



## Grace Notes September 2022

*Our Mission Statement:*

*To know Christ & make Christ known*

**Grace Episcopal Church**

106 Lowell St.

Manchester, NH





## Rector's Reflection

Late in July, my teens and I drove from New Hampshire to Michigan so I could attend my first, in person continuing education experience in 3 years. Thankfully, the tides of COVID pulled back enough for Calvin Theological Seminary to allow 17 clergy, 2 professors, and 1 administrator to gather for a week of focused, fleshed discussion on the topic of grief.



Every morning, I walked from our hotel to class by way of a glass covered bridge overlooking a four lane highway. The bridge took me from physical food (breakfast) to spiritual food (morning worship), from my teenagers to pastors, from Calvin University to Calvin Seminary.

I looked forward to crossing the bridge twice a day. The journey gave me time to collect my thoughts at the start of each day. Later it gave me spiritual space to reflect on the words of my professors and colleagues.

My first clergy mentor, the Reverend Kurt Von Roeschlaub, was a bridge builder, both physically and spiritually. Before being ordained, he supervised both the building and the repairing of bridges that connected Long Island and New Jersey to NYC. One Sunday morning, Kurt preached that no matter what job we have, "As Christians, our main calling is to build bridges."

I give thanks that we follow a Savior who hungered to connect with people across cultural, socio-economic, gender, and faith lines. Christ was always building bridges, whether it was through a healing moment, a massive picnic, or a private conversation. Jesus was, is and always will be God's earthly bridge, helping us connect our ordinary living to kingdom patterns.

I am so proud of the people in our parish who strive to be bridges of strength and faith. Some are helping new refugees bridge language and cultural barriers. Others have worked since the pandemic began to be bridges of support by serving as "shepherds" who call other church members every week to see how they are doing and to lift them up. Through the Meal Train website, some have connected with and brought meals to people who are recovering from surgery. Members of our parish prayer team (always in search of new members!) keep track of the cares and concerns of our parish family and connect by praying for others. Many congregational members send hand painted cards, texts, and e-mails that boost another's spirit.

As we head towards fall, a return to school, and for some of us, increased workloads after a (hopefully!) more relaxed summer, may we never forget to find time to build bridges, to reach out a hand to comfort another. May we be brave enough to pick up the phone and call a member of our church or join with others on Wednesday mornings to deepen our faith. Perhaps we might even agree to serve in a leadership role, like teaching Sunday School so our parish children connect, on a deeper level, with our Creator.

Lord Jesus, help us build bridges of love, kindness, justice, and encouragement wherever you place us.



# In Memoriam

**"You need traveling clothes to walk with Jesus"**

**In Memoriam of  
Gregory Paul Desaulniers Gagnon  
April 13, 1956-September 18, 2021**



Greg died the way he lived; close to Jesus and putting the needs of others before his own. Greg was always interested in helping others and spent many hours volunteering for charitable organizations including, the William J. Moore Center, the New Hampshire State Hospital in Concord, and worked as both a teacher's assistant and camp counselor for the NH Easter Seals School before enlisting in the U.S. Airforce in 1980.

In his life, Greg's walk with, and faith in God was a witness to all who knew him. He served in the Altar Guild, was a lay Eucharistic minister, and Lector at Grace Church. The Rev. Dr. Marjorie Gerbracht referred to him as her 'unofficial deacon', because he was always there whenever and however she needed him. The only reason he didn't pursue becoming an official deacon was because he would have had to leave Grace Church. He was also active in volunteer ministries such as the New Horizons Soup Kitchen, the church's Laundry Love ministry, and Picnic in the Park ministry for Manchester's homeless. Greg was also a licensed marriage minister and officiated several marriages over the years.

The Rt. Rev. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop of the Diocese of NH, said of Greg, "Truly, he is a man of God." His Book of Common Prayer, Bible, and prayer beads were never far from him, this was especially true in his final weeks and months. Greg was a quiet man of peace who lived fully in the present moment and found joy and beauty in the simple things around him, time with his husband Hank, family and friends, his dogs, gardening, and the beach.

When the Covid pandemic hit and masks were hard to come by, Greg immediately began to not only sew masks, but also to deliver them to friends, family members, and health service organizations. He felt compelled to do so because he knew he could fulfill a real need in the lives of so many. Before his death, he had made and delivered hundreds of masks.

