



Grace Notes November 2020

Our Mission Statement:
To know Christ & make Christ known
Grace Episcopal Church
106 Lowell St.
Manchester, NH





Table of Contents

Rector's Reflection3

Compline Continues4

GEC Book Group Update5

Outreach Committee Announcements6

Prayers for Children and Their Caregivers7

Getting to Know You - Terry Everett8

For the Love of Poetry11

Ataxia Virtual Walk Results12

Over the Fence13

Thoughts and Reflections: God Pause14

Winter Season Covid-19 Tips15

Southern Convocation Report17

Steeple Project18

Friendly Faces Out and About19

OLLI at Granite State College19

Religious Response To Hunger Donation20

Happy 1st Birthday to Violet Frost21

Milestones21

Vestry Meeting22

Monthly Pledge Income Trend Graphs22

Rector's Reflection

Several years ago one of you observed out loud that I appeared to be very well read. I laughed and immediately replied, "I am just really good at hunting on the Internet for quotes that match what I want to preach or say. Google is a huge help!"



Today I Googled the phrase "safety quotes" and came across this anonymous poem:

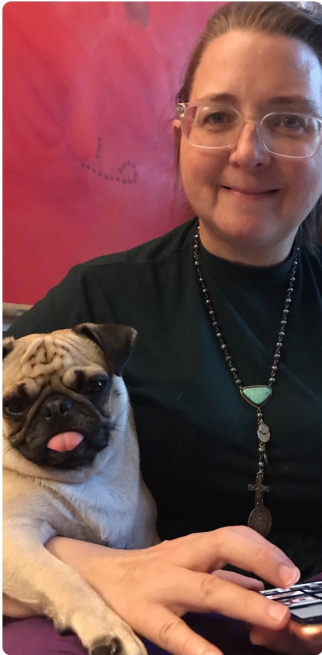
*There was a very cautious man who never laughed or played.
He never risked, he never tried, he never sang or prayed.
And when he one day passed away, his insurance was denied,
For since he never really lived, they claimed he never really died.*

Safety first. Be cautious and careful. Others have taught us this wisdom from the time we are children. We are coached to look both ways when crossing the street. Teachers in grade school reminded us to use our words, not our fists. When we learned to drive, we learned about speed limits and sharp curves. Hitchhiking has become a thing of the past. Better to call an Uber than thumb a ride. As responsible, moral beings we work to make decisions that will help, not hurt, ourselves and others.

State leaders, school administrators, business owners, and faith leaders day by day continue to wonder: "How do we evoke safe living in a time of COVID?" As individuals all of us answer that question daily. Both with what we choose to do and not to do. Some of us stay close to home, rarely socialize with others, and always wear masks when we go out and about in the world. Others have continued to go out regularly, spend time with friends, and don't believe in wearing masks. Finally, some of us are somewhere in between those two counterpoints. I belong to that third category. While I do much of my work online or with the help of a phone, both my children are currently attending school in person. Additionally our son Zach just completed a week performing in person and on stage at the Palace Theatre, while following all state mandated, performance protocols of wearing a mask and having his voice pre-recorded for group numbers.

Dear ones, let's name and claim the truth. We all want to be safe, healthy, and well. This is the reason why our Vestry and our diocesan leadership, led by Bishop +Rob are being careful and cautious about when and how we can and should gather. Because we still do not have enough volunteers for reopening AND because diocesan and Vestry leadership is concerned about the uptick in COVID numbers, for now we will continue to worship via Zoom and will not resume (as previously hoped) in person worship in our nave on November 1st.

Take note - we have decided, no matter what, to distribute communion (in the form of consecrated wafers only) safely and with joy to any and all parishioners (following our Zoom service) in the parking lot across from our church on Sunday, November 15th. Details and plans for that time together will follow.



We all want to gather together in person to laugh, play, sing, and pray together. Trust and know that your Vestry, parish staff, bishop, and diocesan leadership continue to talk and think and wonder about how and when to do this wisely and safely.

