



October 2011

Messenger

News of the people and ministry of Grace Church

514 E. Argonne Dr. • Kirkwood, MO 63122 • (314) 821-1806 • www.gracekirkwood.org

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Worship With Us!

Sundays:

8 AM Holy Eucharist
10 AM Holy Eucharist

Tuesdays

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

All Things Come of Thee!

Every Sunday at the 8:a.m. service we repeat a phrase from the Bible found in I Chronicles: "*All things come of thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.*" This is such a beautiful reminder that all we have is from God; it is not our own. That finally made sense to me a few years ago, and I realized then that I needed to change my prayer from "God, help us to be wise with *our* money" to "God, help us to be wise with *your* money." Truly, all that we have is God's, and we are just the stewards – whether that be the church, our gifts, our money, our time, or even our loved ones... all belongs to God.

And so giving is something we do, *not primarily* because the church needs money or wants to start a new program, but because God asks us to give and calls us to move into generosity in order for us to live the Christian life to its' fullest. Giving is an essential aspect of the Christian vocation and calling, and we are missing something in our own walk with God when we hold back. In other words, we *need* to give in order to be spiritually healthy and growing as we follow Jesus' call and footsteps. Of course, being good stewards and giving involves not just our money but our time and talent, as well. There are always ways we can give back to God.

Making a commitment and stretching ourselves to give is a real act of faith. Acts of faith draw us closer to God and help us to become holy people. We all have the opportunity to act in faith and give in a tangible way each fall when the church invites each of us to prayerfully make a financial commitment in the form of a pledge and to consider our time and talents. I invite you to begin to prayerfully discern where and in what ways God is calling you to give as you journey towards being a good steward of God's abundance. *All that we have comes from thee O Lord!*

Mo. Rebecca +

(See p. 3 for information about this year's Stewardship Campaign.)

Our Staff

The Rev. Todd McDowell, Rector, ext. 14

The Rev. Rebecca Dinovo, Associate Rector, ext. 12

Angela Breeher, Parish Administrator, ext 10

Fernando Alfonso, Financial Administrator, ext. 11

Phillip Brunswick, Organist & Choir Master, ext. 21

Janis Greenbaum, Communications Coordinator, ext. 19

Ella Heigham, Handbell Choir, ext. 36

Danna Squires, Parish Secretary, ext. 13

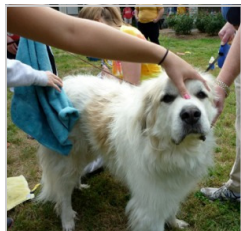
Youth News

Dog Wash Fundraiser to Support Youth Mission Trip a Success!

Our High School youth were kept busy with over 30 dogs to wash and towel dry. Customers from all over Kirkwood came and had Fido brushed and cleaned, much to the owners' delight.

All dogs behaved admirably, and so did our Youth – who had little time for breaks but tackled the four-legged pooches with vigor! The teens raised almost \$440 towards next summer's Mission Trip to work with Habitat for Humanity.

All High School youth are invited to go on the trip and can still participate in upcoming fundraisers and youth activities. For more info, contact Mother Rebecca.



More pictures of the Dog Wash can be found at: <http://gallery.me.com/sabinemcdowell#100295>

Grace Youth Group on Facebook

Check out our Facebook page and stay up-to-date on our latest news/info:

http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/home.php?sk=group_6718595027&ap=1

Register for Venturing Activities

To participate in Venturing activities, please fill out a Venturing application, which can be found in Albright Hall on the bulletin board or on Grace's website.

Church School News!

Children's Sermon on October 23

Mother Rebecca will lead the children of Grace in a "children's sermon" at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, October 23. Kids of all ages are welcome and will be invited to the front of the nave for a brief discussion.

Celebrate All Hallows' Eve!

Sunday, October 30, at 5pm
Pumpkin Carving, Pizza & Liturgy

Everyone is invited to join us for a night of fun as celebrate "All Hallows' Eve" (that is All Hovies or All Saints) together!