It has been said by many that Greg taught us all how to die, with faith, grace and blessed assurance. He ended up comforting those who came to comfort him and say goodbye. Even while dying, Greg thought of others before himself, telling many visitors, "Don't worry about me, I know where I'm going. I'll be fine. Please be there for my husband after I'm gone." One child told his family after their final visit to Greg, "I'm not afraid to die anymore." What an amazing gift Greg gave that young boy.

Greg told Hank that he would be working on the landscaping on their mansion in Heaven while he waited for Hank to join him. "It will be the most beautiful yard there!" he said. Greg told Hank that he could have, "as many flamingos as you want in the yard." In this life, Greg had limited Hank to only 1 flamingo.

Gregory was very specific about which clothes he wanted to be buried in, his favorite purple hoodie, comfortable pants, and sandals. He told his husband, Hank, "You need traveling clothes to walk with Jesus."

Greg Gagnon was an example for us all of what it looked like to travel with Jesus every day, right into the glory of the afterlife with Him.



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NH

### Celebration of New Ministry

God willing,  
the Bishop of New Hampshire  
the Right Reverend A. Robert Hirschfeld  
will institute

**The Rev. Jason Wells**

as Rector of  
**St. Matthew's Church**  
7 N. Mast Street  
Goffstown, New Hampshire

**Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 6 p.m.**  
Reception to follow.

Your prayers and presence are requested.

Clergy: Green Stoles

If you plan to attend in person, RSVP to Kelly Kennerson,  
St. Matthew's Church by September 14, at  
**[office@stmattsepiscopal.org](mailto:office@stmattsepiscopal.org)** or **[603-497-2003](tel:603-497-2003)**.

For those attending in person, masks are optional.



### Milestones



Happy Birthday to the following September birthday celebrants!

3	Andrew Cline	18	Karen Grant
4	Mark Anderson	19	Justin Otto
		20	Jill Porter
6	James Everett		
8	Doug Chamberlain	25	Barbara Hermann
	Andrew Fox	27	Sue Critz
13	Kaitlin Taylor	30	Rob Fox
	Justin Otto		Genevieve Turner
14	Bruce Thomas		
	Joan Holleran		

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.

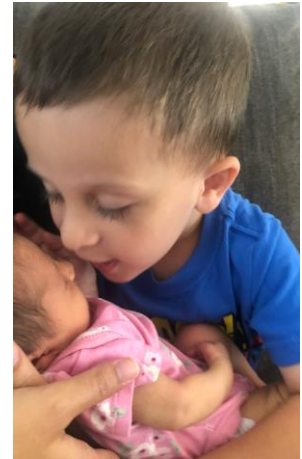
**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Book of Common Prayer, page 830**





Congratulations to parishioners Cheryl and Don Walker who just became grandparents again. Cassandra Ann Tsomides was born on July 5th, 2022 at 5 pounds, 15 ounces, 19" long. Parents Kelly and Mathew Tsomides and her brother Cameron were thrilled to welcome her into their family.



Congratulations to former Sunday School student James Calvin Wyatt II who was married to Elizabeth (Liz) Ersman Prins on June 4th, 2022. Their marriage took place at Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church in Chatham, Massachusetts. Pictured with them is Ken Wyatt (James' father) and his sister Caroline.

### Celebrating Trinity Sunday



## Trinity Sunday Scavenger Hunt

Special thanks to Brian White and Ken Grinnell for creating and supervising a wonderful scavenger hunt for our younger parishioners on Trinity Sunday. Many adult parishioners were interested in seeing the questions on this hunt, so we are sharing it in our parish newsletter. As participants answered each query, they uncovered the letters of a secret message to be revealed at the end of the hunt.

Start by looking inside the Choir Room. There is one piano. Look for others and keep count of them.

In the Chapel:

1. What are the letters on the cross?
2. How many red votive candles are on the stand to the left of the altar?

In the Church:

3. Look at the stained glass window over the altar. Who is the man?
4. Who are the two women? Mary and \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Extra Credit: What are they doing?
5. How many rows of pews are in the nave?
6. Look at the place where the organist sits. How many pedal keys are there?
7. Find the two surprise animals. What are they? They usually live up higher at the bottom of the big organ pipes.

In the Great Hall

8. As you head up the stairs to the Great Hall, there is a quote from the Bible written up near the ceiling. Fill in the missing words: "I was glad when they said unto me: Let us go into the \_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ .
9. Find the lift (elevator) What is the animal above the door and on the side?

