

Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

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

Newsletter

June 3 and 10, 2018

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Dr. Sue Steib

Missy Higgins, Treasurer

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Stewart Hughes, Chancellor

Website

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Preschool Transitions

In May of 2010 Diana Weller was a Senior at LSU, finishing a degree in humanities and general studies. Although Diana had virtually no formal experience in early childhood education, she had distinguished herself in the children's programs of Grace Church. She and Rebecca Kastle had attended a "Godly Play Training" in Iowa and began to teach Godly Play to our smallest parishioners with great success. After observing her for a while and after having a conversation with Rebecca, I became convinced that Diana was the right person to take the reins of our Preschool.

A bit apprehensive at first, Diana took the summer to learn as much as she could about our curriculum, structure, extra-curricular programs, Children's Chapel, etc. By August of 2010, Diana started her job part-time while she finished one last requirement at school. By Christmas time, she was full-time and her tenure with Grace began in full.

To say that Diana has done an incredible job in the last 7 years would be an understatement. She learned early on how to master the curriculum and soon she began to augment it with additional field trips, dance and music classes, and arts programs. I believe it is a great testament to Diana's leadership to have had almost no turn-over until this year when two of our teachers moved on from the Preschool to pursue other ventures. Both had been with us for approximately 5 years. The children loved Diana as did the parents and staff. I often joke that Diana could have retired from here some day. I must confess, however, that I was very supportive about her moving on from us. The reason is simple, Diana is pursuing a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and she needed to dedicate at least one full year to externships and internships required for certification. Obviously, she could not have done these while working for us. It is always hard to see good staff leave us, but, I will never stand on the path of a staff member who wants to pursue higher education and certifications to help their future career. Diana will be missed, but we are very excited for her new adventures. If you see Diana in town or in Church, please join us in expressing our gratitude for a job well done.

About a year and half ago, Lisa Foster's family and her mother, Cynthia, became members of Grace Church after moving from Tennessee. Very quickly, Lisa became involved in ministries and was crucial to the resurrection of Church Mice. She has also become an integral part of our Vacation Bible School planning committee. During these times of volunteering we have had the opportunity to observe Lisa in action and we have found in her many of the same skills that made Diana so success-



ful: A love for children, ability to work well with others, a desire to learn, great ability to lead, and amazing organizational skills.

Lisa was born in Sabetha, Kansas to Jerry (a high school math teacher) and Cindy (a bank worker). When she was 5 years old, they moved to Gering, Nebraska, where she went to grade school and high school. In 2008, she went to Chadron State College with the Board of Trustees scholarship, which is a full tuition academic scholarship. She finished her college degree in 2012, after completing a teacher internship program. Immediately after graduating, she stayed in the schools until the end of the school year. During the school year, she met her future husband and the couple were sent to different parts of the country for work. To be closer to Cory, Lisa moved and worked at a nuclear plant as data entry and technical support. After they got engaged, Lisa and Corey moved to Tennessee and where Lisa taught school until she had their son, Jackson, who is now 4 years old. Two years ago, the Fosters moved to Saint Francisville because Corey became employed at River Bend Nuclear Station as a systems engineer. They became members of Grace Church, and baptized Jackson, at Grace. Lisa has been staying home with Jackson ever since he was born and has watched children in her home until now. She has had a lot of experience with all ages of school children, including a lot of substitute teaching experience in the Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 classrooms along with experience with her own child and watching other children that are Pre-K age. She is a K-8th grade certified teacher in Nebraska and Tennessee, and obtained an Early Childhood Certification in Louisiana. Please help me in welcoming Lisa to our Grace Church family and staff. Later in July we will have a special Coffee Hour to welcome Lisa officially to our Pre-school and give all parents and parishioners an opportunity to meet her and ask questions.

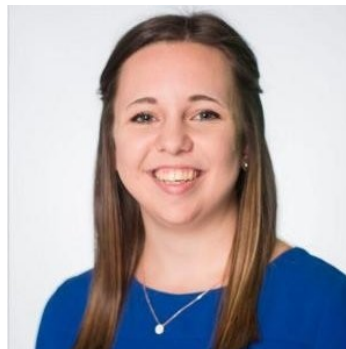


Join me in giving thanks to God for Diana's ministry among us and join me in prayer that God may bless Lisa's ministry and work among us for many years to come.