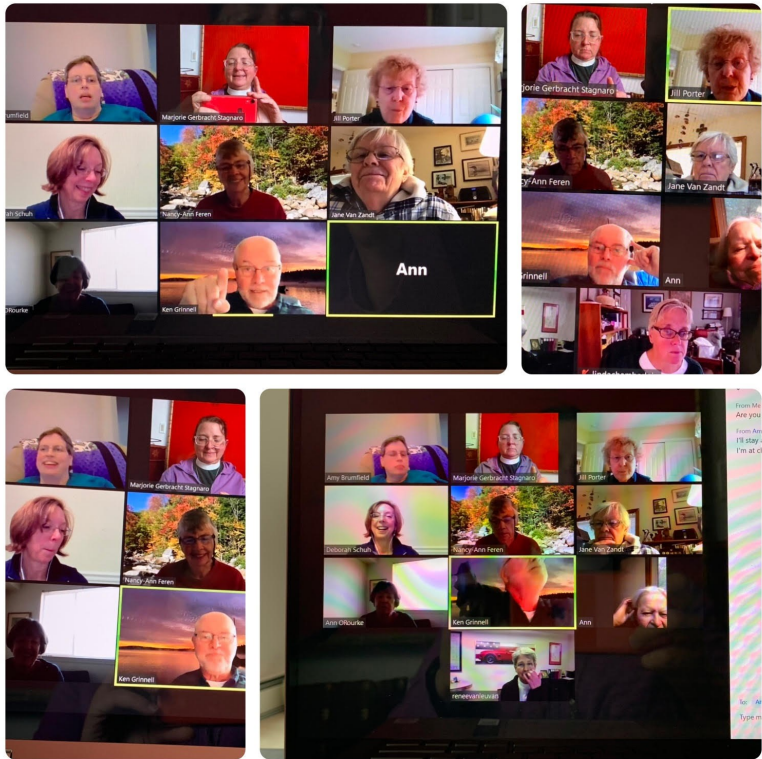
Much love,
Marjorie +

Compline Continues

Our parish is ever grateful that since the pandemic began our deacon, the Reverend Mike Andres, continues to lead Compline worship three days a week via Facebook Live. Compline is a brief, contemplative service that calms the soul and is a perfect way to end one's day.

All are welcome to attend Compline on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7:30 PM at our Grace Episcopal Church Facebook page. Take note that after the service is completed the recording of the service is uploaded on to Facebook. So if you aren't able to join in at 7:30 PM, you can always pull up the service, watch and pray with Father Mike when your day actually ends.

GEC Book Group Update



On Tuesday, October 21st, eleven members of our parish book group met to discuss *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover. A few members who attended shared how they had read the book more than once, while others struggled to read all the way as the book is a very disturbing read. The book tells of Tara's real life experiences of growing up in and subsequently leaving a radical, survivalist Mormon home. Westover struggled for years to escape the cycles of abuse embedded within her family, fi-

nally finding an escape through her education. Published in 2018, *Educated* debuted at #1 on the NY Times bestseller list and received glowing recommendations from people like Bill Gates and Oprah. This book opened us to a rich discussion about the impact of education and family ties in the shaping and development of individuals' souls.

On Tuesday, November 17th at 12 noon we welcome any and all to join us for a discussion on Zoom of the text *Green Dolphin Street* by Elizabeth Goudge. The website "Good Reads" summarizes this novel in this way:

A haunting love story set in the Channel Islands and New Zealand in the 19th century. William Ozanne, whose hypnotic, masculine presence made two sisters adore him with all their heart. The two beautiful daughters of a wealthy merchant of the Channel Islands fall in love with the same man, are very different. Marianne, the eldest sister is brilliant, passionate, and moody. Marguerite, the younger sister is pretty, dreamy, and quiet. The sisters had both loved him for years. A stunning tale of loss and self-sacrifice, it is truly one of the most memorable love stories of the last century.

Outreach Committee Announcements

The Giving Tree

Despite the pandemic, Christmas will still come and families will still need help, perhaps more than ever. The Outreach Committee hopes to be able to help 125 children again this year.

However, instead of asking you to choose a mitten or mittens from the tree and having you shop, we are asking for donations with which we will purchase a \$75 Walmart gift card for each child. The school social workers would

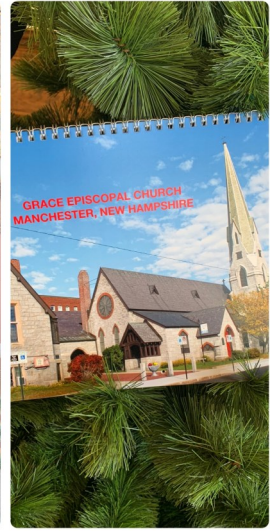
like to receive the cards right after Thanksgiving so they can distribute them to families; the parents will then do the shopping.



