing writers in this booklet called *Living Well Through Advent 2015, Practicing Patience With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind*, edited by Scott Stoner. This book is also

downloadable for \$.99 at amazon.com and can be read on any device with the free Kindle app. I am hoping and praying that reading this little book each day during Advent and lighting the candles of our family Advent wreaths will help us slow down and prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Incarnation of God at Christmas.

There is also a worldwide email reflection that you can sign up for to be sent to you daily from anglicancommunion.org/adventword that is written by monks from The Society of St. John the Evangelist in Cambridge, MA, and distributed throughout the world. It is interactive so that anyone in the world can submit pictures to share in response to the daily reflections. It should be very interesting and a lot of fun. Check out the web site and see pictures submitted last year from the world over.

Wishing You a Holy Advent and All the Joy of Christmas,

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., OF

Bells and Choir Practice

Wednesdays: Bells, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Choir, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Generational Healing Eucharist

Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 p.m., CH

Cookie Bash for our Homebound

Tuesday, December 8, 10:00 a.m. with lunch

Men of the Church

Tuesday, December 8, 6:00 p.m.

Healing Prayer Services

Tuesday, December 8 & 15, 7:00 p.m., CH

(no meeting December 22 or 29)

TEAM Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 11:00 a.m., OF

Order of St. Luke Program Meeting

No meeting in December

Steadfast House Meal

Friday, December 11, 6:00 p.m.

PubSing

Sunday, December 13

Snacks-5:30 p.m.; Singing-6:00 p.m.

Taizé Worship Service

Sunday, December 20, 8:00 p.m., CH

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with Choirs and Guest Musicians

Sunday, December 20, 9:00 & 11:15 Services

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 20, 1:30 p.m.

Vestry Meeting

Monday, December 21, 5:30 p.m., LI

Christmas Holidays (Church Office Closed)

Wednesday-Friday, December 23-25

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, December 24:

Holy Eucharist, Paper Bag Pageant, 4:00 p.m.

Choral Prelude, 9:30 p.m.

Festal Holy Eucharist, 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Eucharist

Friday, December 25

New Years Day (Church Office Closed)

Friday, January 1

Parish News

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

Christmas greens and flower donations for memorials and thanksgivings are being accepted now by the Flower/Altar Guild. Watch your pews for envelopes. Memorials and thanksgivings will appear in the *TEAM* after Christmas. Your generous contributions pay for the Hanging of the Greens and all the beautiful décor our Guilds and parish volunteers use to make our sanctuary even more beautiful.

The Tuesday morning **Early Birds** meet at 8:15 on Tuesday mornings in the library and study the Word through book studies. All are welcome.

Men of the Church will meet Tuesday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m. The host and cook is Larry Harris. Larry's address is 330 Stratford Road, Asheville. Everyone is welcome. The cost is \$10.00. Please sign up on the blue sheet on the kiosk in the foyer.

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

The Order of St. Luke will not meet in December. We resume on Thursday, January 14. As always, we will not meet if Asheville city schools are closed that day or will close early because of inclement weather.

Our Monthly **PubSing** is Sunday, December 13. At this informal gathering on the second Sunday evening of each month, we sing hymns, old-time Gospel, Americana inspirational music, and this month, Christmas carols! We meet at the French Broad Brewery, 101 Fairview Road. Please bring a snack at 5:30 p.m.; singing begins at six. For more information, contact Monty Wooten at info@forestguide.com or 828-254-1114. For directions go to <http://frenchbroadbrewery.com/directions/>.

The Pumpkin Patch netted a total of \$6,852 for children in Haiti through Consider Haiti. The Board of Consider Haiti would like to thank Grace Episcopal Church for your hard work and continued support of the Pumpkin Patch, our single biggest fund-raising effort to help meet medical and nutritional needs of children in Haiti.

Stewardship Report. Our Pledge Ingathering was held on November 22, Thanksgiving Sunday at Grace. We gave thanks for all the pledges we have received to date and those yet to come. We will report the results of the pledge campaign in the January *TEAM*. Thank you so much for making a pledge to the ministry of Grace Church for 2016.

