

Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

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

Newsletter

March 22 & March 29, 2020

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A Pastoral Update from Bp. Thompson

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I write to you in the midst of our historic health crises. It is truly difficult to comprehend the movement of the virus and the impact impeding us. We continue to monitor what experts advise and promptly implement new guidelines. It is with this in mind that I write to you.

Beginning Sunday, March 22, 2020 all Episcopal churches in the Diocese of Louisiana will close their doors. While this is a painful decision, the need to slow the virus is of utmost importance. Toward the end of the month we will re-evaluate and communicate updated information.

During our time away from each other, please open your prayer book and acquaint yourself with the beautiful prayers and collects. Use this season of self-isolation to be prayerful and seek the presence of God. Ask yourself, where is the goodness of God and what is God teaching me.

I continue to encourage churches to find ways to minister to each other through social media, FaceTime and other means of communication. We may be sequestered in our homes, but that doesn't mean we are alone.

May God hold each and everyone in the palm of God's hands.

I am as always,

Your servant in Christ,

+Morris

The Rt. Rev'd Morris K. Thompson, Jr., Bishop of Louisiana

What does this mean for Grace?

You may be wondering how the suspension of services, bible studies, children and youth ministries will affect Grace and worship as a congregational family.

- First and foremost, please make sure that we have your updated contact information. If you have changed any of your contact information please contact the office, 635-4065 or email, administrator@gracechurchwfp.org to ensure that we have the correct information.
- Be sure to check out our website, www.gracechurchwfp.org and our Facebook Page for updates. Please bear with us as we are attempting to keep the congregation as updated as possible. We will send out information via newsletters and mail as appropriate as well.
- While we may not be able to be together physically for worship, we can still join together in prayer. We will have a conference call line enabled to host Wednesday Evening Prayer at 5:15 p.m., Thursday Morning Prayer at 9:15 a.m., and Friday

Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m. We will send out the call information via email and through the newsletters for the upcoming weeks. If you need help connecting to the calls, please reach out the office so that we may connect you with a parishioner who can help you.

- For Sunday Services, parishioners can use the following resources to listen to or watch services throughout our diocese:
 - **Christ Church Cathedral** has a live broadcast of their 10 a.m. Sunday service. You can listen to it on the radio at WGSO 990AM or online <https://wgso.com/> or listen to an archived recording of the service on their website <http://cccnola.org/ARCRECORDINGS.htm>
 - **The diocese's website** has a list of other resources for you to review for Sunday Services: <https://www.edola.org/sermons-livestreamed-services/>
 - **The National Church website**, www.episcopalchurch.org, is also providing resources to listen to or read our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's sermons. To listen to his sermon for March 15th, please visit: <https://episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/presiding-bishop-michael-currys-sermon-washington-national-cathedral-live>
- Though, we are home-bound for the foreseeable future, we, the people, are the church. We encourage our members to pray for one another and call each other to check on one another. Please report any needs you hear about to the church staff.
- For those that are able, please prayerfully consider continuing your pledge and contributions to Grace Church. Much of our operations, including electricity, personnel, and mission and outreach, rely on the stewardship of our congregation. We want to continue to serve our congregation and community throughout this difficult time and to do so we rely on your support. You may mail your offering to the church. We are in the process of setting up online giving as well. If you would like an automatic withdrawal form, please reach out to Meg at administrator@gracechurchwfp.org or call the office. Thank you for your support.

Cultivating Habits of Grace

Presiding Bishop Curry wrote about developing Habits of Grace to help us through this difficult time. I've provided a link below to read about this further. In a nutshell, he mentions the people of Milan, Italy come together at 6 o'clock on their porches or balconies and begin to applaud as a way to say thank you to those that are on the frontlines: the medical professionals, the first responders, etc. Keeping social distancing in place, they collectively do this to feel unified and loved.

We are going to implement something similar and hope that you will help us to spread the word. We have already reached out to several other clergy leaders and churches to make this an ecumenical effort. At 6 p.m. each evening, we encourage our members to stop what they are doing and say the Lord's Prayer. This Habit of Grace will help to remind us all that we are not alone in this time, we rely on our God for strength, but also each other. Though we are apart physically, we remain a strong and loving congregation, who are finding new ways to live our mission to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

To read more about Bishop Curry's Habits of Grace see this link: <https://episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/habits-grace-invitation-you-presiding-bishop-curry>. He will be posting new meditations each Monday through May. If you have any ideas of how we can continue to support you through this time, or would like to know how you can help, please reach out to me by email, calling the office, or calling my cell phone, 225-721-7342.

-In peace, Meg Kendrick

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

Valerie Barnes,
Melissa Higgins,
Jason Kennedy,
Charlotte Maxwell,
Elizabeth Denton
Mitchell, Tom Morris,
Eric Nelson,
Sara Nelson, Shane
Pollet, Carolyn
Porche, Cozette Stevens,
Kay Tengler,
Glenn Timmons,
Wendell Wade,
Marcia Willis, Pam
Wilson, Jake Wray,
Madeline Wright.