Please be as generous as you can. Any amount will be appreciated. Send a check made out to Grace Church with a notation that this is for The Giving Tree. We need to receive the money no later than November 16. All the gift cards will be purchased by the Outreach Committee using the money that is donated.

Thank you to those of you who have already contributed. As of October 15th we have received \$1125. To meet our goal, we need \$8250 more.

We will also collect warm hats, mittens, and scarves. There will be a tree set up in the church library. Enter the building Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 9 AM and 1 PM. Wear a mask and go straight upstairs to the library. Hang mittens, etc. on the tree. We will post pictures to show how the collection is growing.



Grace Church Calendars

The Outreach Committee has produced a 2021 calendar with pictures of church activities. There is a sample calendar on the table in the library. If you would like to order one, send a check for \$15 made out to Grace Church with the notation Calendar by November 16th. On the outside of the envelope please write ATTN: Outreach Calendar.

Nancy-Ann Feren
Outreach Chair

Prayers for Children and Their Caregivers

We give thanks for all those who are caring for children during these times - great grandparents, grandparents, parents, coaches, teachers in schools across our nation, therapists, mentors who continue to empower our children to learn, take risks, sing, dance, act, exercise, and play. May we continue to pray for all those who watch over children during these times.

A Prayer For Children In Times of Pandemic By Kayla Craig (Shared by parishioner Charity Frost)

Lord, we feel the weight
Of raising children in turbulent times.
Help us look beyond ourselves,

For our children are watching.
Help us speak with compassion and dignity,
For our children are listening.
Help us learn from experts and researchers,
For our children are following our lead.

For our concerned children, may we help them feel safe.
For our confused children, may we help them be informed.
For our compromised children, may we help them stay well.

Help us live with open eyes and open hands.
Help us model love for neighbor, even if it means staying home.
For in doing so, our children will learn what it means
To set aside one's own wants for the sake of another's need.

We give thanks for your tenderness, mercy, and peace.
May we remember we love in times of complexity and confusion
Because you first loved us. AMEN.

Getting to Know You - Terry Everett

This month Louie Hudon, who was interviewed last month by Moe Thomas, planned on constructing questions and selecting our next interview candidate for this newsletter series. Because Saint Teresa's (where Louie resides) is on lockdown due to COVID, Louie will be doing his promised interview of another parishioner some time in the near future. Our rector selected Terry Everett to be interviewed this month and created questions just for her.



What is your vocation and what is your favorite characteristic about the work you do?

I am a Speech Language Pathologist currently working in Auburn, NH at Auburn Village School. I love what I do, and particularly working with children. SLPs can practice in many different settings, and my choice to work in the public school setting allows me to treat a variety of children presenting with a wide range of disabilities that impact their education. Working with students on the autism spectrum is especially rewarding.

How has your job changed since the pandemic began?

Lots of changes! This spring my school went remote, which was challenging in terms of both technology and providing therapy services via Zoom. In September, we returned to the building, but with many modifications. Currently, both teachers, staff, and students wear masks during the school day, and distance 6 feet in the classroom. No easy task, but I feel my school is doing an amazing job keeping everyone as safe as possible.

What is your favorite restaurant in New Hampshire and why?

I have so many because I love food! La Caretta is one of my favorites because of their fresh, tableside guacamole. I also think they are more “authentic” than some other Mexican restaurants in the area.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? What are your hobbies?

Hands down, I love going to the beach. I find serenity in the salty water, crashing waves, and the sounds of the tide rolling in and out. My favorite hobby is collecting sea glass, treasures tumbled through time and the powerful force of the sea.

What is your favorite book and why?

I am a John Irving fan, and love that he is from New Hampshire and has earned such critical acclaim writing stories that are often set in our state, or have elements of New England depicted in the story line. One of my favorite John Irving books is, *A Prayer for Owen Meany*. This book is thought provoking, as are most of Irving’s novels, and touches upon the themes of spirituality, social justice, and fate, in a way that will keep you captivated throughout the Vietnam War era saga.

What one country would you like to travel to after the pandemic is over?

