



Grace Church of West Feliciana Parish

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

Newsletter for
September 4 & 11,
2016

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The Love so freely shared

The "500 Year Flood" in Louisiana has been described as the largest natural disaster to strike our country since Hurricane Sandy. According to estimates from the Times Picayune, 60,646 houses were affected, with many of them now considered uninhabitable, 30,000 people had to be rescued, 109,398 people have applied for housing help, only about 19% of all homes destroyed had flood insurance, 188,729 people have been affected either directly or indirectly, and the expected cost of the storm may be higher than 30 billion dollars. The storm placed an already over-taxed social services infrastructure on the verge of collapse. Without churches and other volunteer groups there would be no safety net for Louisiana.

The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana has parishes and ecclesiastical units located throughout most of the affected areas, which means that thousands of the affected victims are our parishioners and tens of thousands are our neighbors and friends. The most affected areas are in South Baton Rouge, Denham Springs, and Clinton. Some of the most vulnerable populations are undocumented immigrants, unemployed or underemployed minorities, elderly living in "Section-8" housing, the homeless, and the mentally ill. Many of the affected victims are single-income households with children, awaiting Federal and State assistance.

Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana's Response: The response of the Diocese of Louisiana has been remarkable in many ways. The following are some of our efforts in providing immediate relief:

St. Augustine's, Metairie, has been coordinating with Episcopal High School and Together Baton Rouge to staff the emergency response phones at Together Baton Rouge. They have helped muck-up houses for parishioners and for Episcopal High School Families.

Saint Martin's, Metairie had a day of work in Denham Springs on Saturday, August 27 and is planning weekend trips to the same area for the next few months.

Annunciation, St. Paul's, St. George's, and St. Anna's in New Orleans are now planning monthly weekend trips to Denham Springs. They have already assisted the Diocese financially and with coordination services.

Trinity, New Orleans has served thousands of meals in Denham Springs through their mobile kitchen. They are also bringing a large work crews to help in the mucking of homes in Denham Springs.

St. Anna's, New Orleans has taken a leadership role since the very start of the floods. They have coordinated with us to educate local leaders in St. Francisville, have pro-

vided valuable resources of tools and supplies, and have helped us schedule outside volunteer groups already coming to us.

Episcopal High School, Baton Rouge, in spite of approximately \$3,000,000 worth of uninsured damages, and 30 of their teachers and administrators being directly affected by the flood, they have helped many of their neighbors gut and clean their homes and have set up a clearing-house where affected neighbors can sign up to get help cleaning their homes.

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, Baton Rouge is located two blocks from the headquarters of the East Baton Rouge Police Department. The first ministry of the parish was to help EBPD personnel muck-out their homes. They held a drive to benefit them, which included a truck full of supplies from Rome, GA that helped those families with emergency assistance. They have also helped many of their own parishioners clean their homes.

Trinity, Baton Rouge has about 20 families of the congregation who were affected by the floods, In addition to helping these families with mucking and clean-up, they have also helped LSU students at College Town, Monticello to muck-out their homes.

Saint James, Baton Rouge spent the immediate days after the floods helping 9 parishioners and several teachers of their school muck-out and clean their homes. They took over one day of feeding of 500 homeless people, who are usually served by Saint Vincent de Paul. They have collected supplies for those in need.

Parishioners of Holy Family, Plaquemine, Mother Karen and John Gay deployed 23 laborers to Denham Springs where they spent 922 hours taking out carpet, flooring, sheet rock, furniture and belongings as needed for St. Francis Episcopal Church (3 church buildings + 2 Sunday School buildings.) They also completely gutted out nine residences while Mother Karen provided pastoral care to many victims. They have also provided residential assistance to several families.

Saint Paul's/Holy Trinity, New Roads has been assisting at the local Pointe Coupee shelter and has been providing pastoral care to many of the affected victims of the flood. They coordinated with us at Grace to muck-out several flooded homes.

St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge has been provided pastoral care and referral services to their neighbors. They have a large concentration of undocumented workers who live near the church.