Birthdays

Cora Fuller-March
22; James Harvey
III, Bob Finley-
March 23; Lynn
Leak-March 24;
Adam Whatley,
Denise Woods-
March 27; Chris
Jones-March 29;
Cathy Keith-March
30; Mary Thomp-
son-April 1; Sue
Steib, Ann Beau-
mont, Penny Gra-
ham, -April 4

Wedding

Anniversaries

Christian and Chip
Tregle-March 24;
Richard and Meg
Kendrick-March 31;
Bobby and Jane
Daniel -April 3

Conference Call Instructions:

Wednesday Evening Prayer: 5:15 PM; Every Wednesday, use the below information.

Join a Zoom Meeting via computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/966604906?pwd=OWpOSFg5dWITVVBhcEZXS2Y3OWk4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 966 604 906

Password: 973633

Dial by your location—Use this if using phone only, or if use phone for audio with a computer.

Dial: +1 312 626 6799 US ; Meeting ID: 966 604 906

Thursday Morning Prayer : 9:15 AM Every Thursday, use the below information.

Join a Zoom Meeting via computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/395290523?pwd=RFU5N3hhN0hDNDVaaUJuczkwOU1EZz09>

Meeting ID: 395 290 523

Password: 577173

Dial by your location—Use this if using phone only, or if use phone for audio with a computer.

Dial: +1 312 626 6799 US; Meeting ID: 395 290 523

Friday Morning Prayer: 8:00 AM; Every Friday, use the below information

Join Zoom Meeting via computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/611495841?pwd=Vk5qTUVkTUV3bUZxckptc3gxencwQT09>

Meeting ID: 611 495 841

Password: 705957

Dial by your location—Use this if using phone only, or if use phone for audio with a computer.

Dial: +1 312 626 6799 US; Meeting ID: 611 495 841

Instruction on how to How to Join the Call using Only your Phone

- Dial +1 312-626-6799.
- You will be prompted to enter the [meeting ID](#) - enter the meeting ID for the specific day you are calling.
- If the meeting has not already started and [join before host](#) is not enabled, you will be prompted to press # to wait if you are participant.
- You will be prompted to enter your unique participant ID. This only applies if you have joined on the computer or mobile device or are a panelist in a webinar. Press # to skip.

**Other persons
prayers are asked
for:**

Claiborne Arbuthnot, Charles Barham, Kevin Beauchamp, Micaela Kell Bennett, Isabella Bertucci, Leslie Bickham, Phillip Bowen, Ben Brown, Mason Brudewick, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, Darby Buras, Jenny Clark, Daryn Conrad, Rob Cox, Sandy Davenport, William David, Kathleen Davis, Jessica DeLee, Debbie Desmar, Helen Desselles, Cathy Doslovic, Molly Douglas, Amy Dwyer, Mark Ellison, Jennifer Erickson, Mark Feltner, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Jerry Green, Jane Hamilton, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Wayne Hudnall, Joel James, Michelle Jansonne, Henry Jones, Mary Jo Kaly, Pat Laurent, Jody Lemoine, Jessica Liddle, Max, Charlotte Mayeaux, Laine Martrain, Mary Anne McCrory, Ruby McKee, Cheryl Meaux, Steve Meaux, Robin Michel, Jimmy Mitchell, Ruth Morris, Randall Nachman, Walter Oliveaux, Barton Platte, Elizabeth Poole, Susanna Prescott, Tammy Riggs, James and Sylvia Roach, Yvonne Rogers, Cole Rourke, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Rusty Snyder, Cade Stapleton, Kaitlyn Temple, Roland Toups, Millie and Howard Varner, Deborah Vines, Emily Walz, Jake Washington, Deacon Zekes, Lynn Zinn.

**Those serving in the
armed forces:**

Parker Blanche, Amanda Browning, Jay Christopher, Ryan Coacher, Carlile Cointment, John Davis, Joseph Dooley, Polly Finley, Bryan Geltz, Edward Jenkins, Laura Latson, Shawn Lemons, Terry Palmer, James Powers, Jeff Ragusa, Christopher Willis, Aaron Zuccaro, 745th & 746th Exped Squads, 379th & 926th Exped. Support Squads, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), 1st 222 Aviation Regiment.

Grace Church
of West Feliciana Parish
P.O. Box 28
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Prayers

A Prayer for Doctors and Nurses:

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP p. 460

A Prayer for Use by Sick Persons

(Though for the use by Sick persons, we find it applicable to our present state.)

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

BCP p. 461

Service Schedule

March 22, 2020

Readings:

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

March 29, 2020

Readings:

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

Wednesday, March 25

5:15pm - Evening Prayer via
Conference Call

Thursday, March 26

9:15am - Morning Prayer via
Conference Call

Friday, March 27

8:00am. Morning Prayer via
Conference Call

Sunday, March 29

Review the inside of the newsletter, our website, and Facebook for information on Services for which you can connect.

Wednesday, April 1

5:15pm - Evening Prayer via
Conference Call

Thursday, April 2

9:15am - Morning Prayer via
Conference Call

Friday, April 3

8:00am. Morning Prayer via
Conference Call