In the Library

10. Look in the fireplace. How many logs are on the grate?

Go to the Downstairs Hall where the Sunday School rooms are located

11. Find Door #5. This room is dedicated to Warren \_\_\_\_\_ who was the Grace Church Treasurer for many years and who is currently our oldest parishioner.

Turn around!

12. How many people are pictured in The Last Supper?

Go up the stairs by the Nursery and continue outside.

13. How many stone arches are there in the courtyard?
14. How many urns with flowers?

Go left as you leave the courtyard

15. What is the color of the door on the side of the church?
16. How many sides to the upper part of the steeple?

Walk in the other direction to the yellow house at 98 Lowell Street.

17. What is this building called? There is no sign. You may need to ask someone this question.

Final Question:

18. How many pianos did you find in the church?

Use your numbered answers to figure out the secret message!

## Outreach

Our parish continues to provide financial and emotional support to numerous refugees who relocate to Manchester. Calley Milne, head of the Brookside Church Thrift store, continues to work with IINE, (the International Institute of New England) to help set up homes for our new neighbors. The following items are very much needed for new apartment setups:

Paper Towels	Toilet Paper
Dish Soap	Laundry Soap
Toothpaste	Tooth Brushes
Shampoo	Conditioner
Bar Soap	Razors
Cleaning Supplies	Light
First Aid Kits	Tool Kits
Kitchen Garbage Cans	Bathroom Garbage Cans

Please contact our rector or the parish office if you have or are willing to contribute any of these items.

## Drop Your Drawers (Off) for Café 1269

How does an individual attend to their personal hygiene, feel clean and refreshed if they have limited access to clean showers - and must carry all their personal belongings on their back every day – all day? It is a very challenging and difficult task that our homeless neighbors know only too well. The mission of 1269 Café on Union Street mission is to provide support and assistance to the homeless and underserved people of Manchester. One of the services offered at the center is the use of a clean shower (one for women and one for men). The showers are available weekdays for 3-4 hours, on a first come-first served basis. Clients fervently ask for clean underwear as they prepare to shower. This is a request that each of you are able to grant as a contributor to the Grace Church, 'Drop Your Drawers (Off)' ongoing campaign. Items needed are:

- Men underwear (shirts & pants) – all sizes but the most frequently requested are size medium
- Women underwear (pants) – all sizes but the most frequently requested are sizes medium and X-large
- Cash donations – we will make the purchases. Please make check payable to Grace Church with the notation of: 1269 Café

Many parishioners of Grace Church have been generous and creative in their donations and contributions to the 'underwear' campaign. Please know that the folks receiving your donations are extremely grateful and thankful to you for helping to make their lives a bit more bearable.

Please drop your donations in the bucket in the back of the church. Contact either Susan Tonnar, Susan Bochinski or Chris Stevens with questions.

## Ataxia Campaign

Another year has gone by and I have been asked about the Ataxia campaign that I have been participating in for many years. Ken and I are continuing to support the efforts of the [National Ataxia Foundation](#) whose mission is: 'To support the fight to improve the lives of people affected by Ataxia and their families. '. The 2022 Fundraising event is bringing together all the incredible Walk sites across the country connecting ataxia families, researchers, clinicians and the community. It helps NAF support promising Ataxia research and offer support services to those with ataxia and their families. I'm keeping it simple this year with this newsletter article as my main means of communicating with the Grace Church congregation about this 2022 fundraising campaign.

If you are able to support NAF's mission at this time and support our efforts by making a donation please go to our page here: <https://igfn.us/vf/NAFLIVE/JillPorter> . If your prefer to make a donation by check please make your check payable to: National Ataxia Foundation or NAF and give it to me in church, mail it to me or put it in the offering plate in an envelope marked: Ataxia. Thanks for taking a moment to check out my page and for your caring concerns for us during this past year! **Jill Porter**

## A Prayer of Thanksgiving for our Hybrid Worship



On the anniversary of our hybrid worship, we give thanks for the ability to worship as one congregation in two chapels, and for the many blessings we find therein.

For Shelley and Amy, who create a space of welcome, love and holiness, where faith, fellowship, and fun come together in new ways, and for the parish leaders who support them, especially Chris, Ken, Mark, and Marjorie, and the rest of the music and liturgy team, and for our Vestry who supports this aspect of our common life.

For the ability to experience a different way of being present to each other which draws us into a deeper, more expansive understanding of the mystical connection between all members of the Body of Christ in all times and places.