Our own church here at Grace has taken a very active role in helping affected victims at the shelters in Baton Rouge and setting up a supply distribution center in West Feliciana Parish. The church has coordinated with other churches in town, in a truly ecumenical partnership, to gut large sections of homes in the neighborhood of Solitude. We have set-up a program which includes dozens of parishioners to welcome, house, feed, and train volunteer groups from Louisiana and out of state to help us in West Feliciana Parish and, soon, in Clinton and Baton Rouge/Denham Springs.

Much of the Diocesan initiative started here at Grace, and the Bishop has named Fr. Roldan the Diocesan Flood Relief Coordinator. None of the work we have done would have been possible without the help and love shown by all of you, our parishioners and friends. Fr. Peter, Kelly Ward, the Mission and Outreach Committee and many of you have been crucial to these flood relief efforts. Your love so freely shared with those in desperate need has made all the difference. I am very proud of you. We are in this for the long run, please continue to keep us in your prayers and continue to partner with our Diocese by donating to Episcopal Relief and Development or to our "Bishop's Fund." Blessings to all, Fr. Roldan+

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

David Barnes, Wayne Blake, Cecil May Dwyer, Barbara Mitchell, Tom Morris, Sara Nelson, Jim Roland, Margie Sheets, Wendell Wade, David Walker, Pam Willson, Jake Wray, Madeline Wright.

Birthdays

Susan Leake, David Beauchamp-Sept. 6; Marsha Dardenne, Chaille Lambert-Sept. 7; Zed Howell, James Kirschling Sept. 6; Tab Ballard, Eleanor Peno-Sept. 12; Lindsay McGehee Young, Hamilton Willis-Sept. 13; Blake LeBlanc, Rebecca Kastl Millsap-Sept. 14; Tristan Farthing, Tom Flynn-Sept. 15; Victoria Eulaerts-Sept. 16; Tommy Klein, Mark Clevenger, Shannon Sparks Shaffer, Wendy Hegwood-Sept. 17.

Wedding

Anniversaries

Bruce and Carol Stamey-Sept. 2.

Other persons prayers are asked for:

Charles Barham, Walker Bell, Micaela Kell Bennett, Jolie Berry, Tommy Bishop, Phillip Bowen, Leo Brown, Ben Brown, Steve Brown, Willie Bryant, Randy Bryant, John Caruthers, Jenny Clark, Kitty Claus, Kathleen Davis, Debbie Desmar, Helen Desselles, Molly Douglas, Mark Ellison, Jennifer Erickson, Mark Feltner, Juanita Ferguson, Dennis Flynn, Matthew Gill, Roy Hardin, Parke Henderson, Elmo Hegwood, Wayne Hudnall, Joel James, Michelle Jean-sonne, Jill Joffrion, Mary Jo Kaly, Cecil Kelly, Jody Lemoine, Bob Lewis, Jessica Liddle, Max, Paul McGuff, Ralph McKenzie, Laine Martrain, Mary Anne McCrory, Ruby McKee, Robin Michel, Dorothy Anne Millikin, Jim Mire, Jimmy Mitchell, Rusty Melton, Alice Mier, Mike Morris, Randall Nachman, Barton Platte, Susanna Prescott, Peter Purpera, Carol Ratcliff, Tammy Riggs, Cole Rourke, Stephen Seale, Gwin Shanks, Kaitlyn Shockley, Cade Stapleton, Glenn Thomas III, Roland Toups, Denham Turner, Darold Whitmer, Zane 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 Ragusa, Christopher Willis, Matthew Young, 745th & 746th Exped Squads, 379th & 926th Exped. Support Squads.

Your prayers are asked for the family of George Black, husband of Diana Black, who died on August 23rd. A Memorial Service was held in Grace Church on August 29.

Your prayers are asked for the family of Jim Tengler, who died August 29th. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, September 8 in Grace Church, visitation from 1pm to 2 pm when the service begins. Burial will be at a later date. Following the service, there will be a reception in Jackson Hall.

Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 7:00am. No one has signed up to cook so this is the opportunity you have been waiting for. Call the church office if you would like to have this date.