I have always wanted to visit Greece, where my paternal grandparents immigrated from. Not only does Greece hold meaning for me in terms of my ancestry, but the beauty and culture of the country are elements that also are appealing and intriguing. I would love to cruise around the Greek Islands, and perhaps discover a piece of unique sea glass!

How long have you been coming to Grace Church and how did you discover our parish?

I had been looking for a church to attend after moving from Goffstown and attending St. Matthew's, with the amazing Father Bill Exner then presiding. It took a long while to find the right "fit" for me, and after a neighbor's recommendation I found Grace Church. I have now been a parishioner for over 15 years.



What do you love most about Grace Church?

I love that Grace Church is accepting of all God's children, no matter race, sexual orientation, economic status, or spiritual beliefs. I have always felt comfortable in our parish, welcomed, and never judged.

Please tell us about the non-profit you began called Anchored in Hope. How did you decide to start it? What is the core purpose of Anchored in Hope?

Anchored in Hope is truly my passion. The organization was formed in honor, and in memory of my beautiful daughter, Sara, who passed from a drug overdose in 2016. It was founded on the principles of Sara's character: love, acceptance, determination, and the desire to help those who struggle in this lifetime. We assist the homeless population with basic needs, food, clothing, toiletries, while maintaining dignity and forming bonds with this community. Beyond the basic needs, Anchored in Hope attempts to be a light that lifts the spirit with haircuts, trips to the laundromat, or enjoying a pizza at a homeless camp. Our core purpose is to make connections, provide hope, and to help end the stigma associated with substance use, mental health, and homelessness.

For the Love of Poetry

In my OLLI poetry class for next week, we were asked to submit two poems: one having to do with nature, and the other having a message for the times we are living in.

Joyce Kilmer's poem *Trees* has been a favorite ever since childhood:



I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast:

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair.

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

My choice for the timely poem comes from our hymnal (text by Carl P Daw Jr):

O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
Guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.
May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release,
Till by God's grace our warring world shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;

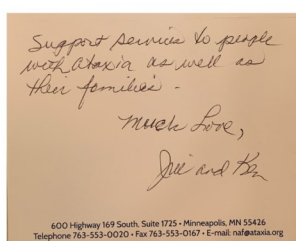
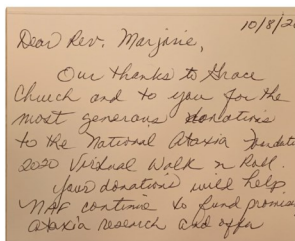
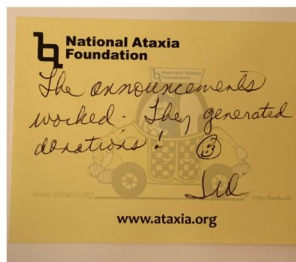
As beasts and cattle calmly graze, a little child shall lead them all.
Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Perhaps you have a poem or two that make you think of nature, or the world as you wish it to be.

Jane W Van Zandt+

Ataxia Virtual Walk Results

The National Ataxia Foundation's Virtual Walk n Roll was held earlier in October. NAF's mission is to support ataxia research and continue to support the fight to improve the lives of people affected by ataxia and their families. As I write this the virtual event is nearing its country wide goal of \$400,000 and our individual goal is also close to being met. Donations are still being accepted through the end of the month.



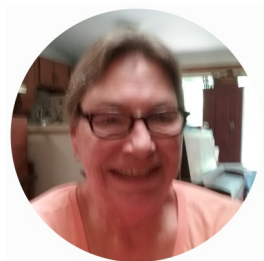
We appreciate your support in the past and are reaching out at this time to ask if you are able to join in at this time please. No amount is too small. You may make a donation at our webpage: <https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/NAFLIVE/JillPorter>

If you would rather send a donation by check please do so by making your check payable to NAF and mailing it to me. Thanks for caring about us as we continue along our journey.

Jill & Ken Porter

Over the Fence

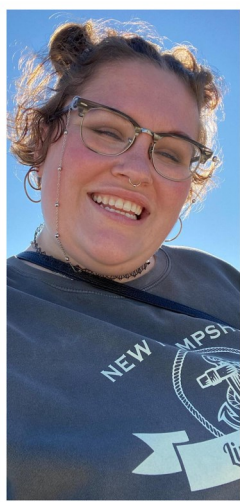
Life continues to be busy for our neighbors at Grace House. The corps members are deeply involved with supporting students and teachers at their various schools, sometimes on site and sometimes virtually.