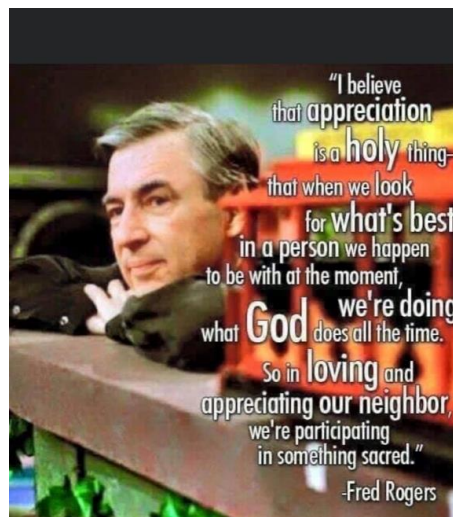
For the ability to experience the beauty of our church and our liturgy from wherever we are, and whatever our circumstances.

For the technology that makes all this possible and for all who created it.

For the God who meets us in this holy work, empowers us to continue it and inspires us to keep making it the best it can be. May our two united chapels be a channel for evangelism in a world where love, safety, and community are more important than ever.

May God continue to bless us and our work as we continue to live into resurrection and discover new ways of living as Trinity as one congregation in two chapels. AMEN

**Shelley Brown Kesselman**





## Parishioners in the Community

*This reflection was written by parishioner Kayla Robbins. She is pictured in accompanying photos with both Roger Bleau and our rector.*

Today is my last day working as a full-time caregiver for the elderly. My first “real” (i.e. paid) work since finally leaving school, perhaps I imagined something more glamorous for myself unto which I would make a gift of my time, my attention, and my labor. But since late January my days, and occasionally nights, are diapers and dishes and wiping up spilled tea, eye drops and swifter mops, the eighth time I’ve heard this story this afternoon. Poaching eggs with one hand and pouring coffee with the other, gentle hand-squeezes, dirty jokes, time to do the dishes again, squeaky wheelchairs, back to the bathroom, lingering disinfectant on my fingers, sponge baths in bed. And I’m so thankful for all of it.

At twenty-five, it can feel a little funny to spend most of my time with folks who are, in Leonard Cohen’s words, dying to get back home when I myself am just starting out. Yet this work has afforded me such a rich and multifaceted practice of hospitality that I hope to take with me in whatever work I may choose to pursue henceforth.

For in-home caregiving is hospitality, but in reverse. You busy yourself around the house, attend to constant piddly tasks, and fret over the details just as you would if hosting a guest in your own home. But instead of rendering your person, your space, and your things most welcoming to another person, this time you work to help that person feel more at home in their own body, in their own space, and amongst their own things. I may not return to this kind of work again, or at least not for a little while, but I am very thankful for the many days and weeks I have enjoyed as a caregiver, for the disciplines it has taught me, and for the precious, hilarious, sometimes cantankerous, and good-hearted people I’ve been able to tend to during this time.



### The Knitting Retreat Returns

Although the Grace Church Knitting Group has disbanded, the church will be hosting a day long knitting retreat on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This year we will have a slightly different format. We are asking attendees to bring their own bag lunches. We will provide coffee, tea and bottled water. There will be no food sharing this year. Attendees will be asked to keep COVID precautions in mind by wearing a mask if unvaccinated. Attendees who are more comfortable wearing a mask, whether vaccinated or not, are certainly welcome to do so. We hope this first post pandemic gathering will be as fun as ever! Please join us if you can.

If you have any questions please contact Karen West ([kncwest@gmail.com](mailto:kncwest@gmail.com)) or Linda Chamberlain ([douglas.chamberlain@comcast.net](mailto:douglas.chamberlain@comcast.net)) .

## Palace Theater

Parishioners Sebastian Cline, Zachary Stagnaro, and Davan Muir have appeared throughout the summer in various Palace Youth Theatre performances. We are grateful so many parish members have come out to support them. Both Davan Muir (Youth Ensemble) and Zachary Stagnaro (Flounder) have been cast in the professional production of The Little Mermaid. This production will run from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tickets are on sale at the Palace Theatre box office.