We'll begin with pumpkin carving at **5:00 p.m.**, followed by pizza and culminating with a festive "All Hallows' Eve" liturgy outside on the lawn. We'll bring our jack-o-lanterns and light them up outside for use in the liturgy.



BYO pumpkin(s) and carving tools – we'll provide the candles. A free-will offering will help cover the cost of pizza, salad, dessert and drinks. **Sign up in Albright Hall** to help our hosts know how many "warm bodies" will be there. Invite a friend!



Sponsored by the ghoulies and ghosties of Church School and J2A.

Weekday Christian Formation Opportunities

Tuesdays

9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (Bethlehem Chapel)

10-11:45 a.m. – Women's Study Group (Kean Library)

A rich delving into all kinds of books! We read, discuss, share, and talk about faith, theology, and life. Contact Shirley Browne for details.

Wednesdays

9:30 am—Morning Prayer (Bethlehem Chapel)

Thursdays

10:30-11:30 a.m. – Mystics and Meditation (Kean Library)

We open with a brief reflection or verse, then a short discussion of the reflection if desired, then 20 minutes of meditation, then proceed to lectio divina, scriptural, spiritual, meditative reading usually broken down into short bites, followed by discussion. All are invited! Contact Joan Emmert for details.

Stewardship: A Journey of Faith ... Think of the Possibilities!

This year's Stewardship Commitment campaign schedule of events follows. You'll see that it includes lectionary-based "Generous Giving" messages at the sermon on October 2, as well as a Feedback Forum for Q & A's on the topic of possibilities at Grace.

- Oct 2 thru Nov 6 Gratitude Messages by the Rector and Assoc. Rector during Sunday Sermons
- Oct. 2, 9, 16 "Possibilities!" presentations made by parishioners at 8:00 & 10:00 services.
- Mission/Outreach
- Christian Formation
- Staffing
- Oct. 9 thru 30 Clergy-led Workshops at 9-9:45 a.m.
- Oct. 21 Stewardship letters and Commitment Cards are mailed to the parish.
- Nov. 6 Commitment Sunday:
Treasure Ingathering
- Nov. 20 Announce results to the parish,
Kirkin' of the Tartans

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals



Saturday, October 8
11 a.m.

Grace Episcopal Church Front Lawn

Bring your beloved animals: four legged, furry, scaly, and winged creatures of all kinds to the Animal Blessing on October 8 as we commemorate the Feast of St. Francis, the saint who "loved animals"!

Blessing Certificates will be handed out.

All are welcome—invite a friend!



Creation Care News

Community Garden Update

The squirrels ate all the tomatoes and corn, but we made yummy pesto from basil they despised! Jars of pesto are available for a donation of only \$5 from the freezer. For Newcomers we have bags with pesto in the shape of fish as a welcome gift. If you meet a visitor at church don't hesitate to hand them a bag. These are also available in the freezer.

Charlie Moley received his Eagle Scout award on September 18. (See photo, below.) His garden project became a blessing to Grace, rewarding him with the highest Boy Scout award. A big thank you to Charlie and his father Jeff, for helping Grace grow local food.

Our Fall crop is in full gear with radishes, snap peas, cauliflower, broccoli, boc choi and lettuce. The Sunday School children helped sow seeds for the lettuce beds and will also participate with the harvest.

Our last challenge is the irrigation system. We are now considering installing a separate water line with access just for the gardens instead of sharing the Lab School water valve. Since we don't know yet how costly this will be we are hoping for income from another fundraiser:



Fun for the whole family:

SEEDS TO GROW is a very special program by the providers of heirloom seeds at Seed Savers Exchange. It's simple: You can choose from 6 different seed collections depending on your 'taste'. 4 special packets cost only \$10 of which \$4 will go directly to our Gardens! From collections like 'Big Salad Bowl', 'Container Magic' to 'Pizza Party'. We'll take orders in October; seeds will be delivered by February 2012.

Learn more about your Creation Care Ministry Team at <http://gracecreationcare.blogspot.com/>. Our **next meeting is Sunday, Nov. 6 in the Library at 11:20.**



Grace . . . at Work in the World

“As each of us has received a gift, use it to serve one another.”