Thanksgiving to God for Our Endowment Fund

Our Endowment Fund has reached the point where, according to the bylaws, it is appropriate to use some of it for parish projects. Our advisor from Parsec suggested that \$15,000 would be a reasonable amount to use from the Endowment Fund during 2015.

The Vestry identified three projects to fund through the Endowment:

1. New playground equipment outside the Nursery(already accomplished);
2. Removal of overgrown vegetation over the wall above the sidewalk parallel to Merrimon Avenue (across from Edna's) and replanting with low growing blue juniper (project to begin around November 24);
3. Replacement of the two iconic red doors going into the church (carpenter to begin fabrication of these doors in the near future).



Thanks be to God and to all of you who have contributed to our Endowment Fund. Much of the Endowment Fund has come from members of Grace who have remembered Grace in their wills. Please consider a generous contribution to the Grace Endowment Fund as you plan your charitable giving and as you make gifts through your will. We would like to thank the chairman, Mike Nery, and the members of The Endowment Committee for their faithful oversight of our Endowment Fund.

Fund-a-Need for Lake Logan

The Lake Logan Camp and Conference Center is our beautiful diocesan place to hold meetings and to host Camp Henry for children in the summer. The Fund-a-Need information board in our foyer was decorated by Camp Henry campers and displayed at the Retreats for a Retreat events. The tags on it include donation amounts for such things as volunteering at Lake Logan, \$35 for towel sets, \$50 for twin sheet sets, and a \$1000-\$3000 tag for a new or used golf cart. There is also information about the Lake Logan Trailblazers monthly giving program.

If you can assist with this wonderful ministry, please write your name on a tag and enclose it and your gift in one of the envelopes addressed to the Diocesan office, provide your credit card information on the envelope or donate online at www.lakelogan.org/give/.

Cookie Bash for the Homebound



Please save an important date!

WHEN?
Tuesday, December 8

WHAT TIME?
10:00 a.m.

WHERE?
The parish hall

WHAT TO BRING?
Enough cookies to give to our homebound friends
and to exchange with each other

Please plan to stay for a cup of hearty soup and cookies for dessert! This annual gathering is a great opportunity for fellowship and community-building. If you have questions, please call Kathleen Griffin at 258-2105 or Georgi Bruce at 669-0993.

Convention Report

Walt and Joyce Noble

We would like to thank you for choosing us as your delegates to the 94th Convention for our Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina.

We were very fortunate in having Fr. Gary with us during various sessions. There were no controversial issues to deal with which made the various hearings and elections flow more smoothly. The details can be seen on the Diocesan web site.



Some of the most interesting events we experienced included:

- (a) A workshop on Embracing Newcomers to Your Parish Community.
- (b) Outreach For Stop Hunger Now where we assembled over 10,000 meal packets for distribution around the world.
- (c) Youth participation. We were very impressed with our young people who shared their most personal experiences including their hopes and dreams for the future. They expressed how much the church had made an impact on their lives. These young people are indeed the hope for the future of our church.
- (d) The Holy Eucharist Service in the Chapel Sunday morning. This was an awesome experience with Bishop Taylor and an inspired congregation with beautiful music.

The group of candidates for the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina will be narrowed down by the search committee to only two or three finalists. After meeting with and reviewing each candidate's qualifications, we will make our selection in conjunction with the wishes of our parish. The voting will take place in June of 2016.

Thank you again for a wonderful experience.

And we thank you, Joyce and Walt, for your willingness to represent Grace Church in this way.

Confirmation/Inquirers Classes in Preparation for Bishop Taylor's Visit

Our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. G. Porter Taylor, will be joining us for his visitation and Confirmation on Sunday, April 10, 2016. In preparation for what will probably his final visit with us prior to his retirement, Confirmation/Inquirers Classes for both young people and adults will be offered.

