



# Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

*"A loving congregation seeking unity with God and each other in Christ"*

## Newsletter

February 10 and 17, 2019

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Christian DeJean

Dr. Tom Flynn

Zed Howell

Heather Howle

Richard Kendrick

Drew Nordgren

Dr. Pat Schneider

Dr. Sue Steib

Missy Higgins, Treasurer  
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Stewart Hughes, Chancellor

## Website

www.gracechurchwfp.org

## *Building a Sustainable Youth Ministry*

On the weekend of January 19-20, 2019 I was able to attend a conference sponsored by our diocese and held at Trinity New Orleans on Sustainable Youth Ministry. A consultant from a company called Ministry Architects came in to speak with us on how we can give our churches the gift of a sustainable youth ministry. I came away from this conference with numerous tools and practices that I am eager to bring to Grace and instill within our youth ministry programs, which includes infants to teens.

One of the biggest takeaways from the weekend was the idea that we cannot have a "superstar mentality" when it comes to youth ministry. What this means is we cannot expect one person to bring our ministries to a place of sustainability, it takes teamwork and partnership. If we build our programs around a single person and do not allow them to be built on a sturdy foundation, they will come crumbling down should that person ever leave. By doing this we create a culture of "stuckness" in our ministry which will not allow them to thrive.

The way that we create a youth ministry program that is sustainable is to take the time to lay the foundation and create the atmosphere we at Grace want to have. By taking time to lay the foundation, we give our ministry structure, guidelines, clear goals and action steps. We make sure our mission and values are clear and stated so everything we do moving forward is done with fully intentional steps to lead us where we want to go and so that everyone who partners with us in our youth ministry, is clear on what is expected. Our atmosphere has to be one that is welcoming, embracing and makes people want to come back again—both children, teens, and adult volunteers. We have to create and cultivate a space where our youth feel and believe to their core that they are known, loved, and cherished, so much so that they want to invite their friends into it with them.

We also have to make sure we are meeting the "Five Norms of Ministry." These are guidelines that when met, are proven to create a healthy, sustainable youth ministry. The first of the five norms is cost. This means that our budget is healthy enough to support the number of children and youth attending our programming as well as the salary and any benefits, for the staff. The second norm is ratios. Ministry Architects finds that on average to have a healthy, sustainable youth ministry program, there must be one full-time staff person per 50 youth and per 75 children. They also find that on average, 10% of a congregation's average Sunday attendance is youth and 15% will be children. These numbers are used to count towards the third norm—a youth ministry's potential reach, which is the potential amount of youth who could be involved in our ministries. Ministry Architect's fourth norm is a congregation's "ceiling" or stretch potential reach, which is 20% of their average Sunday attendance. Principle is the fifth and final norm, it states that at youth events there will be one adult per five youth or children. At Grace we do a great job at meeting the majority of these, but can always

strive do better and bring our programming into a thriving, vibrant state.

As we move forward, it is important that we have three specific types of people actively supporting our youth ministry at Grace. Our “laborers,” as Ministry Architects calls them, will be our congregation members that have any specific skill sets they are willing to utilize to contribute to our ministry. These are our members that are willing to cook and provide meals, to serve as chaperones for retreats, to come and be a volunteer in the room for Church Mice, Children’s Chapel and Youth Group, to help run, plan and organize our bigger one time events such as the Easter egg hunt, Vacation Bible School, Christmas Pageant, etc. The “contractor” is the staff person that manages all of the moving parts of youth ministry. They make sure everything is happening when it us suppose to happen and the volunteers are well equipped for their roles in the ministry. Our “architects” are the big picture dreamers and designers, they make sure to think through the structure and make sure it can withstand time.

Now, how can you support us on our path to sustainability? You can do this in many ways! If you are at all interested in being someone that is in a rotation for meals, or you want to just help with the bigger events, or even if you just think you know someone that would fit these roles perfectly or would be a great “architect” for our ministries, please let me know! I can be reached by email at [youth@gracechurchwfp.org](mailto:youth@gracechurchwfp.org) or by phone at (225)245-1385. If you would like to know more about what it would look like to be involved in Grace’s youth ministry, let’s meet for coffee or lunch and talk! I would love for you to partner with us as we push forward in growing and building Grace’s youth programming.

Alyssa Louis  
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator

**Upcoming OLLI Class with more extensive teaching on Richard Rohr to be taught by two members of Grace Church.** Beginning Wednesday Feb 27th at 10 am, David Treppendahl and Ellen Williams will be teaching an OLLI course on Richard Rohr. It will be six sessions over six weeks and will be held at the Baptist Church in St. Francisville. To attend the class, you must be at least 50 years old and be a registered member of OLLI (which costs \$50/year for membership.) If you become a member of OLLI, there are lots of other classes you can attend The link for the membership registration is: <http://reg.outreach.lsu.edu/modules/shop/index.html?action=section&OfferingID=3212&SectionID=3111032>. The course description is as shown below:

OFRRW

**Richard Rohr: Applying His Wisdom to the Second Half of Life**

Explore the book, Falling Upwards: A Spirituality for The Halves of Life, and excerpts of a video presentation by Father Rohr on this topic. Focus on how to live in the second half of life, including finding the silver linings, and blessings in suffering and failure. Class members are encouraged to share life experiences where this has been evident. Learn about the use of the Enneagram to better understand ourselves and how to relate to others, and take an online test to determine your Enneagram number. Throughout the course, other works and resources by Fr. Rohr will be introduced. As you learn about Fr. Rohr and his teachings, you may agree that he is one of the wisest persons alive today offering some of the most practical advice to be found on how to live in this complicated time.

