



Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

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

Newsletter

July 1 and 8, 2018

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Website

www.gracechurchwfp.org

A Note Inside an Old Book

An interesting thing happened to me the other day. I was looking for an old book in my library to use for a sermon. I noticed a bookmark in the book and decided to check it out. Coincidentally, or perhaps miraculously, the bookmark was located in the very same section of the book I needed. The bookmark was a handwritten postcard dated January 4, 2009. It read, "Dear Roman, congratulations on being called to Grace Church, the most loving and generous congregation I have ever served. In him, Stephen Holmgren." Canon Holmgren knew then what I know very well now; Grace is a very unique place; any clergy lucky enough to serve this community is truly blessed.

The love and generosity of this church transcends local and Diocesan needs to include national and international needs. The list of agencies we have supported, communities we have visited, relationships we have built, and needs we have alleviated are too numerous to count. Suffice it to say that we have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to agencies and communities in need over the last 10 years and we must be very proud of this fact. Beyond money, however, we have entered the narrative of people's lives and we have shown our Diocese what a small, rural church can do to spread Christ's love and to build his kingdom among the most needy.

At a more local level, the generosity of our congregation is felt most strongly in our own community, both inside and outside the gates of Grace. I am so proud of the work we have done to support agencies like YoungLife, the Food Bank, the Clothes Closet, and the dozens of families we help every year through our Mission and Outreach Committee and our Rector's Fund. The most perfect example of these efforts took place just 2 years ago during the 2016 Louisiana Floods. We fed hundreds of volunteers, interviewed dozens of victims, inspected numerous homes, and contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars in small re-building grants, in addition to managing the Diocesan funds we received through Episcopal Relief and Development. I give thanks to God every day for all of you who contributed with labor-hours, financial resources, and supplies.

We have also done great work within the gates of our church. In the last ten years we have given the cemetery a much needed face lift, have fixed many broken grave markers and tombstones, have re-built the moat around the church, have replaced all the historic and defective plaster in the nave of the Church, have installed a state-of-the-art sound system, have removed faulty insulation from the attic, have tripled the amount of air flow in our church attic, have rebuilt the roof in our bell tower, have restored both the Golsan House and the Rectory, and, just today, have finished the restoration of our Organ Tower. As we re-enter our beloved church this coming Sunday,

July 1, let us remember to give thanks to God for the stewardship of all our parishioners past and present whose loving contributions made these restorations and repairs possible.

The restorations of our cemetery and historic structures will continue in the Fall of this year. We have been working with Architectural Studio from Baton Rouge for the development of construction plans for a complete restoration of Jackson Hall. We have assessed all buildings in terms of air conditioning and heating systems, flooring, roofs, siding, shutters, handicap ramps, appliances, etc. These plans have been sent out for construction bids this week and we will select a construction company by no later than September of this year. By the time all construction is finished we will have a physical plant in the best shape it has been in 30 years. We will pay for this major restoration through money we have set aside for this purpose, historic restoration credits, and financial contributions from our parishioners. We will give you more information as the bids come in and the Vestry begins to discuss them in detail. This is an exciting time for us. I am confident that the restored physical plant will improve the quality of our outreach ministries considerably. Please keep us in your prayers.

Beyond physical restorations, our family ministries, discipleship, and pastoral care ministries continue to grow. We have also seen a number of new faces in our pews and we have celebrated the return of a few members who had taken some time away from our church. Our transition to a new Parish Administrator has gone very well and our Preschool will start the year at full capacity. Our youth programs have an excellent team led by our new Youth Minister, Alyssa Louis, and this year's Vacation Bible School will be the highlight of our program year. I hope you will visit us that week to see the amazing energy VBS brings to our church. We will have plenty of pictures on our website and Facebook page.

Please continue to pray for the success of all our restoration and all of our ministries and programs. God has been very faithful to us and we have reasons to celebrate. Please prayerfully consider a special contribution to our Jackson Hall restoration. If you would like to have a private conversation with me about any of our programs, ministries, or finances, please feel free to call me directly.

Blessings to you and yours, Fr. Roldan+

A Note from Grace Preschool

Hello!

The 2018-2019 Preschool year is quickly approaching! This year there will be 27 children enrolled in Grace Preschool. There will be a few changes this school year, including some new staff and some new additions into the curriculum. Kari Ebner will join Grace Preschool as a new assistant teacher, and I will be taking over as the Preschool Director on August 1st, 2018. The lessons will still be based on the Abeka curriculum, a Christian based curriculum, however, along with Abeka themed learning, I am adding in hands on centers to our daily schedule that will allow the children to rotate activities throughout their day and build on all of the skills they learn in the whole group setting. The children will learn while also developing the crucial social skills needed in years to come. My vision for the 2018-2019 school year is for our children to develop a lifelong love of learning, which is founded on a love of God, while preparing them to be ready for the next level of schooling and to develop strong social and interpersonal skills. Simply, I desire for their first experience of school to be their best!

Blessings, Lisa Foster

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

Brianna Blanchard,
Jason Kennedy,
Charlotte Maxwell,
Tom Morris, Eric
Nelson, Sara Nelson,
Kay Tengler, Wen-
dell Wade, Pam Will-
son, Jake Wray,
Madeline Wright.

