



# Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

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

Newsletter for  
January 17 & 24, 2016

(225) 635-4065-Office  
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## **Rector**

Roman D. Roldan  
rector@gracechurchwfp.org

## **Associate Rector**

Rev. Dr. Peter Kang  
associate@gracechurchwfp.org

## **Parish Administrator**

Anne Klein  
secretary@gracechurchwfp.org

## **Pre-School**

(225) 635-4030  
Diana Weller  
preschool@gracechurchwfp.org

Stacy Loyacono  
Emily Barrow  
Crystal Rogers

## **Vestry**

Dr. Landon Anderson  
Dare Didier  
Linda Flynn  
Stewart Hughes  
Mickey Melancon  
Thomas Olsen  
Robert Singer  
Dr. Adam Whatley  
Russ Wray

Glenn Thomas, Treasurer  
treasurer@gracechurchwfp.org

## **Website**

www.gracechurchwfp.org

## *Learn to Dance in 2016*

Many of you may not know this, but I am a good Latin music dancer. Growing up with five sisters made dancing well a required skill. In Colombia, social convention mandates older sisters to teach younger siblings to dance. My sisters would have been utterly embarrassed and socially shunned had I not been able to dance cumbia, salsa, merengue, or even the tango. Now, it is well known that to be a good dancer one must be able to discern the difference in various rhythms. There are times when you lead and there are times when you allow the other to lead you, there are times when you slow down and let the music penetrate your soul, and there are times when you twirl, turn, charge, retreat, and move your feet or body rhythmically as the music demands. Learning how to pause and slow down is as important as learning when to change step patterns to adapt your movements to the music. Learning to give and take, to lead and be led, to accommodate and find accommodation, to listen and feel are all important skills without which no one could ever become a good dancer.

Life is just like a dance. We all enter life in the middle of the dance, and the dance will continue without us when we exit stage left. We are at the dance for just a little while, but how well we dance when we are on the great stage of life makes a difference in our lives and in the lives of others. If we are unable to keep any type of rhythm, we will intrude in other people's space, and we will bump into others, making them trip up and fall. We will disrupt the harmony and excitement of the dance and cause great pain to ourselves and others.

As this new year begins, we must assess the rhythm of our lives. The goal for us is work balanced by play, a social life matched by a life of service, personal development perfected by spiritual growth, intellectual pursuits complemented by physical activity, professional advancement rooted in great humility, love of self leading to love of others, and busyness wedded to rest. Balance is the key to a centered, productive, creative, and joyful life. If you are completely unyielding, unwavering, and intransigent you will not be able to lead and be led in a way that makes your life and the lives of others more joyful. There are times when you must stand your ground, but, even at those times, humility, a sense of humor, and copious amounts of grace are required to advance your position without isolating or hurting others. I have often found that those who are right about everything tend to be the most lonely. Without humility and grace being right sometimes devolves into self-righteousness and higher-than-thou-ness. When it comes to developing interpersonal relationships, there is no impediment greater than the belief that we are better, somehow more intellectually and spiritually advanced than anyone else.

The Holy Spirit leads God's people into harmony and peace. It is the Spirit's job to lead us into all truth and to remind us constantly about Jesus of Nazareth and his unwavering love, compassion, and grace toward us. The Spirit reminds us daily

that we are loved and that we were created for love of God and love of other. The Spirit is the moderator of the cosmic dance of the Holy Trinity, and it is the very rhythm that holds the universe together. One of the results of the New Covenant between God and humanity is that God's Holy Spirit now dwells in our hearts. He whispers in the silence of our quiet moments, "You are the beloved, in you I am well pleased!" He shouts in the roaring noise of our moments of crisis, "You can do this! I am with you and I will never leave you. Remember that Jesus loves you enough to die for you!"

I am praying that God's Holy Spirit will help you find balance in your life in this 2016. I know that it is often necessary to speak to someone about ways in which work-life balance can be achieved. I suggest that some also need help achieving spiritual balance. If this is your case and you feel God is calling you to prioritize your spiritual life this year, please call Fr. Peter or Fr. Roldan and we will schedule some time to listen and help. We have a ministry for anyone who wants one and we would love to connect you to your heart's passion. If we don't have a ministry that interests you, we will be glad to create one. Just come see us.

May our Lord bless you with the gift of health and the gift of balance this year. I hope 2016 is the year we all learn to dance. Amen!

**New Address for Deacon Suzie:** Deacon Suzie would like to share her new address with us so we can keep in touch. This is their new address: George Silbernagel & Suzie Johnston, 5805 Cross Pointe Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027.

**The Annual Meeting** will be Sunday, January 24 following the 10am service. Those who have reports to turn in for 2015, please email them by Monday January 18th to the church office; secretary@gracechurchwfp.org. Thank you for your cooperation. Anne Klein

**"Mere Christianity":** The last two classes for "Mere Christianity" will be January 13th and 20th. Supper will be at 6pm followed by the class. Please remind classmates of the dates.