But all work would be incredibly stressful. Hannah's family visited from Minnesota last week and they toured Boston and went to the beach. Even people from the land of 1000 Lakes like to visit the ocean Back East!

And sincere congratulations and admiration go out to Luvango Mesengira! Last month he was sworn in as a citizen of the United States of America. His journey from the Congo to Ethiopia to Austin, Texas has landed him in Manchester. He will be voting in his first American election. He loves sharing this experience with his fourth graders at Wilson School. Now if we could just find him a soccer team to play on. The energy and commitment our City Year Corps members bring to their jobs everyday is an amazing gift.

Ann Hewins



Above: three of this year's Grace House tenants: Hannah Kosloski, Alison Wuensch, and Charlie Rogers

Thoughts and Reflections

God Pause



Over the years, I have seen and heard of times when people have struggled with a situation, and then something happened that changed everything. I suppose it is possible to think of each of these events as a coincidence, but it is also possible to think of them as being more significant than that. There are times when such an event might be considered as God-sent; something to make us pause and re-think where we are. I would like to start by describing an event that I learned about just recently.

A friend of ours shared a story about a woman that she and Nancy-Ann both knew. The sad part of the story is that the woman's son had recently committed suicide. This was very tragic, and she was struggling to deal with it. She couldn't change anything, and her life had to go on.

One day, she was looking for needles and thread to do some sewing. She opened a drawer where she expected to find them, but couldn't find the needles. The thread was there, but no needles. She opened the drawer below it, thinking they might be there. She didn't see any needles, but did notice a small folded piece of paper. She picked it up and opened it. The note written on it was from her son when he was about 6 or 7, and it said "Mommy, I love you very much."


She put the note back into the drawer, closed it, and returned to the first drawer. As soon as she opened it, the needles were there. One interpretation is that God hid the needles from her because He knew she needed to see the note. As soon as she had seen the note, the needle blindness left her and she could see them. She could continue with the routines of her life, but maybe in a somewhat more positive way.

I know there are more stories like this floating around, and I'm sure that readers of Grace Notes have some they could tell. If you have a similar story with a positive note, something that could have been God-sent and would like to share it, I would be very happy to have you put it into a future Reflection.

Dick Feren

Winter Season Covid-19 Tips

Winter is approaching and Covid-19 cases are on the rise again. The combination of flu season and Covid-19 has the potential to be very dangerous. Being inside with limited air circulation will add to the problem. All these suggestions will help prevent the spread of the flu as well. Here are 8 Coronavirus tips from the American Medical Association:

- 1. Wear a mask** – There has been a turning point in the US, with many states now mandating the wearing of masks indoors to help curb the spread of Covid-19. However, misinformation and mixed signals about masks continue to circulate. This has overwhelmed the growing body of evidence that shows wearing masks is essential to help fight this virus. Wearing your mask correctly is important. It must cover both your mouth and nose.
- 2. Watch your distance** – Physical distancing “is the No. 1 way to prevent transmission,” per Hannah Kirking, MD, a medical epidemiologist for the Division of Viral Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). “The person-to-person transmission is occurring essentially when someone talks or speaks or coughs. They create little droplets, and social distancing limits your ability to be hit with anyone else’s droplet.”
- 3. Wash your hands** – Keeping your hands clean is essential because of how often people touch their faces or rub their eyes, giving the virus particles a pathway into the body. Per Dr. Anthony Fauci, MD, “It’s on our hands. You have the dynamics of the virus which, if left to its own devices, will keep resurging. The only way to stop it is what we do as a countermeasure. It can be done.”
- 4. Limit exposure, slow the spread** – “We are assuming that some patients with Covid-19 will have minimal symptoms and that can infect other individuals that might be at higher risks for poorer

outcomes,” says Dr. O.A. Lanfranco, MD, an infectious disease expert at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit. “By slowing the spread of Covid-19 through limiting exposure to others, they help their providers to be able to provide the appropriate care because not everybody will come at once to the hospital.”