We call these classes Confirmation/Inquirers Classes because they are for anyone who wants to know more about the history, worship, sacraments, traditions, practices and polity of The Episcopal Church as well as what it means to follow our Lord Jesus in the Episcopal or Anglican tradition. It is an excellent opportunity for people new to The Episcopal Church to receive an orientation to our practice of the Christian faith. These classes also assist our young people to prepare to affirm the faith at confirmation for themselves that was affirmed for them at their baptisms. It is also open to long-time members who would like to come for a refresher and/or to meet and assist newcomers to The Episcopal Church and to Grace Church in their faith journeys. It is only after being informed through the classes that one makes the decision to be confirmed, which is the formal way of joining The Episcopal Church through the laying on of hands by our bishop.

Confirmation/Inquirers Classes for Young People ages 12-18 will most likely be held on Sunday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning Sunday, February 21, and continuing through Sunday, April 3 (with the exception of March 27, which is Easter Sunday). We will also meet on Saturday morning, April 9, at 10:00 a.m., the day before Confirmation, for Confirmation rehearsal.

Confirmation/Inquirers Classes for Adults (and any make-up classes for our young people) will be held on six consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning Wednesday, February 24, through Wednesday, April 6, (with the exception of Wednesday, March 30, during Easter week). Confirmation rehearsal for adults will also be held on Saturday, April 9, at 10:00 a.m., the day before Confirmation.

Fr. Coffey will be leading these classes with help from lay people as needed. Please contact him at garycoffey77@gmail.com with questions and with the names of students for the class.

During this season, your generosity is especially appreciated. Please consider the following:

Food Drive. We will be doing our final ABCCM food drive of 2015 Sunday, December 13. A “grocery list” insert will be in the Sunday bulletin, December 6, for your use as you shop for the three food items most needed by ABCCM at their shelters and for their food pantries: tuna, jelly, and cornmeal. We will not be distributing bags for your use this time, so please return the food in the bags you receive when you shop. Thank you for your support of hungry residents of Buncombe County.

Angel Tree. Our Angel Tree is up in the foyer, decorated with the names of children in Buncombe County who could use your help for Christmas. These children’s names have been given to us by the Foster Parent’s Association and Caring for Children. Many of these children are in the custody of the Department of Social Services and have limited or no contact with their families. Whatever you give them will be what they receive for Christmas. Each angel on the tree has the name and age of a child and the child’s wishes for Christmas. And please note — these are wishes, and not all wishes need to be granted.

If you would like to wrap the presents you buy, please put a Post-It or other label on it, enabling the adult caregiver to know what is in the package. Do your shopping and return the angel and presents to the church no later than Sunday, December 13, for a timely delivery to the children.

Please call Sue Thompkins, 828-230-9328, if:

- you are unable to take an angel but would like to donate money (you may also make out a check to Grace Church and write Angel Tree on the memo line; then notify Sue of the amount);
- you take an angel and need some help with shopping;
- you take an angel and have no idea what the requested toys are (sometimes, it’s a mystery).

We encourage several of you to shop together to buy presents — it’s fun to work as a team and it will help defray the cost. By truly becoming a village, we will be able to provide presents and clothing for many of the children who are in need in Buncombe County. Thank you for your support of the Angel Tree project.

Jones School Art Classes Need Supplies

The art classes at Jones Elementary need old CDs or DVDs for an art project. If you can helpout, please drop off your donation in the box in the foyer.

Canned Veggie Shortage

You have been so good about donating canned tuna for the Grace Backpackers project. It has made an enormous difference. And so we come to you again, this time asking for canned vegetables and fruits. Fresh produce is extra scarce during the winter months, so we try to supplement with canned substitutes whenever possible. Please consider picking up regular size canned vegetables (green beans, corn, peas, etc.) or canned fruit (peaches, fruit cocktail, applesauce) whenever you shop and placing it in the basket in the foyer where we have been collecting tuna. Your help means so much!