**Sunday School: The Gospel of Luke:** Every Sunday morning from 8:45 to 9:45AM a group of us gathers in Fr. Roldan's office for a Bible Study on one of the books of the Bible. Over the years we have read Acts of the Apostles, Revelations, Galatians, and, Romans. Beginning on Sunday, January 17, we will begin a study of the Gospel of Luke. We will use a Biblical Commentary by N. T. Wright called "Luke for Everyone." The format of the study is fun, there is lots of coffee, and we encourage great fellowship and conversation. Those attending the 7:30AM service can stay and catch up with others, while we wait for the folks who attend the later service, which usually arrive between 8:35 and 8:40. Please plan to attend and bring friends. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Roldan+

**2015 Financial Update:** 2015 was a tough year financially because of the drop in oil prices, the massive restoration of our sanctuary, worshipping in Jackson Hall for 7 months, etc. In spite of this, our congregants and contributors were very generous to us. We finished contributions at 94% and pledge income at roughly 90% of 2014 levels. So far in 2015, we have received a good amount of pledges, which include several new pledgers. There are 14 parishioners who have pledged faithfully over the last few years whose pledge cards have not yet arrived. If you are one of those families, please take a moment and fill out your card. We are working hard on a 2016 budget to be presented and approved at the Annual Meeting on January 24 after the 10:00AM Service. If you need to catch up with your 2015 pledge, please send us a cheque as soon as you are able. Blessings to you and your family, Fr. Roldan+

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

Landon Anderson,  
David Barnes,  
George Black, Wayne  
Blake, Russell Daniel,  
Cecil May Dwyer,  
Tom Morris, Sara  
Nelson, Emile Pour-  
ciau, Margie Sheets,  
Wendell Wade, Kelly  
Ward, Madeline  
Wright.

#### Birthdays

Diana Claire Davis,  
Emily Roldan, Carl  
Metz-Jan. 17; Joe  
Dardard, Anne Tim-  
mons-Jan. 18;  
Beth Smith-Jan. 19;  
Caroline Marchive,  
Charles Reichman,  
David Bunch-Jan. 20;  
Genie McClendon,  
Lori Gore-Jan. 21;  
Travis Thornton-Jan.  
23; Joseph DeJean,  
Robyn Mann-Jan. 24;  
Billy Williams-Jan.25;  
Debbie Martin-Jan.  
26; Paxton McClen-  
don-Jan. 27; Jessica  
Belchir-Jan. 28;  
Mary Woodyear-Jan.  
29; Taylor Sparks,  
Ricky Sparks, LaFa-  
yette Means IV-Jan.  
30.

#### Wedding

#### Anniversaries

David and Carolyn  
Bunch-Jan. 21.

*Other persons prayers are asked for:*

Sadie Aitken, Charles Barham, Mercer Barney, MiMi Bornman, Ben Brown, Steve Brown, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, Debbie Bunch, John Caruthers, Jenny Clark, Troy Cothorn, Kathleen Davis, Debbie Desmar, Helen Des-selles, Molly Douglas, Mark Ellison, Gretchen Eppling, Jennifer Erickson, Louise Ewin, Mark Feltner, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Myron Hamey, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Elmo Hegwood, Wayne Hud-nall, Joel James, Lindsey Johnson, Jill Joffrion, Mary Jo Kaly, Cecil Kelly, Jody Lemoine, Bob Lewis, Jessica Lid-dle, Max, Raymond Maesti, Paul McGuff, Ralph McKenzie, Lainee Martrain, Mary Anne McCrory, Ruby McKee, Robin Michel, Dorothy Anne Millikin, Jim Mire, Jimmy Mitchell, Rusty Melton, Alice Mier, Mike Morris, Ran-dall Nachman, Emily Neumann, Ashley Palm-er, Barton Platte, Susana Prescott, Holly Price, Peter Purpera, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Gwin Shanks, Kaizlyn Shockley, Cade Staple-ton, Michael Stokes, Gary Thomas, Denham Turner, Darold Whit-mer, Kristen Wray, John Woodward.

*Those serving in the armed forces:* Parker Blanche, Amanda Browning, James Boucher, Jay Christopher, Ryan Coacher, Ben Colia, John Davis, Joseph Dooley, Bryan Geltz, Edward Jenkins, Laura Latson, Shawn Lemons, Terry Palmer, James Powers, Jeff Ragu-sa, Christopher Willis, Matthew Young, 745th & 746th Exped. Squads, 379th Exped.

Please look over the list to the left for Prayer requests to see if someone you added can be taken off now.

Forward Day by Day for the February through April qtr. are available in the Church Office.