The Fall Bible Study will begin at 9:00 a.m. on September 7, the Wednesday following Labor Day. This one is an excellent one by Kathleen Norris called "Embracing a Life of Meaning." It is a five-week study, and each week centers on a special subject that is related to having a life of meaning, e.g., the Bible, Community, Place, etc. Workbooks are available through Conundrum Book Store here in St. Francisville. If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Pass: oliviapass@bellsouth.net.

Adult Formation Class: "The Sacraments", led by Jason Kennedy, will start on Wednesday, September 7 at 6pm. No book is necessary- just sign the list in the Narthex.

Children Chapel begins on September 11: We need volunteers to teach. Please call Fr. Peter or Christie Reinhardt if you can participate.

B.R.E.V.E (Baton Rouge Early Vocal Ensemble) will perform a charity concert for Flood Relief on Friday, September 16th at 7pm in Grace Church. Admission is free. A love offering will be collected for flood relief in West Feliciana. Everyone is invited to attend

Looking for Acolytes: If you are interested in being an acolyte, 3rd grade or nine years old or older, including any retired people who might like to serve, please contact Hamilton Willis at johnhamiltonwillis@gmail.com. Hamilton will be home and at church Sept. 4 and can train after church anyone who might be elevating in responsibility. We also want to note **Matthew Skaggs'** retirement from the Team with our thanks for his many years of service.

Are you interested in learning how to do cemetery preservation? We have the opportunity to bring in Michelle Duhon of Bayou Preservations in New Orleans to introduce us to the major "Do's " and "don'ts" on cemetery preservations. Please pick 3 dates, prioritized, that you can come to a workshop. We will try to get as many as we can to one of those dates. The dates are Thursday, September 22, Thursday, October 6; Friday, October 7; Saturday October 8; Thursday, October 13 and Friday, October 14. Please reply to secretary@gracechurchwfp.org by September 10 with your dates and we'll notify you when Ms. Duhon will be coming. If you have more questions, please call Rucker Leake at 933-6637. The more members we have interested and trained in preservation of the cemetery, the greater chance we have of maintaining it in its current condition for many years to come.

Craig and Michelle Roth will be moving on Sept. 7 to Brevard, NC. Their new address will be 1951 Asheville Hwy, Brevard, NC 28712. They both have given so much to Grace Church and St. Francisville and we will miss them greatly. Best wishes and our prayers go with them.

Grace Church
of West Feliciana Parish
P.O. Box 28
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Address Service Requested

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U.S. Postage Paid
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St. Francisville LA 70775

Sunday Ministry Assistants & Calendar

Sunday, September 4, 2016

Acolytes: Hayden Howle, Emma Olsen, Clara Jane Hughes, Mary Jane Opperman
Chalice bearers: 7:30am: Sharon Gauthier
10:00am: George Newton, Brandie Olsen
Ushers: Will Plettinger, Rob Reinhardt
Lectors: Rachel Howell, Bill McClendon
Vestry Rep: Dr. Adam Whatley
Altar Guild Team 3
Altar flowers: Belton and Dare Didier
Sanctuary Candle: Zed and Rachel Howell
Coffee Hour: Dr. Adam and Carly Whatley
Babysitters: Lorna Klein, Sara Roldan

Sunday, September 11, 2016

Acolytes: Fiona Tully, James Kirschling, Madison Pollet, Ella Corinne Howle
Chalice bearers: 7:30am: Sharon Gauthier
10am: Sheryl Wynters, Landon Anderson
Ushers: Sarah Rhody, Austin Roldan
Lectors: Richard Kendrick, Ellen Klein
Vestry Rep: Christian DeJean
Altar Guild Team 4
Altar flowers: Peter & Samantha Kang
Sanctuary Candle: Peter & Samantha Kang
Coffee Hour: Dr. Adam and Carly Whatley
Babysitters: Madie Landry, Landry Higgins

September 4, 2016

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

September 11, 2016

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

Wednesday, September 7

7:00am - Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:00am - Bible Study
5:15pm - Holy Eucharist
6:00pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 8

10:00am - Worship at SF Country Manor

Friday, September 9

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

Sunday, September 11

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

Wednesday, September 14

9:00am - Bible Study
5:15pm - Holy Eucharist
6:00pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 15

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