Healing Prayer Corner

Jeanne Robertson

Here it is December already, a nip is in the air and we are awaiting the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is an exciting time for anyone who is interested in healing prayer also. I should take a moment to define healing prayer to you. We tend to think of healing prayer as the time after communion on Sunday when people come up to the healing prayer station and receive prayers of healing. But it is much more than that. Prayer is an integral part of church life, a connection with our Lord, so to speak. There are many ways that we at Grace can participate in the healing prayer ministry. Of course, there is the ministry of praying with people on Sunday, but here are some others you might consider: becoming part of the intercessory prayer team which prays daily for those on our prayer list; visiting the homebound or those in the hospital and praying with them; attending healing prayer services; or joining the Order of St Luke and praying at our Tuesday night healing prayer services as a soaking prayer minister. Have I tweaked your interest? If you want more information, ask any of our healing prayer ministers or call Jeanne Robertson 828-683-7701, and we will be glad to give you more information.



Hanging of the Greens

Calling all "Hanging of the Greens" helpers and decorators! We need you Sunday, December 20, at 1:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars now and plan to come help

with this tradition of Grace Church. We also need assistance decorating the trees and preparing the Creche. If you can join us for this special event at Grace, please call Nora Jones at 277-5507.



*Photos by
Terry Barnes
2014*

Festival of Lessons & Carols *Joel Rogers, Dir. of Music*

Join us on December 20, at the 9:00 and 11:15 services for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This service will be followed by Holy Eucharist as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas services later that week. The service will include the Adult Choir, the Handbell Choir, and guest musicians.

This traditional Advent service was seemingly started when the *Royal Cornwall Gazette*, in 1878, reported that the choir of Truro Cathedral would sing a service of carols at 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. According to the *Gazette*, "the Choir of the Cathedral will sing a number of carols in the Cathedral on Christmas Eve. We understand that this is at the wish of many of the leading parishioners and others. A like service has been instituted in other cathedrals and large towns and has been much appreciated. It is the intention of the choir to no longer continue the custom of singing carols at the residences of members of the congregation."

Two years later, Edward Benson, Bishop of Truro, in Cornwall, and later to become Archbishop of Canterbury, formalized the service with Nine Lessons for use on Christmas Eve, 1880. The first service took place at 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve in the temporary wooden structure serving as his cathedral whilst the new cathedral was being built. Over 400 people attended this first service. There is an oft-repeated myth that the purpose of the service was to keep men out of the pubs!

Please come and lift your voices and prepare your hearts for the arrival of the Christ child.

Christmas Eve Paper Bag Pageant

Stars, shepherds, animals and angels! Come participate in the traditional Grace Christmas Pageant on December 24 at 4:00 p.m. If you are new to Grace, come join a long tradition. Bring your little ones to the parish hall at 3:15, and they can participate in our special pageant. Simple costumes are in paper bags, and volunteers help the children with selections and getting dressed. Children sit with family during the service and go to the back of the church when instructed. At the end of the service, the costumes are returned to the paper bags in the parish hall. No rehearsals are necessary. Bring your children and grandchildren to create lasting memories of Christmas at Grace.

Anyone interested in helping with the Christmas Eve Pageant, please call or email Joanna Best, 712-1337, jboyd-best@gmail.com. Jobs include: narrators, costume organizers, reception helpers, cleanup.



Christmas Eve Prelude

This year's Christmas Eve Prelude is a special gift from the Choirs of Grace. The Adult Choir, the Handbell Choir and our organist Cathy Adkins will present a special service beginning at 9:30 p.m. Please join us to spend some quiet time listening to beautiful music in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity that begins at 10:00 p.m.

Meet Our New Vestry Members

Betsy Buchanan. Betsy's commitment to the Episcopal church was gradual. She started attending Trinity in Asheville with a neighbor after they had attended a Jungian workshop. It seemed a natural progression. A few years later, her mother moved to Asheville for what would be the last year and a half of her life. She had been an Episcopalian for a while and Betsy just knew she would like the formality of Trinity. But — she didn't. So, Betsy said okay, there are other places we can explore. She had met a really nice man at Kanuga at a Madeleine L'Engle week-long workshop. He told her she really should try his church because it was special. (His name was Rusk Henry and he was right, says Betsy.)