Holiday Sale Arrives Sooner Than You Think!

Women of Grace’s Holiday Sale will be Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds will benefit our Companion Diocese of Lui in South Sudan and to purchase a set of vestments for Grace.

There are many ways you can help, and all are very important to the success of this event:

- ✓ In November: Purchase *Cooking with Love and Grace*. You will want this book containing more than 300 recipes for your home and for gifts.
- ✓ Nov. 25 : Donate books, DVDs and CDs. Unless you must deliver them sooner, please bring donations after Nov. 25; we have very limited storage space.
- ✓ Wednesday, Nov. 30: Join in the Bake-a-thon fun at church so we have plenty of cookies to meet the ever-increasing demand of new and repeat customers. Bring your homemade candy donations on this day.
- ✓ Thursday, Dec. 1: Help package candy in the morning and decorate tables in the afternoon.
- ✓ Before Dec. 2: Create your favorite cookies, candy, baked goods, and other goodies to sell.
- ✓ Friday, Dec. 2: Deliver your donations as early as possible. Help put everything out for the sale.
- ✓ Dec. 3: Staff the sale (sell, weigh, cashier, raffle.) Men are welcome and invited to help. Please sign up in Albright Hall for the first or second shifts.

Women of Grace to Contribute to Rebuild Cathedral in Haiti

The church-wide project to rebuild Holy Trinity Cathedral, destroyed in the massive January 2010 earthquake, was described by Archbishop Desmond Tutu as “the Episcopal Church ... joining as one to help their sisters and brothers in Haiti to rebuild the church that has helped [Haitian Episcopalians] endure such difficult times.” At the time of the quake, the Diocese of Haiti was the largest and fastest-growing diocese in The Episcopal Church. So far, 85 dioceses have contributed.

On **Tuesday, October 18, Women of Grace will learn about the work of The Episcopal Church in Haiti** and efforts throughout the Church to help rebuild the Cathedral in Port-au-Prince. Cheryl Ward, vice president of the Episcopal Church Women’s Board and chair of the effort in the Diocese of Missouri, will be our guest speaker at 1:00 p.m.

Bring your lunch at 12:00 p.m. and share Sweet Potato Pie, a favorite Haitian dish, for dessert. *Please sign up in Albright Hall so we know how many to expect for dessert.*

Hands On Kirkwood Saturday, October 22

From Kirkwood Baptist Church's website

Hands on Kirkwood (HOK) brings together people of various races, beliefs, cultures, and perspectives in order to serve our community together. HOK hopes to cultivate a spirit of community cooperation and unity.

HOK began as a local mission initiative of Kirkwood Baptist Church (KBC) in 2007 and follows an inclusive model of ministry that prioritizes finding projects for ALL church members, no matter their age, skill, or interests and equips churches and their members to move outside the safe walls of their sanctuaries and into the community to serve their neighbors, much as Jesus did. To date, over 1,000 individuals have volunteered through HOK providing over 4,000 hours of community service.

The heart of the mission is to engage ALL in a one-day mission blitz of our community, to equip ALL to follow the command to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to inspire ALL to make serving others more than a one-day event but instead a daily occurrence. HOK will be a

missionALL community project where all members of the Kirkwood family (and even those outside Kirkwood) are invited to move outside the safe confines of their homes and places of worship to make a difference for their neighbors.

Schedule for Saturday, October 22nd

- 8:30 am Rally (tentative starting time)
- 9:00 am Most projects begin
- 9:30 am KiddoPalooza Opens
- 1:30 pm Most projects finish
- 1:30 pm Symposium on Diversity
Keynote: U.S. Rep. Emanuel Clever, D-Kansas City
(The Keating Center in Kirkwood High School)
- 4:00 pm – Social Justice Festival
(Sponsored by the Social Justice Club at KHS)
Located at Station Plaza (141 E Madison Ave)
- 4:30 pm – Symposium on Diversity ends
- 9:00 pm – Social Justice Festival Ends

To connect with Hands on Kirkwood and learn more, go to www.kirkwoodbaptist.org/about-hok/

Daniel Boone Home and Boonesfield Village Next for Grace on the Go

In 1803 Nathan Boone, Daniel Boone's youngest son, began construction of a large stone house on property he traded for a horse and buggy. Located near Defiance in St. Charles County, it was hand built with 2½-foot-thick quarried Missouri limestone walls. The home was the last residence of Daniel Boone, and he died there.