Blessings,
Fr. Roldan+

Ministry Spotlight: Youth Ministry

We are pleased to introduce Alyssa A. Louis as our Youth Ministry Coordinator. Alyssa is a resident of St. Francisville with a background in youth and family ministries. After graduating from West Feliciana High School, Alyssa obtained her Bachelor's in Science for Human Development and Family Sciences in 2016 from Oregon State University. She has participated in and is employed as the Area Administrator for YoungLife West Feliciana. This past spring, Alyssa served in our preschool as an assistant teacher and will continue for the 2018-2019 school year. She also helped to coordinate Youth Group while Meg transitioned to the Parish Administrator position. During this time, Alyssa established herself as a dynamic leader who loves the Lord and will develop strong relationships with our youth. She will take over our Family Ministries effective June 1st, 2018 with her main focus being to further develop our youth programming. Please keep Alyssa in your prayers as she begins this new role as well as our youth ministry programs. We look forward to seeing Alyssa in action.



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

Brianna Blanchard, Julia DeJean, Jason Kennedy, Charlotte Maxwell, Tom Morris, Eric Nelson, Sara Nelson, Kay Tengler, Wendell Wade, Pam Willson, Jake Wray, Madeline Wright.

Birthdays

Ann Newton, Luke Farmer-June 6; Lynda Truitt, John Emory Walker-June 8; Hugh Reid, Shondell Havard-June 9; Alyson Curry, Emile Pourciau-June 10; Megbe Hughes, Edward Daniel V-June 12; Cary Benton Fitzmorris, Kell Martin-June 13; Abby Dowd-June 14; Eli Christopher Dwyer-June 16;

Wedding Anniversaries

Roy and Alma Ruth Skaggs-June 3; Charles and Louise Reichman-June 4; Chase and Steve Cunningham, Chris and Tara Grace Jones-June 6; Pat and Lucie Butler-June 7; Hugh and Ginger Reid-June 9; Glenn and Eleanor Thomas-June 10; Elaine McKenzie and Jonas Motes-June 11; Ricky and Renee Sparks, Carter and Brittany Leak-June 12; Bryan and Laura McClendon-June 13; Blake and Susan LeBlanc-June 14; Houston and Jessica McVea, Jesse and Nicole Means-June 16.

What's Happening at Grace?

Other persons prayers are asked for:

Sister Abigail, Claiborne Arbuthnot, Charles Barham, Micaela Kell Bennett, Wayne Bergeron, Isabella Bertucci, Leslie Bickham, Phillip Bowen, Ben Brown, Steve Brown, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, Jenny Clark, Kitty Claus, Sandy Davenport, Kathleen Davis, Debbie Desmar, Helen Desselles, Cathy Doslavic, Molly Douglas, Amy Dwyer, Mark Ellison, Jennifer Erickson, Mark Feltner, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Jane Hamilton, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Wayne Hudnall, Joel James, Michelle Jean-sonne, 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, Susanna Prescott, Susan Pray, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Cade Stapleton, Roland Toups, Deborah Vines, Dennis Williams, Rufus Yerger, Lynn Zinn.

Those serving in the armed forces: Parker Blanche, Amanda Brown-ing, Jay Christopher, Ryan Coacher, Ben Colia, 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).

Vacation Bible School registration is open! Visit our website, www.gracechurchwfp.org to register your 3 year old (potty-trained) through rising 5th grader today! We will explore ancient Babylon and learn about Daniel's story. Come explore with us July 9th through the 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Lisa Foster, lisastrauch3@gmail.com or Meg Kendrick, administrator@gracechurchwfp.org.

Due to the great response, we will move the Men's Bible Study of Richard Rohr's, *On the Threshold of Transformation*, from the St. Francisville Inn to Jackson Hall on **Wednesday, June 6th at 7 a.m.** David Treppendahl will provide a great breakfast. If you would like the book, please email Meg Kendrick at administrator@gracechurchwfp.org. Please remember to read the introduction and the first 10 small reflections before the book study.

Please join us for the 2018 Treasures of the Pointe Coupee Art Show, June 1-3rd and June 8th-10th at the Poydras Center, 500 W. Main Street, New Roads. The opening free reception will be from 6-9 p.m. on June 1st. Several members of Grace Church will have entries in the show.