Betsy had always loved the little stone church that looked like it had been picked up in an English village and dropped on the only beautiful spot on Merrimon. It was the first place she went. Jane Smith was interim rector. Betsy's mother was so vulnerable after losing her husband and both sons, and there was Jane with outstretched arms and a welcoming smile. They were hooked the first time. Betsy became a member and joined Altar Guild in 1999. Father Gary had not been here long when he came at 5:00 in the morning to say last rites for her mother. Four months later, Betsy and her husband separated, and she was cut off from all she had known. But, she says, Grace cradled her and gave her solace and refuge. About six years ago, Betsy joined the Flower Guild. It was such a positive affirmation for her to be around all the blooming beauty, proclamations of life and symbols of things to come (sort of life after death), she says, adding that she loves being on Altar Guild and Flower Guild. She loves the people and their commitment to Grace, to making this a better church and by extension, a better world. Betsy knows that she will find more of that on the Vestry and looks forward to exploring yet another dimension of Grace.

At present, Betsy and her husband, Corey Anderson, live in a cottage in West Asheville. They love all that Asheville and the surrounding area have to offer whether hiking, biking, walking or dining. They love cooking together and gardening, and Betsy also loves to read and paint.

Bill Crowover. Bill is a local Asheville native and has thoroughly enjoyed most of his life in this wonderful city. Bill was a member of Grace from birth in 1948 through his college years at UNC Chapel Hill in 1970. Then he became a Lutheran for about forty years with a wife and three children. He and his wife, Barbara, transferred their membership to Grace in 2011. Bill says he is honored and happy to be at Grace now, cherishing the love and service exhibited by the Grace parishioners.

Bill has a nice large family with two sons in Asheville, a daughter's family of four in Fayetteville, NC, a daughter's family of four in Fuquay-Varina, NC, and a daughter's family of six in Washington, DC. They enjoy many events and visits with the Crowover family.

Personally, Bill is involved with volunteer work at Brother Wolf Animal Rescue, at Habitat for Humanity, and he enjoys cycling when possible. Also, at Grace, Bill enjoys helping with outreach efforts, Men of the Church and lay reading. He tells us his faith journey has definitely been enhanced in the last four years at Grace. He looks forward to more growth here at Grace Parish, both spiritually and personally.

Eric Howell. Although Eric was born at the Charleston Naval Base, he is a native of Mobile, Alabama. He is the oldest of four children and was raised in the Episcopal Church. Eric attended, as his parents before him, Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, where he received his Bachelor of Architecture in 2002.

Upon receiving his diploma, Eric moved to Asheville in the fall and began working at the local firm of Padgett & Freeman Architects. He joined Grace that same year. Like many architects his age, he experienced the affects of the Great Recession in 2009 and was subsequently laid off from his job. Trusting that God would lead the way, Eric started a successful web design business. Grace's website is one of those included in a long list of clients. In 2010, Eric was married on the grounds of the Sourwood Inn by the Rev. Austin Rios and lives with his wife in West Asheville and their three dogs. Currently, Eric is employed by Alberice Architecture + Design in downtown Asheville, where he works on all types of architecture. He also continues to work on web projects. He likes to ride his road and mountain bikes whenever possible and has, as his wife puts it, an "obsession" for home brewing.

Eric is deeply honored to have been selected to Grace's Vestry. He looks forward to using his experiences, with God's help, to assist the Vestry and the Grace parish in any way possible.

Elaine Potter. Elaine was born in Asheville and had the great fortune of growing up in Grace church where she was baptized, confirmed and married (1st time). She graduated from Asheville High (class of '82) and then attended UNC Greensboro (class of '86). After college, she lived and worked in Greensboro and then Monroe, NC. In 2007, she moved back to Asheville to be closer to her parents. Elaine presently works part time at Gray Line Trolley Tours. She is married to Annika and has two wild boys, William and Nate (who love to entertain at the 11:15 service). Grace church is a major part of where/who Elaine is spiritually today, she says, and she is honored to be able to serve and give back to the church that has given her so much.