If you wish to attend the class, you can register for it at the following link. This course is the **16<sup>th</sup> one from the top**. (Again, you have to register and become a member of OLLI before you can register for the class.) <http://reg.outreach.lsu.edu/modules/shop/index.html?action=courseBrowse&CatalogID=1025>. For more info, contact David Treppendahl 225-235-9213 or Ellen Williams: 210-275-0988.

**Intercessory prayers  
are asked for Grace  
Church members  
who are ill:**

Brianna Blanchard,  
Diane Christopher,  
Linwood Kendrick,  
III, Jason Kennedy,  
Charlotte Maxwell,  
Tom Morris, Eric Nelson,  
Sara Nelson,  
John Powell, Kay  
Tengler, Mary  
Thompson, Wendell  
Wade, Pam Willson,  
Jake Wray, Madeline  
Wright.

**Birthdays**

Patsy Hardouin, Debbie Graves-Feb. 10;  
Penny Reinhardt-Feb. 11;  
Elizabeth S. Feirn,  
Davis Bankston Sr,  
John Moss-Feb. 12;  
Elizabeth David, Kay  
Tengler-Feb. 13; David  
Opperman, Paula  
Elizabeth Finley-Feb. 14;  
Logan Reinhardt,  
Richard Kendrick-Feb. 15;  
Chris Metz-Feb. 17;  
James Kane,  
Melissa Dowd-Feb. 18;  
Bill McClendon - Feb. 19;  
Tyler Ferris-Feb. 20;  
John McGehee-Feb. 21;  
Richmond Savoy- February 22;  
Lauri Benton Dooley-Feb. 23.

**Wedding  
Anniversaries**

Charles and Betty Sessions-Feb. 10;  
Dwight and Martha Singer;  
Dennis and Cathy Keith-Feb. 20;  
Lin and Carlin Kendrick-Feb. 23.

## Grace Calendar & Reminders

### Other persons prayers are asked for:

Claiborne Arbutnot, Charles Barham, Walker Bell, Micaela Kell Bennett, Wayne Bergeron, Isabella Bertucci, Leslie Bickham, Phillip Bowen, Nancy Bowman, Ben Brown, Steve Brown, Mason Brudewick, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, Jenny Clark, Kitty Claus, Rob Cox, Frances Woods Curry, Sandy Davenport, Kathleen Davis, Debbie Desmar, Helen Desselles, Cathy Doslovic, Molly Douglas, Amy Dwyer, Mark Ellison, Jennifer Erickson, Ellen Ewald, Sara Fahey, Mark Feltner, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Jane Hamilton, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Wayne Hudnall, Joel James, Michelle Jeanssonne, Jill Joffrion, Henry Jones, Mary Jo Kaly, Cathy K., Jody Lemoine, Jessica Liddle, Max, Charlotte Mayeaux, Ralph McKenzie, Laine Martrain, Mary Anne McCrory, Ruby McKee, Robin Michel, Bill Miller, Jimmy Mitchell, Randall Nachman, Barton Platte, Elizabeth Poole, Susanna Prescott, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Cole Rourke, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Cade Stapleton, Angel Thompson, Roland Toups, Deborah Vines, Emily Walz, Trey Watson, Dennis Williams, Grayson Zeringue, Lynn Zinn.

### Those serving in the armed forces:

Parker Blanche, Amanda Browning, Jay Christopher, Ryan Coacher, John Davis, Joseph Dooley, Polly Finley, Bryan Geltz, Edward Jenkins, Laura Latson, Shawn Lemons, Terry Palmer, James Powers, Jeff Ragusa, Christopher Willis, Matthew Young, Aaron Zuccaro, 745th & 746th Exped Squads, 379th & 926th Exped. Support Squads, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

**Please welcome the following children to Grace who were recently baptized:** Reese Kollins Achord, daughter of Mallory and Gannon Achord, baptized on Sunday, January 13th; Aster Bell Mascaro, granddaughter of Donna Wright, daughter of Lauren Lee and Mike Mascaro, baptized Saturday, February 2nd; and Norah James McCain daughter of Madison and Matthew McCain, baptized on Sunday, February 3rd.

**Please welcome Kathy Kane, Tommy Loyacono, and David Treppendahl** who were elected to serve on the vestry through January 2022 at the Annual Meeting. Their first meeting will be Tuesday, February 19th, please continue to pray for the leadership and guidance of our vestry.