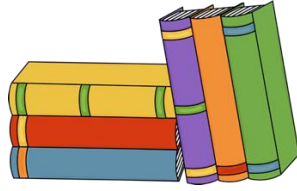


Queen City Pride 2022



Thanks to the amazing leadership of Moe and Barnaby Thomas, Andrew Freshour, and our rector our parish's first ever booth at Queen City Pride was a success. We raised just over \$1000 by selling t-shirts and various crafts. We are grateful to so many parishioners who showed up to staff our booth and showered so many with their support, open hearts, and love.





## Grace Church Book Group Update

Though our parish book group took a break from gathering in July and August, we will be back in action beginning this September! As always, all are welcome to join us on Zoom for a lively and rich discussion of the latest book we have read. Collectively the group has decided to strive to keep to a light, tight 1-hour meeting that run from 12 to 1 PM on the third Tuesday of every month.

In late May each member of our group submitted three books they thought others would enjoy. Those books (and short summaries of each work) were sent out to all our bibliophiles. Then each member voted for their top choices. The books that garnered the most votes are the ones we will be reading over the next several months.

Special thanks to Nancy-Ann Feren who tallied the votes, Jane Van Zandt who continues to create discussion questions for each book, and Linda Chamberlain for sending out both our discussion questions and monthly Zoom invite.

Here is the list of books and gathering times for the coming year:

Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> – A Good Apology: Four Steps to Make Things Right by Molly Howes

Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – The Light in Hidden Places by Sharon Cameron

DECEMBER – NO MEETING

Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – All the Lonely People by Mike Gayle

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> – The Henna Artist by Aika Joshi

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> – The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Lawson

Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Antartica: An Intimate Portrait of a Mysterious Continent by Gabrielle Walker

Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – American Dirt by Jeanine Cummings

Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – Mirror Made of Rain by Naheed Phiroze Patel



### **One Step at a Time. By Nancy-Ann Feren**

An apple a day may keep the doctor away but walking every day helps keep me both healthy and happy. I have always loved walking and have memories of many special walks. My favorite walk during college was around Lake Waban on Wellesley's campus, either with classmates or with Dick if he was down from UNH for the weekend. I remember walking (in a formal gown and high heels) to a Mil Arts Ball at UNH.

After our junior year in college, Dick was at ROTC summer camp at Fort Devens, MA. I spent that summer walking and talking almost every night with my father. Once we walked several miles to Glendon's, our favorite place for ice cream. My mother came to bring us home. In our first year of



marriage, Dick and I moved to Schwezingen, Germany where Dick was stationed with the US Army Signal Corps. Our first child was born there in December, 1969. During the winter I took short walks with him whenever the sun was out. In early spring I decided it was time for a longer walk. I called Dick at work and asked him to watch for me on his way home for lunch; I was walking out to meet him. With Andrew in the carriage, I started to walk. For once I was glad that Dick was late. No one in the office except for Dick could believe that I had walked a distance of five miles. From then on, whenever the weather cooperated, Andrew and I made the trek every day.

Back in New Hampshire I began teaching at a school that was only 1.5 miles from home. I walked both ways every day, no matter what the weather was. I can't begin to count the number of times my students said, "Mrs. Feren, don't you have a car?" or "Mrs. Feren, don't you know how to drive?" There was no way to explain how important that walk was, especially during the year when I had 30 fifth graders all day long and came home to two more fifth graders at home. The walk definitely helped maintain my sanity.

During the pandemic Dick and I walked almost every day, sometimes on rail trails, sometimes in our neighborhood. We could see the seasons slowly changing from winter to spring to summer and fall. Again, walking preserved our sanity.

Hip and knee replacements after I retired only slowed me down briefly. When arthritis began causing me foot pain, I spent years following the doctor's suggestions of ways to avoid what he told me was a difficult surgery with a long recuperation which would include two months of non-weight bearing. When I ran out of other options, I scheduled the surgery. My primary mode of transportation became a knee scooter. With this device (and Dick's help) I could scoot short distances in our neighborhood and yard and best of all, around the track at Livingston Park. In addition to this time spent outside, cards, emails, meals, and visits from so many friends helped to keep my spirits up. I am now into Month Four post-surgery. The boot is gone and I'm walking slowly around the house and yard. I'm looking forward to many more years of long walks. Thank you to all of you who helped me reach this point. Dick and I truly appreciate all that you have done.



## **Perspectives on Walking and Running**

### **By Dick Feren**

The verbs "walk" and "run" can have a variety of meanings or implications. For example, thoughts may "run" through our minds. Suppose thoughts "walked" through our minds?