December 2015 Ministry Schedule

Date	Service Time	Acolyte C	Acolyte G	Acolyte E	Lector, Intercessor & Presenters	Healing Team	Ushers	Chalicians	Coffee Hour	Scripture	Lesson
December 6											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt	Steve Jones	James Cannon				
	9:00	Zoe Davis	Maya Bell	Cuyler Dupree	L - Cuyler Dupree I - Greg Townsend P - Townsend Family	Louise Wernicke Patricia Hargrove	Paul & Vicki Vest	1. John Woodson 2. Greg Townsend	Paul Vest	Baruch 5:1-9	1st Lesson
	11:15	Mark Silvers	Jonah Silvers	Eric Howell	L, I, P - Jenny Thomas, Rusty McCredie, Alternate	Pat Davis Karen Compton	Larry and LuAnn Harris	1. Eric Howell 2. Nancy Clark	Sallie Hunter	Philippians 1:3-11	2nd Lesson & 9:00 Lesson
December 13											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt	Ed Duncan	James Cannon				
	9:00	Faith Valley	Helena Cullen	Louise Wernicke	L - Robert Green I - Robert Green P - Green Family	Alternate Jeanne Robertson	Ray and Wendy Kuykendall	1. Carol Booth 2. Sarah Valley	Katherine Kaderabek	Zephaniah 3:14-20	1st Lesson
	11:15	Rusty McCredie	Sally Withers	Bob Grimes	L, I, P - Kristen Dusenbery, Joel Rogers, Alternate	Mary Israel Corinne Spencer	Ron Sims Arnold Clark	1. Charles Carter 2. Kimberly Kneier	Volunteer	Philippians 4:4-7	2nd Lesson & 9:00 Lesson
December 20 Festival of Lessons and Carols											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt	Andrew Dahm	Margaret Dahm				
	9:00	Alternate	Alternate	Zoe Davis	L - Hugh Vaughn I - Anne Simmons P - Simmons Family	Pat Davis Jane Whitman	Kaderabek Family	1. Scott Best 2. Cuyler Dupree	Micki Newton	TBA	TBA
	11:15	Mark Silvers	Jonah Silvers	Grace Miller	L, I, P - Mark Silvers, Elaine Potter	Karen Compton Sonny Rawls	Elaine Potter Rusty Herman	1. Sally Coburn 2. Carol McMichael	Georgi Bruce	TBA	TBA
	Taizé 8:00 PM				I - Monty Wooten L - James Cannon	Deb Gravatt					
December 24											
	4:00	Cade Wooten	Cheryl Deyton	Cuyler Dupree	L - Angie Cullen I - Angie Cullen P - Cullen Family		Doug Haldane Bob Turner	1. Daphne Urquhart 2. Debbie Jones		Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson
	9:30 PM 10:00 PM	Rusty McCredie	Grace Miller	Bob Grimes	L, I, P - Joel Rogers and Nancy Remmers		Paul Stewart Henry Watts	1. Bill Warren 2. Bill Spencer		Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson
December 25											
	10:00 AM	Sally Withers	TBA	TBA	L, I, P - John and Beth Woodson		Tom and Liz Barr	1. Sally Coburn 2. Sally Withers		Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14	1st Lesson 2nd Lesson
December 27											
	7:45				Deb Gravatt	Ed Duncan	Jack Frue				
	9:00	Moir Stewart	Alternate	Zoe Davis	L - Vicki Vest I - Jeanne Robertson P - Robertson Family	Jeanne Robertson Shari Lane	Derek and Wade Edwards	1. Anne Simmons 2. Greg Townsend	Elaine Dephouse	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	1st Lesson
	11:15	Cheryl Aull	Sally Withers	Eric Howell	L, I, P - Mark Silvers, Nancy Clark	Mary Israel Sonny Rawls	Bob Turner Elaine Potter	1. Eric Howell 2. Sally Coburn	Mary Ann Warren	Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7	2nd Lesson
December 28											
Date	Counters	Depositors	Date	Flower Arrangers	Altar Guild						
6-Dec	Steve Birkhofer	James Cannon	5-Dec	Advent II	Group 1 - Dec 5 - Dec. 11						
13-Dec	Martha Boyette	Judy Bohan	13-Dec	Greenery Davis, Jones: Israel Wed. Flowers: Wright- Nilsson, Candles	Group 2 - Dec 12 - Dec 18						
20-Dec	Sally Withers	Chal & Hugh Vaughn	20-Dec	Hanging of Greens, 23rd All - All Decorating of the Sanctuary	Group 3 - Dec 19- Dec 25						
27-Dec	Georgi Bruce	Anne Simmons	Dec 22, 28 (maintain)	Newton, Israel	Group 4 - Dec 26- Jan 1						