Birthdays

Cheryl Singer, Dan
Klein-July 1; Kathy
Kane-July 2; Andrew
Klein, Olivia Stewart-
July 3; Patrick Tandy-
July 4; Briana
Blanchard, Brandon
Blanchard, Dalton
Clevenger-July 5;
Laura Croft-July 6;
McKinsey Lambert-
July 8.; Connie An-
derson, Willia Per-
kins-July 10; Bella
Klein-July 11; Clara
Jane Hughes, Ken
Thornton, William
McClendon, V-July
14

Wedding Anniversaries

Alan and Collette
Dwyer-July 4; Steve
and Noel Parnell-July
5; Mike and Carol
Ridenour Difulho-
July 13

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, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Cade Stapleton, Roland Toups, Deborah Vines, Dennisia Williams, Rufus Yerger, Lynn Zinn.

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

We are moving back to the Church! Join us Sunday, July 1st at 7:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist in Grace Church. We are thankful to be moving back to our beautiful sanctuary. We hope to see you Sunday!

Youth Group Fellowship Time at Birdman Coffee every Friday at 10 a.m. until school starts. Join them on Friday, June 29th and every Friday following. Coffee and tea on Ms. Alyssa, fellowship and fun included!

Join the Youth Group for a service day at the Food Pantry on Tuesday, July 3rd from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Afterwards, the Youth Group will get lunch. This service day is open to all who would like to join and the youth group is open to all who are entering 6th through 12th grade. The youth group will be returning for another service day at the Food Pantry on Wednesday, July 18th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with lunch afterwards.

The Church offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. There will be no evening Eucharist service at 5:15 p.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet on July 11th at 7 a.m. The Centering Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday, July 11th at 1 p.m.

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner—July 9th through the 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Don't forget to register your 3 year old (potty-trained) through entering 5th grad-er today by visiting our website for the link: www.gracechurchwfp.org. We can't wait to share this exciting week with your child! If you are interested in volunteering or supporting Vacation Bible School please contact Meg Kendrick at administrator@gracechurchwfp.org.

St. John's will have a Morning Prayer service led by Mr. Bert Babers on Sunday, July 15th at 7:30 a.m. while Grace Church's 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharists will be celebrated by Bishop Jenkins.

Church Mice will return in August! There will be no Church Mice in July due to Vacation Bible School, but it will return in August from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m on the second Wednesday of the Month. This program is open to all children pre-k 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.

Altar Flowers are needed for the following dates: July 29th and November 25th. If you would like to sign up for one of the above dates, please contact Meg Kendrick at the church office 225-635-4065 or by email administrator@gracechurchwfp.org.

Register for ***Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity*** using the form below or visit our web-site at www.gracechurchwfp.org and look under the "Home" tab and register online there.

Name _____ Gender _____
Date of birth _____ Grade entering _____
Shirt size _____ Allergies _____
Any Medical concerns? _____
Mailing address: _____
Home phone: _____ Work phone _____
Emergency contact's name _____ Telephone _____
Relationship to participant: _____

Grace Church
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Address Service Requested

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Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

Sunday July 1, 2018

Acolytes: Clara Jane Hughes, Baus Fin, Lena Fin
Chalice bearers: 7:30 a.m.: Bryan McClendon;
10 a.m.: Sheryl Wynters, Dr. Landon Anderson
Ushers: Dwight Singer, Robert Singer
Lectors: Dr. Landon Anderson, Rachel Howell
Vestry Rep: Drew Nordgren
Altar Guild: Team 2
Altar Flowers: Bishop Charles & Louise Jenkins
Sanctuary Candle: Anne Klein
Coffee Hour: Tim and Kathy Kane
Babysitters: Madie Kane, Lorna Klein

Sunday July 8, 2018

Acolytes: Landry Higgins, Lilly Higgins, Grant Rome
Chalice bearers: 7:30 a.m.: Carol Stamey
10 a.m.: Maria Gerry, Sara Klein
Ushers: Kelly Ward, Carl Fontenot
Lectors: Missy Higgins, Dixie Blue
Vestry Rep: Dr. Pat Schneider Martin
Altar Guild Team 3
Altar Flowers: Dr. Tom and Linda Flynn
Sanctuary candle: Don and Penny Reinhardt
Coffee Hour: Dr. Sue and John Steib
Babysitters: Emma Olsen, Madison Pollet

July 1st, 2018

7:30am - Holy Eucharist
at Grace & St. John's
Bible Study
10:00am - Holy Eucharist
Pentecost Picnic

July 8, 2018

7:30am - Holy Eucharist
Bible Study
10:00am - Holy Eucharist
Coffee Hour

Wednesday, July 4th

Office Closed in observance of
Independence Day

Thursday, July 5th

9:15am - Morning Prayer
10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

Friday, July 6th

7:00am - Eucharist
8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study

Sunday, July 8th

7:30am - Eucharist
9:15am - Bible Study
10:00am - Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 11th

5 - 7pm - Youth Group
5:15pm - Eucharist
6-7 pm - Church Mice

Thursday, July 12th

9:15am - Morning Prayer
10:00am - Worship: SF Country Manor

Friday, July 13th

7:00am - Eucharist
8:30am - Lectionary Bible Study