St. John's will have a Eucharist at 7:30am this Sunday with Fr. Kang as celebrant; Bp. Jen-kins will celebrate at Grace's 7:30am Eucharist.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I am writing to appeal to you for your help. In the past we have had some glorious coffee hours where one could literally eat lunch. We have many marvelous cooks in the parish so it has been delightful. But saying that, we are now at a crossroads. The coffee hours have been well done to the point that no one now wants to sign up to do them due to being intimidated by the grandeur of previous coffee hours, or by the expense and time of doing such elaborate ones. We have now decided, since Coffee Hours were originally intended to serve coffee and visit with our fellow parishioners that we would go back to that intension. We will serve coffee, water, juice and cookies ONLY!!! Please be willing to sign up for a Sunday that you can bring store bought or homemade cookies and juice and make a few pots of coffee. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

In my attempt to help Anne Klein, our Parish Administrator, who is inundated with many jobs, we are asking ladies to sign up to take a month to help out by serving on the FUNERAL COMMITTEE. If there are any funerals during a particular month, this chairperson will be contacted by Anne when someone dies and the funeral is sched-uled. They will be responsible to contact the family to decide when they would like to have coffee, water and cookies provided; it can be before the funeral during visitation or after the funeral. Either time it will be in Jackson Hall. If the family wants to do a din-ner or cocktail type of reception, they can either have a caterer do it at their expense or ask a friend or friends to do it. The person in charge of the dinner/reception will be responsible for all foods, paper products, flowers, set up and clean up. Many months, praise God, there are no deaths or funerals. There is a clip board with sign up sheet in the vestibule of the church. Please be willing to sign up for this important ministry!

Thank you and God bless, Dixie Blue  
225-931-5431 [kblue25707@aol.com](mailto:kblue25707@aol.com)

**2016 Pledge Card**

In Thanksgiving for God's goodness, and support of the ministry of our Church,

I / we will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week / month / year in 2016. (circle one)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

I / we would like offering envelopes \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Address \_\_\_\_\_

This is an expression of faith and intent, and not a legal obligation. Contact the Church Treasurer to make any adjustment. Please return your pledge card as soon as possible by mailing to Box 28, St. Francisville, by dropping it off at the church office or put it in the offering plate on any Sunday.

**Grace Church**  
of West Feliciana Parish  
P.O. Box 28  
St. Francisville LA 70775

*Address Service Requested*

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## Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

### Sunday, January 17, 2016

**Acolytes:** Mary Elizabeth Barrow, Karina Mulkey, Emma Olsen, Lilli Higgins, Ella Corinne Howle, Clara Jane Hughes  
**Chalice bearers:** 7:30am: Lucie Butler  
10:00am: Rucker Leake, George Newton  
**Ushers:** Kelly Ward, Glenn Thomas  
**Lectors:** Rucker Leake, Bill McClendon  
**Vestry Rep:** Tiger Olsen  
**Altar Guild Team 2**  
**Altar Flowers: Volunteer needed**  
**Sanctuary Candle:** Rachel Bunch  
**Coffee Hour:** Anne Klein  
**Babysitters:** Natasha Kirschling, Lorna Klein

### Sunday, January 24, 2016

**Acolytes:** Fiona Tully, James Kirschling, Charles Fox-Smith, Wyatt Olsen, Mary Jane Opperman, Joseph DeJean  
**Chalice bearer:** 7:30am: Sharon Gauthier  
10am: Brandie Olsen, Joey Gammill  
**Ushers:** Carl Fontenot, Joseph Horn  
**Lectors:** George Newton, David Opperman  
**Vestry Rep:** Adam Whatley  
**Altar Guild Team 3**  
**Altar Flowers:** Colleen and Jean Hill  
**Sanctuary Candle:** Rachel and Zed Howell  
**Coffee Hour:** Mike and Arlene Hughes  
**Babysitters:** Claudia Tully, Mary Willis

### January 17, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist (Grace & St. John's)  
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study  
10:00am - Eucharist  
Coffee Hour  
4-6 pm - Youth Group

### January 24, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist  
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study  
10:00am - Eucharist  
Annual Meeting  
Coffee Hour  
4-6 pm - Youth Group

### Wednesday, January 20, 2016

5:15pm - Holy Eucharist  
6:00pm - Supper and "Mere Christianity"

### Thursday, January 21, 2016

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

### Friday, January 22, 2016

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

### Sunday, January 24, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist  
8:45-9:45 - Bible Study  
10:00am - Eucharist  
Coffee Hour & Annual Meeting  
4-6:00pm - EYC meetings and supper

### Wednesday, January 27, 2016

5:15pm - Holy Eucharist

### Thursday, January 28, 2016

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

### Friday, January 29, 2016

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

### Sunday, January 31, 2016

7:30am - Eucharist  
10:00am - Eucharist  
Coffee Hour  
4-6:00pm - EYC meetings and supper