Our Prayer List

December

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: **Walter Adamson; Pat Anderson; Jo Brokenshire; Chris Carson** (son of Martha & Randy); **The Rev. Gary Coffey; Ed Denison; Kristen Dusenbery; Eunice Ferguson; Catherine Godfrey; Olivia & the Haller family; Mary Hayes; Jenny & Gavin; Wendy Kuykendall; Michelle Lee; Linda & Rusty McCredie; Alice Moriarty; Nancy Porter; Corey & Tsz-yan Snyder & family; Corinne Spencer; Lucinda Watkins; Chuck Wilcox.**

For Homebound Parishioners and Those in Healthcare Facilities: **Walter Adamson; Henny Caldwell; Betty & Rusk Henry; June Kelley; Neill Mason; Fred Motney; 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): **Nancy Bailey** (friend of Barbara & Chuck Wilcox); **Carolyn & Winn Baker** (friends of Bob & Jeannette Reese); **Nancy Battaile** (sister of Chuck Wilcox); **Stephanie Blackwell** (sister of Jeanne Simms); **Gin Chenowith** (friend of Walt and Joyce Noble); **Debbie D.** (friend of Lynda McCredie); **Kelli Davis** (daughter of George & Pat Davis); **Bob Dahm** (brother of Andrew Dahm); **Carrie Edwards** (friend of Nora Jones); **Jason Ely** (son of David Ely); **Kacie Epley** (cousin of Vicki & Paul Vest); **Ruth Ann Fair** (mother of Greg Townsend); **Margaret Frazier** (friend of Karen & Jim Compton); **Bill & Mary Hayes** (parents of Rick Hayes); **Donald Israel** (brother-in-law of Mary Israel); **Donna Johnson** (friend of Suzanne & Doug Bowie); **Kathleen Johnson** (friend of Barbara & Chuck Wilcox); **Meg Karayiannis** (niece of Nancy Ackermann Cole); **Bobby Lovin** (father of Vicki Vest); **Jerry & Mary McAuliffe** (friends of Barbara & Chuck Wilcox); **Ted Oesterlin; Monte Pepper** (nephew of Alice Moriarty); **Sharon** (mother of Courtney Booth); **Erik & Susan Stoops** (brother-in-law & sister of Wendy Kuykendall); **Jennifer Svenstrup** (friend of Paul & Vicki Vest); **Alicia; Ashley** (daughter of Henry Watts); **Elizabeth; Kim** (friend of Astrid Coffey); **Lou** (mother of Kim Hayes); **Pam** (friend of Cheryl Aull); **Richard; Sue; Susan; Ted & Aline; for all those affected by our struggling economy.**

For Those Who Have Died and Their Families: **Lucile Gimalouski** (former parishioner).

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: **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); **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.

The Bulletin and TEAM prayer list is one of many prayer lists at Grace: For these lists, please get permission from anyone you would like to add and then contact Kathleen Griffin at gkcgiffin7@gmail.com or the church office at grace.parish@att.net. Thanks Be to God for answered prayer, for Kathleen who manages the list, and for all those who faithfully pray.