On June 5th from 7 to 9 p.m. the Arts Council of Pointe Coupee will sponsor "Art for the Palate," in New Roads, an evening of entertainment, libations, and demonstrations featuring Cane Land Distillery and tropical cuisine. Tickets are \$50.00 and can be reserved by calling Gale Roy at 225-683-6049 or 225-718-1574.

Church Mice will return on Wednesday, June 13th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. This program is open to all children prek to 5th grade. Join your child for the 5:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist and then have them stay for dinner and a fun-filled lesson. We are in need of parent volunteers for Church Mice and meals, if you are able to cook and volunteer please reach out to Lisa Foster at lisastrauch3@gmail.com.

As many of you are aware Brianna Blanchard, daughter of Collette and Alan Dwyer was in a terrible car accident. A fund has been established at Whitney Bank to help aid in Brianna's recovery. The fund will help to pay for transportation, lodging, and medical treatments not covered by insurance while Brianna recovers. To help Brianna and the Dwyer family, please donate to the Brianna Blanchard Medical Fund at any Whitney Bank location or by making a donation to Grace Church, memo line: Brianna Blanchard. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Roldan, rector@gracechurchwfp.org or 225-635-4065. Please keep Brianna and her family in your prayers as she continues on the path to recovery.

Volunteers are still needed for the Nursing Home Ministry on Thursdays. If you are available to help, please join this important ministry. Join the Nursing Home Ministry team for morning prayer Thursday at 9:15 a.m., they will head to the nursing home at 9:45 a.m.

Thank you all so much for all the help with the Pentecost Picnic. Jane Daniel did such a super job with making the sign up poster for all the side dishes. Thank you to all who so graciously provided such delicious items for us all to enjoy. Thank you to Kathy Kane for the beautiful flower arrangements, to Debbie Thomas, Ellen Williams, Karen Snyder and our Sexton, Leonard Mitchell for helping with set up. Meg and Rich did an outstanding job of getting the jumpy houses for the children, the water, cold drinks, paper products and fried chicken. Last but not least thank you to our clean up crew of Cheryl & Robert Singer, Debbie Willis, Debbie Thomas, Kathy Kane, Karen Snyder, Ellen Williams, Penny Graham, and Allison and Scott Fin. I believe the Picnic was enjoyed by all!

Thank you to everyone.

Dixie

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of West Feliciana Parish
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Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

Sunday June 3, 2018

Acolytes: James Kirschling, Mathilda Fox-Smith;
Charles Fox-Smith

Chalice bearers: 7:30 a.m.: Bryan McClendon;
10 a.m.: Sheryl Wynters, Rucker Leake

Ushers: Zed Howell, Tony Horn

Lectors: Drew Nordgren, David Opperman

Vestry Rep: Dr. Tom Flynn

Altar Guild: Team 2

Altar Flowers: Alma Ruth Skaggs

Sanctuary Candle: Miles and Missy Higgins

Coffee Hour: Robert and Cheryl Singer

Babysitters: Emma Olsen, Madison Pollet

Sunday June 10, 2018

Acolytes: Landry Higgins, Lilly Higgins, Joey Peno

Chalice bearers: 7:30 a.m.: Carol Stamey;

10 a.m.: Maria Gerry, Sara Klein

Ushers: Richard Kendrick, Tiger Olsen

Lectors: Justin Peno, Sarah Rhody

Vestry Rep: Zed Howell

Altar Guild Team 3

Altar Flowers: Jane Daniel

Sanctuary candle: Will Plettinger

Coffee Hour: Belton and Dare Didier

Babysitters: Shayn Rayford, Angelina Hardin

June 3rd, 2018

7:30am - Holy Eucharist
Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist
Pentecost Picnic

June 10th, 2018

7:30am - Holy Eucharist
Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist
Coffee Hour

Wednesday, June 6th

7 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast

5-7 pm - Youth Group

5:15pm - Eucharist

Thursday, June 7th

9:15am - Morning Prayer

10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

Friday, June 8th

7:00am - Eucharist

8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study

Sunday, June 10th

7:30am - Eucharist

9:15am - Bible Study

10:00am - Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, June 13th

5 - 7pm - Youth Group

5:15pm - Eucharist

6-7 pm - Church Mice

Thursday, June 14th

9:15am - Morning Prayer

10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

Friday, June 15th

7:00am - Eucharist

8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study