When Nancy-Ann was teaching, she walked to work daily. During the process of "running around" getting everybody fed and ready for school, things were occasionally forgotten. On her morning walk to school, Nancy-Ann's mind would relax and important things would resurface. When she arrived at work, she would call home and tell our kids what was needed. Since they didn't leave for school for about another half hour, these forgotten tasks could be accomplished.

When I want an idea or procedure carefully explained, I will ask to be "walked" through it, carefully noting details. If I simply want a brief overview, I might ask for a quick run-down.

Political candidates "run" for office. They often make quick statements and comparisons, sometimes in a negative way that will grab attention or attract followers. Imagine the difference if people "walked" instead of "ran" for office? This change would involve slowing down, reflecting. It would surely require listening rather than just making statements. Listening rather than arguing often calms the mood, creating an opportunity for a calm and frank exchange of ideas which makes mutual understanding possible.

**VESTRY MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2022**

Present: Julie Alig Scala, Amy Brumfield, Carol Cote, Nancy Johnson, Teddi McIntosh, Christopher Messier, Gail Schuman, the Reverend Dr. Marjorie Ann Gerbracht, Barnaby Thomas, Chris Turner, Meghann White. Excused: Hank Gagnon, Ken Kjellander. Absent: Valerie Anderson

Rev. Marjorie opened the hybrid meeting at 7:06 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 Teddi and was carried. The reports included are Vestry Meeting (April-2022), Planning and Finance Report (May-2022), Property Report (May-2022), Endowment Committee (May-2022), and Music Department Report (Apr 27, 2022).

Julie presented the March and April financial report. She highlighted the following in the April report:

- showed a significant loss for the endowment
- positive trend for pledge receipts

**VOTE:** A motion was made by Gail, seconded by Teddi to accept the March and April Financial Reports. The motion carried.

Julie stated that all quotes taken, or money spent by committees must have a paper trail; she requested that she be sent that information either in paper or by email, text is not acceptable.

Rev. Marjorie reported on some fundraising endeavors that we would be having; a Parish Fair will be held in the fall (Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>). She is going to sign up for NH Gives again this year. She stated that she had been contacted by the Diocese who thought the parish should take part in Pride Day, she was pleased to tell them that that was already in the works. She reported that we would have a booth on the Pride Day (Saturday, June 18 at Arms Park); a banner which was designed by Andrew Freshour will be used on the parish booth. She reported that both a monetary donation and payment for the banner had been made. The banner will be used on the Pride Day parish booth; she requested that we consider approval of the banner for use on our building as well.

**VOTE:** A motion to allow banners specific for parish events, with the approval of the Vestry, to be displayed on the SW corner of the building above the Memorial Gardens was made by Christopher and seconded by Gail. The motion carried.

**VOTE:** A motion to have the banner for Pride Day displayed on the building for the month of June was made by Chris, seconded by Carol, and approved by the Vestry.

Rev. Marjorie reported that bibles were being taken from the church as well as some “Wonder, Love, and Praise” books. The Vestry recommends that the Music Department purchase more “Wonder, Love, and Praise” books. Rev. Marjorie will further research the number of bibles that should be bought as well as the cost.

The Vestry discussed the applicants for grants. There is currently \$51K that is available for grants. The Vestry decided to give \$30K to the applicants and consider allocating \$10K grants/donations in the fall.

**VOTE:** A motion to grant \$10,000 to Friends of Aine was made by Gail, seconded by Amy. The motion carried.

**VOTE:** A motion to grant \$7,500 each to MCMS and Girls at Work and \$5000 to IINE was made by Christopher, seconded by Gail, and approved by the Vestry.

The Vestry will have a separate meeting soon to discuss Vestry Policies Around Giving.

**VOTE:** Nancy moved that we approve that the letter to the Manchester Police Department regarding the homeless be signed and sent. The motion was seconded by Amy and carried.

**VOTE:** Amy moved we approve the Master Service Agreement. The motion was seconded by Meghann and carried.

We will be restarting Altar flowers (the cost will be \$40). We also will be reintroducing a Sanctuary Lamp in the Chapel. The money collected for the lamp will be used by the Altar Guild.

The Church picnic/pool party will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Tom & Christine Stevens.

A Festive Coffee Hour will be held after the 9:30 service on September 11. We are planning to return to 2 services beginning on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. The services will be held at 8:00 and either 10:00 or 10:30 TBD. Return to Sunday School in Autumn is under discussion/ Plans are contingent upon the number of potential attendees and needed volunteer instructor(s) .