December Anniversaries

Jim and Betsy Dreger	3
Randy and Susan Smith	8
Charles and Barbara Wilcox	17
Rusty and Lynda McCredie	19
Paul and Daphne Urquhart	19
David and Sally Withers	20
Sue and William Thompkins	21
Hugh and Chal Vaughn	21
Mickey and Tricia Trinite	23
Rick and Kim Hayes	27
Fred and Micki Newton	29
Steve and Carol Booth	30

December Birthdays

3	Beth McKinsey	20	Derek Edwards
3	Bob Turner	21	Jonathan Cort
4	Joyce Noble	21	Lucie Holland
5	Suzy Young	22	Robert Green
7	Sylvia Greenwood	22	Charles Wilcox
9	Peter Booth	22	Ed Woeckener
10	Ed Duncan	23	Nora Jones
11	Don Hawkins	24	Natalie Nery
14	Scott Best	24	Olivia Nery
15	Katie Nery	24	Fiorenza Starnes
16	Eva McKinsey	27	Tom Barr
16	Kristin Perez	27	Courtney Bell
17	Kate Young	28	Doris Cummings
19	Carsten Path	29	Helena Cullen
20	Elizabeth Barr	29	Alice Moriarty

Gifts to Appreciate

The Aumbry Candle is given by Nora and Steve Jones in celebration of the birthday of their grandson, Walker Webb.



The beautiful Christmas greens and flowers are given to the Glory of God by the generous donors of Grace Parish.

The Christmas trees are given by James Cannon in memory of his wife Bobbi.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by:

Nancy and Cal Remmers in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren;

Deb Pegel in memory of her husband Louis.

Welcome, Matthew

Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Matthew Carlin,

son of Phillip and Lauren Carlin,

was welcomed into the Church

on Sunday, November 15,

during the 9:00 worship service.

Matthew

was sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism
and marked as Christ's own forever.



Endowment

In Memory of Sherry Coward:

Sylvia and Gordon Greenwood

Ruth Coward

Jane and Robert Sales

Beth Lindsay and John Hribar

Jim Coward and Linda Page

Matthew and Jasmine Coward

Dorothy Wassenaar

Hilda Norris

Dawn Carlton.

In Memory of Bob Hall:

Allan and Julia Anne Dawson

Contributions Needed Before Year-End to Correct Budget Shortfall

After the first ten months of 2015, income from all sources totaled \$344,335 and was \$26,558 under budget. In looking at each budgeted income source, Pledges were \$9,302 under budget, Non-Pledged Offerings were \$15,272 under budget, Open Offerings were \$8,803 under budget, Interest was \$86 under budget with Miscellaneous Income at \$4,590 over budget. Without the unbudgeted Prior Year Pledges of \$2,315, the deficit would have been \$28,873. It is our hope this shortfall in income will be corrected with contributions before the end of this calendar year.

Expenses as of the end of October 2015 totaled \$357,228 and were \$13,665 under budget. This is primarily due to the timing of fourth quarter expenses, particularly in Outreach/Mission, which was \$8,042 under budget. Parish Programs and Operations together were \$6,243 under budget. Personnel costs were very much in line with budget, being slightly over by \$619.

The year-to-date \$26,558 deficit in income as of October 31, 2015, was offset by the year-to-date \$13,665 positive variance in expenses and resulted in an operating deficit of \$12,893 as of the end of October 2015. It is our prayer all needs will be met as we approach the end of our calendar year.

Your Vestry

Statement of Activities - Grace Church Year to Date - October 2015

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income:			
Pledges	283,974	293,277	(9,302)
Prior Year Pledges	2,315	-	2,315
Non-pledged Offerings	35,965	51,237	(15,272)
Open Offering	7,222	16,025	(8,803)
Interest	39	125	(86)
Misc.	14,820	10,230	4,590
Total Income:	344,335	370,893	(26,558)
Expenses:			
Outreach/Mission	39,568	47,610	(8,042)
Parish Programs	10,137	12,458	(2,321)
Operations	58,846	62,768	(3,922)
Personnel	248,676	248,057	619
Total Expenses:	357,228	370,894	(13,665)
Income Less Expenses:	(12,893)	(0)	(12,893)

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church
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Asheville, North Carolina 28804

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- In this issue look for:*
- *December Events at a Glance*
 - *Opportunities to help others*
 - *Diocesan Convention Report*
 - *Budget Update*
 - *and of course, "Parson to Person"*

DECEMBER 2015

to each a ministry

TEAM

the Grace