5. **Know when to get tested** – The AMA encourages the general public to be good stewards of limited testing resources and help reduce the wait times for results. Patients should seek testing for Covid-19 (aka SARS-CoV-2), when they have a medical need for that test, meaning that they are demonstrating symptoms of Covid-19, they have had a known exposure to Covid-19 (whether they have symptoms or not), they need a test before seeing a physician or getting a procedure, or they are a health care professional that may have had exposure or risks exposing others.
6. **Cooperate with contact-tracing efforts** – If someone you’ve been in close contact with is diagnosed with Covid-19, you may receive a call from someone working for your local public health department. You should answer the call. Be reassured that discussions with the health department staff are confidential. Any personal or medical information will be kept private and only shared with those who may need to know, such as your health care provider. Your name will not be shared with those you came in contact with.
7. **Protect your children** – Children infected with Covid-19 are often asymptomatic (including no fever), so it’s especially critical that they wear masks to prevent the spread of the virus to others. Children are also likelier to be together in small, enclosed spaces all at once.
8. **Get the flu vaccine** – The flu season always hits hard, but this year is different. There is a looming threat of a “twindemic,” which is the combination of a severe flu season and the current pandemic. Even a mild flu season can disrupt hospitals that have already been stretched by the surge in Covid-19 cases. While there is no vaccine yet for Covid-19, there is one for influenza. Get your shot and get your children vaccinated to reduce the risk of widespread outbreaks.

Dr. Gail Schuman

Southern Convocation Report

The Southern Convocation reconvened virtually on September 29 after its annual summer hiatus. Your faithful parish reps and alternate, Catie, Eric, Shelley and Julia were all present, and excited to be gearing up for our Diocesan convention in November.



First on the agenda was a call for a new Lay Co-Convener. Clergy Co-Convener asked the parish reps to prayerfully consider if they might be called to serve the convocation and the diocese in this way. At least one candidate has emerged, and the necessary conversations have been taking place. We are hoping to have an announcement soon.

The majority of the evening was discussing a major piece of business that will be on the convention docket. For some time, the diocese has been discussing racism, and recommending that every parish undertake a period of inquiry into exactly how race and racism have played out in the communities in which our parishes are situated. While the focus is on Black and Indigenous Peoples, we are also called to acknowledge other people of color, and their story throughout the history of New Hampshire's various communities. The purpose of this is to inform the ways in which we chart a course for reconciliation, repentance and reparation, not merely in terms of money, but in terms of relationship, and going forward together as beloved Community in holier, healthier ways. There will be a resolution at our Convention on which we will vote, committing to take on this work as parishes in the diocese.

Of importance to every community is that we are being asked to take this work seriously, and not merely give a "lip service" vote. This is a commitment to challenging ourselves, stepping into an uncomfortable space, and making changes in how we think, and in what we do. It will not be an easy business, but it will truly be the work of baptism, living out the commitment to "respect the dignity of every human being" and "strive for justice and peace." Your input is invited, and your reps are always willing to hear from you, and respond to any questions or concerns.

Conversations continue at the diocesan level about reopening for in-

person worship. Your diocesan and convocation leaders are very aware of the longing to be together again, the issues surrounding how the Eucharist fits into the constraints we face in time of pandemic. We are mindfully balancing the complex interplay of theological, pastoral, and safety issues that we face in different ways in different communities, and invite your continued prayers as they navigate these concerns with integrity.

Our next virtual meeting will be October 27, where preparations for convention will continue.

Shelley Kesselman

Steeple Project

Our parish is grateful for the leadership of Gary York, Ken Rhodes, and Ken Grinnell who are working diligently with Milestone Engineering and our own head of Property, Mark Anderson, to move our parish's steeple project forward. Ken Grinnell specifically has taken on



the job of working in collaboration with Matthew Bellocchio (from the Andover Organ Company based in Methuen, MA) to make sure our organ's infrastructure is protected before any work on our steeple begins.

Thanks and blessings to everyone who has contributed financially to make this renovation work possible.

Friendly Faces Out and About

If you are out and about and see a friendly face from our parish or have booked spending time with a member of your Grace Church family, consider sending a picture of that sacred moment into our newsletter so your connection can bring others a smile!