**The Annual No Bake Sale Envelopes will be arriving this week.** The end date is Sunday, February 24, 2019. This request is sent out to all Episcopal Church Women in our congregation. The ECW has been raising funds for many years to build a youth conference center at Solomon Episcopal Conference Center. Instead of baking, we have chosen this no calorie and no clean-up way to request your support. Our treasurer, Sharon Gauthier, sees that every penny donated in this "Bake Sale" goes toward the future youth center.

**The following dates are open for Altar Flowers and Greenery:** February 17, February 24, March 24 (greenery), March 31 (greenery), May 26, June 2, June 30, July 7, August 18, September 1, September 15, November 3, December 22 (greenery). If you would like to sign up for one of these open dates please let Meg know by calling the office or emailing her. Thank you!

**Happening #82 Registration is open!** It is the weekend of February 8-10, 2019 and is open to all 9-12 graders. Happening is a spiritual retreat formation weekend designed for teens and led by teens with the help of youth ministers and clergy. Happening is open to teenagers of any denominations who have not participated in a Happening in the past. The cost of the weekend is \$150 and includes lodging and meals. Scholarships are available through Grace, please speak with Alyssa Louis, [youth@gracechurchwfp.org](mailto:youth@gracechurchwfp.org) for more information.

**The Baton Rouge Deanery**, of which Grace Church is a member, is sponsoring a float in the Krewe of Southdowns Parade on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> in Baton Rouge. We are currently recruiting youth and adult volunteers who would like to ride on a float sponsored by our deanery. If you are interested and would like further information, please speak with Fr. Roldan.

**On Saturday, March 9, 2019 Grace will host a Lenten Quiet Retreat** with renowned theologian, author, poet, retreat leader, Spiritual Director, and Episcopal Priest Mary C. Earle. Mother Earle was a professor of spirituality at the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas, and is the author of nine books, including *Desert Mothers*; *Broken Body*, *Healing Spirit*; and a commentary on Julian of Norwich's *Revelations of Divine Love*. Rev'd Earle will present a program on the English Anchorite and Mystic Julian of Norwich. During the course of this day, participants will be treated to an inspiring discussion of Julian and her relevance today. Quiet reflection times will be provided throughout the day for all to experience the natural beauty of Grace Church's grounds. The retreat will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and lunch and refreshments will be provided. Tickets are \$20.00 and are available through <https://bontempstix.com/events/lenten-quiet-day>. We have plenty of scholarships available for those in need. Please reserve your spot today. We pray you can join us for this special day!



**Grace Church**  
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P.O. Box 28  
St. Francisville LA 70775

*Address Service Requested*

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St. Francisville LA 70775

## Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

### Sunday February 10, 2019

**Acolytes:** Hayden Howle, Ella Corinne Howle,  
Baus Fin, Lena Fin

**Chalice bearers:** 7:30 a.m.: Bryan McClendon  
10 a.m.: Brandie Olsen, Landon Anderson

**Ushers:** Robert Singer, Richard Kendrick

**Lectors:** Landon Anderson, Dixie Blue

**Vestry Rep:** Tom Flynn

**Altar Guild:** Team 4

**Children's Church:** Christie Reinhardt

**Altar Flowers:** Pat and Ronnie Martin

**Sanctuary Candle:** Betty and Charles Sessions

**Coffee Hour:** Becky and Neil Wright

**Babysitters:** Grant Rome, Shelby Griffin

### Sunday February 17, 2019

**Acolytes:** Emma Olsen, Lilly Higgins, Joey Peno,  
Wyatt Olsen

**Chalice bearers:** 7:30 a.m.: Carol Stamey  
10 a.m.: Sheryl Wynters, Joey Gammill

**Ushers:** Tom Morris, Tiger Olsen

**Lectors:** Missy Higgins, Rachel Howell

**Vestry Rep:** Zed Howell

**Children's Church:** Carly Whatley

**Altar Guild** Team 1

**Altar Flowers:** *Date Open*

**Sanctuary Candle:** Sue and John Steib

**Coffee Hour:** Rachel and Zed Howell

**Babysitters:** Angelina Hardin, Landry Higgins

### February 10, 2018

7:30am - Holy Eucharist

8:45 a.m. Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist  
Coffee Hour

### February 17, 2019

7:30am - Holy Eucharist  
at Grace & St. John's

8:45 a.m. Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist  
Coffee Hour

### Wednesday, February 13

5 - 7pm - Youth Group

5:15pm - Eucharist

### Thursday, February 14

9:15am - Morning Prayer

10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

### Friday, February 15

7:00am - Eucharist

8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study

### Sunday, February 17

7:30am - Eucharist at Grace & St. John's

8:45am - Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist

### Wednesday, February 20

Church Office Closed

5 - 7pm - Youth Group

5:15pm - Eucharist

### Thursday, February 21

9:15am - Morning Prayer

10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

### Friday, February 22

7:00am - Eucharist

8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study