Rev, Marjorie reported the following:

- Website Coordinator: Andrew Freshour and Mo Thomas
- Newsletter: Eileen Suckley
- Laundry Love: starting in the fall- Brian Guimond

The meeting concluded at 9:05 PM. The next Vestry meeting July 20, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Johnson, Clerk

### **VESTRY MEETING Wednesday, July 20, 2022**

Present: Julie Alig Scala, Valerie Anderson, Amy Brumfield, Carol Cote, Hank Gagnon, Ken Kjellander, Nancy Johnson, Teddi McIntosh, Christopher Messier, Gail Schuman, the Reverend Dr. Marjorie Ann Gerbracht, Barnaby Thomas, Meghann White Excused: Chris Turner

Rev. Marjorie opened the hybrid meeting at 7:06 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 Hank seconded by Valerie and was carried. The reports included are Vestry Meeting (May-2022), Planning and Finance Report (July-2022), Property Report (June 1, 6, 2022), Rector's Report (May, June, July 2022), Stewardship Committee (May-2022), and Music and Worship Committee (May 4, 18, 25, June 8, 2022).

Julie presented the May and June financial reports.

**VOTE:** A motion was made by Gail, seconded by Carol to accept the May and June Financial Reports. The motion carried.



The Vestry reviewed the necessary repairs that are needed at Grace House. The repairs needed that we already have estimates for are repair/replace roof, painting, and repair of building. Additionally, the back stairs need to be repaired and painted. The total for the work required is approximately \$33K. After a long discussion, the Vestry suggested that the funds needed be taken from the Grace House Fund (leaving \$5000 in the account) and the remainder from the Grace Church Emergency Fund.

**VOTE:** A motion to replace the roof was made by Gail and seconded by Ken. The motion carried.

**VOTE:** A motion to repaint the whole house was made by Meghann, seconded by Teddi, and approved by the Vestry.

Rev. Marjorie updated the Vestry on the chapel door damage done when a car crashed into the door.

Julie reported that the audit was finally completed and stated that this was done with a total lack of professionalism. We will be looking for another company to perform future audits.

Rev. Marjorie stated that we have made \$6400 from NH Gives and \$1100 from the Pride Day booth.

We will be returning to two services starting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The services will be 8:00 (in person only), and 10:00 (hybrid). The Vestry will monitor if child care becomes necessary.

The Vestry approved the in person Knitting Retreat which will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It also approved that AA be allowed to again rent our facilities.

The Parish Picnic will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Tom & Christine Stevens. The picnic this year will be a “potluck”. We will not be grilling. A signup sheet will be posted in the Great Hall on August 14<sup>th</sup>. A “save the date” email will be sent immediately and an email with pertinent information will be sent just prior to August 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Parish Fair has been postponed. It was determined that for it to be the success, more planning time is required. The new date will be some time in November 2023.

Rev, Marjorie reported the following:

- Website Coordinator: Andrew Freshour and Mo Thomas
- Newsletter: deadline for September newsletter is August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Laundry Love: the laundry where it has been held has new owners. Parishioners will be asked if someone will step up and help lead this effort.

The meeting concluded at 8:50PM. The next Vestry meeting August 24, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Johnson, Clerk

## Images of Summer



## The Kona Ice Truck





Due to the extraordinary amount of news to share from summer, our three new features will begin appearing in the October newsletter. Watch for:

- Biblical Botany
- Grace Church Cooks
- And a new serial entitled “The Reluctant Warden”

## **Grace Episcopal Church**

106 Lowell Street

Manchester, NH 03101

Tel (603) 622-9813

Fax (603) 669-6044

[gracechurchmanchesternh@gmail.com](mailto:gracechurchmanchesternh@gmail.com)

[www.gracechurchmanchester.org](http://www.gracechurchmanchester.org)

### Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Marjorie Gerbracht, Rector

### Vestry

Amy Brumfield, Warden

Christopher Messier, Warden

Nancy Johnson, Clerk

Valerie Anderson, Carol Cote, Hank Gagnon, Ken Kjellander,

Teddi McIntosh, Gail Schuman, Barnaby Thomas,

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

Emery Freethey, Sexton

Susan Senneville, Nursery Care Giver

Ann Hewins, Grace House Manager

### Newsletter

Eileen Suckley

Eralphs@Comcast.net

### Cover Illustration

Andrew Freshour

### Next Newsletter Deadline

September 22, 2022