OLLI at Granite State College

Some of you have taken classes at OLLI. For those who are not familiar with this opportunity – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is for adults 50 and older who want to learn for the fun of it. There are 124 OLLI's in the country. The current semester began in August and ends in December – all on Zoom. My class choices were:

The impact of Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*, a discussion
Picking the President 2020
Digital Technology

Moral Philosophy: The Ethics of Compromise
Constituting Revolutionary Governments
Barriers to Voting in Elections
Restructuring American Democracy
Learning Facebook
America's Social Contract: Where It Started and Where It Is Now
Finding Hints of Gladness in a Favorite Poem
Passaconaway: The Merrimac Chief
The Election Is Over: What Does It Mean?
Bringing History North: Slavery in Massachusetts Province of Maine
The Electoral College – Why Do We Have It and Can We Change It?

All have an opportunity to ask questions, and discuss the topic.
The Spring semester classes have been chosen, and begin in February.
Google “OLLI at Granite State College” in January!

Jane W Van Zandt+

Religious Response To Hunger Donation

Thank you to all those who donated towards the annual Religious Response To Hunger led by Temple Adath Yeshurun in Manchester via the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Thanks to your generosity we donated \$750 to support those in our city and community who are in need of basic food necessities. We received this thank you note from their leadership:

Dear Colleagues,

Judith Jolton, a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun who for many years has been the chair of our Religious Response to Hunger just shared the following:

The figures are in and I am proud to say we all did a terrific job this year considering Covid 19. Thank you again. We all collected **8,420 pounds of food** to help restock the New Horizon pantry shelves. Everyone needs a tap on the shoulder for a job well done. This figure includes the cash donations as well as the food donations!

Thank you to all of you who helped us feed the hungry in our midst.
Rabbi Beth D. Davidson
Temple Adath Yeshurun

Happy 1st Birthday to Violet Frost
October 19th, 2020



Milestones

Happy Birthday to the following November birthdays celebrants!

1	Mark Cütz	15	Allan Knight
3	Gail Schuman	17	Howard Keegan
4	Ken Rhodes	21	Shirley Magnuson
7	Matthew Serge	25	Colinette Campbell
10	Brian White	28	Rick Krikorian
14	Amy Brumfield	30	Darby Thomas

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow

in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, page 830

If you don't see your birthday listed that means that we do not have it. Please call the office so that your special day can be acknowledged – or if we have it wrong, please let us know that also.

Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, September 17, 2020

Present: Valerie Anderson, Gail Austin, Amy Brumfield, Carol Cote, Hank Gagnon, Nancy Johnson, Ken Kjellander, Teddi McIntosh, Christopher Messier, Gail Schuman, the Reverend Dr. Marjorie Ann Gerbracht-Stagnaro, Chris Turner, Meghann White

Excused Absences: David Roy, Matthew Serge

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. Rev. Marjorie opened the meeting at 7:05 PM with a prayer. We continued with the reading of the Norms.

VOTE: A motion to accept the reports with a consent agenda vote was made by Gail, seconded by Hank, and was carried. The reports included are Clerk's Report, Rector's Report, Music and Worship Planning, and the Planning and Finance Reports (September 2020).

The Vestry had received the financial reports from Gail A., including the sheet reference/comment page. She highlighted the fact that our Pledge Income is unfavorable to budget, our Operating Fund had a positive cash balance (thanks to the proceeds from the PPP loan), and that we had had more maintenance expenditures. The Endowment Fund now reflects a value of \$5.02 K as of August 30, 2020.

VOTE: A motion was made by Christopher, seconded by Valerie to approve the August Financial Report. The motion carried.

Gail A. would like to start looking at a budget for 2021 at our October meeting. She said she would prepare two budgets; one with the church

open and one with the church closed. The budgets will have the Carpenter and General Endowment Funds reflect a 4% draw.

The church has been given a bequest from the Knab family in the sum of \$5000 whose use is to be restricted for handicapped accessibility purposes.

VOTE: A motion was made by Gail A. and seconded by Valerie that we accept the \$5000 Knab bequest and create a new fund to be used for handicap accessibility purposes be approved. The motion carried.

The Vestry had a discussion about memorial gifts and where to deposit the funds if they were not restricted. Gail A. would like to have a Financial Policy which would define where a gift over a certain threshold should be placed. They Vestry will determine the threshold at the next meeting. Rev. Marjorie will check with the Diocese to see if there is an existing gift policy.

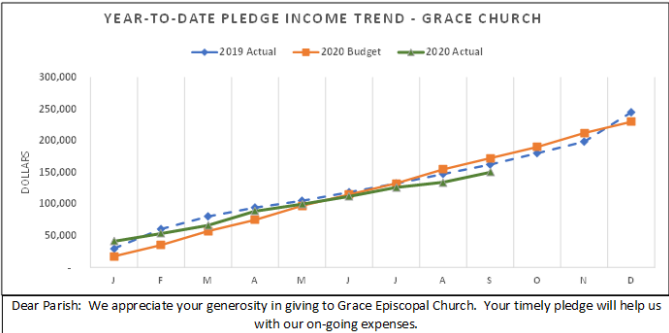
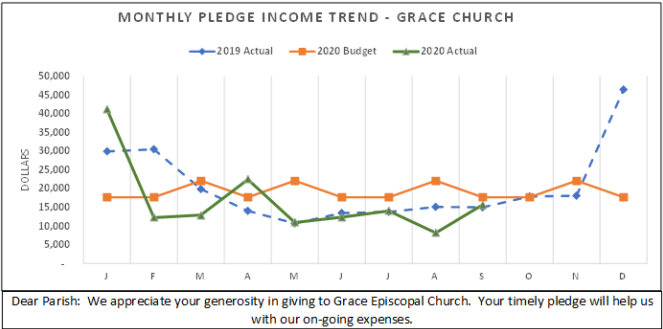
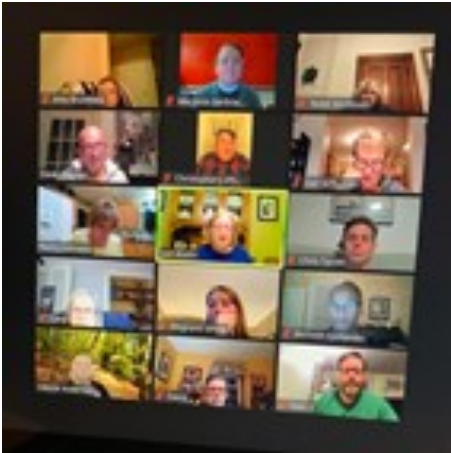
Rev. Marjorie asked each of the members of the Vestry to state how they felt about reopening the church. Each person stated how they felt about opening (or not opening), what they felt was necessary to reopen, when they thought it should happen, and whether they would attend. The consensus was that it was impossible to open on October 4th. Much more planning has to be done in order to reopen. We would start with having Morning Prayer Service only (no communion). Rev. Marjorie said that we are not allowed to have any music at the service other than a Cantor (with a mask). The Vestry will determine a possible opening date at our next meeting; November 1st was suggested. The Vestry felt that if and when we opened that all attending would be required to have their temperature taken, masks worn, and proper distancing be practiced. If our safety measures and/or protocols are not followed, the live service will not take place. Since we do not have wifi in the sanctuary we cannot live stream the service. We would therefore hold a live service and a Zoom service. Amy will be sending out a letter to the parishioners describing the CDC protocols that we will be following, itemizing the volunteer positions that will be needed, and asking them to respond as to whether or not they would attend a live church service – if attending, what they would volunteer to do. Before we can open we have to address the additional problem of the homeless camping out at our

church. We briefly talked about the need to have some type of gate to stop them from being able to camp there.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

The next Vestry meeting October 21st.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Johnson, Clerk



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Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Marjorie Gerbracht-Stagnaro, Rector
The Reverend Mike Andres, Deacon

Vestry

Amy Brumfield, Warden
Christopher Messier, Warden
Nancy Johnson, Clerk
Gail Austin, Treasurer
David Roy, Assistant Treasurer

Valerie Anderson, Carol Cote, Hank Gagnon, Ken Kjellander,
Teddi McIntosh, Matthew Serge, Gail Schuman,
Chris Turner, Meghann White

Staff

Mark Cleveland, Director of Music
Ken Grinnell, Organist
Carter Beck, Organist
Marlene Thompson, Parish Administrator
Lyn Marino, Assistant Parish Administrator
Jill Porter, Bookkeeper
Emery Freethey, Sexton
Susan Senneville, Nursery Care Giver
Ann Hewins, Grace House Manager

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Cover Illustration

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Next Newsletter Deadline

November 22, 2020