After Lindenwood University acquired the home and property, they began constructing a living history village that reflects the time of the Louisiana Purchase and early Missouri statehood. Historic buildings have been moved from sites throughout the state and now include a dozen early 19th-century structures such as the Peace chapel, a schoolhouse, dressmaker's shop, woodworker's residence, general store, and an animal-driven gristmill. The interiors are furnished with period pieces representative of each structure's purpose.

On Monday, Oct. 24, Grace on the Go will tour the home at 10 a.m. (preceded by a 15 minute film), followed by a tour of the village at 11. Price for both is \$8 for seniors 55+ and \$10 for under 55. Lunch at Wine Country Gardens will be a highlight as well. Pay on location for the tours and lunch. **Plan to arrive at Grace by 8:35 a.m. to carpool at 8:45.** A sign-up sheet and poster are in Albright Hall; **deadline is Monday, Oct. 17** to finalize our reservation at the restaurant.



Holiday Brass Concert and Christmas Party

On Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 2:15 p.m., Grace on the Go will attend the 20th Anniversary Holiday Brass Concert at Manchester United Methodist Church performed by St. Louis Symphony brass musicians (featuring Susan Slaughter, former chief trumpeter), the Manchester UMC choir, Bagpiper George Gerules playing "Highland Cathedral," internationally acclaimed soprano Christine Brewer singing "O Holy Night" and "Ave Maria," and pre-concert entertainment at 1:30 p.m.

Why are we telling you about this now? We've reserved 40 tickets for this sold-out concert. **Tickets must be paid for by Sunday, October 30**, or relinquished to the Holiday Brass waiting list. Please sign up in Albright Hall and make your \$18 check to "Grace Church," writing "Grace on the Go Concert" on the memo line.

Following the concert join us for dinner at Brooke and Florence Hoey's (2145 Mason Green Drive in Manchester, 314-821-4317). The concert and party were a huge success last year! Grace on the Go chairs will furnish the entrée and beverages at a modest charge. Please sign up in Albright Hall to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert.



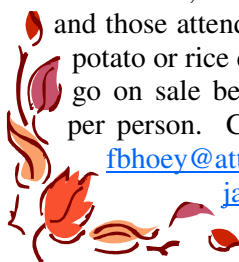
Fall Progressive Dinner

Mark your calendar for October 22 and plan to participate in our fall Progressive Dinner! It's a lot of fun and a really great way to better know members of your parish family.



Festivities begin with appetizers at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Jeanie and Clark Davis (26 Flower Hill Court in Kirkwood). Then we'll divide into groups of six to 10 for dinner at pre-assigned homes of other parishioners. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m., then we will all come together again for dessert at the home of Denise and Andy Miller.

The main dish, soft drinks and wine will be furnished, and those attending will be asked to bring a salad, a potato or rice dish, or salad and bread. Tickets will go on sale beginning October 2; the price is \$16 per person. Contact Florence Hoey (821-4317 or fbhoey@att.net) or Jane Cenova (842-1491 or janoceno@earthlink.net).



Trivia Night and Auction

Saturday, November 19

in Albright Hall.

Doors open at 6:30 pm Trivia begins at 7 pm

Theme for the night is

GRACE IS THE PLACE!

\$20 PER PERSON

\$160 FOR A TABLE OF 8

Proceeds benefit Grace's Outreach Programs.

Plan to attend- it will be fun! Bring some friends! Bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. (Soda, beer and wine will be available for purchase.) Sign up sheets are in Elizabeth Kaul's mailbox at church outside the parish office (look for the envelope marked trivia night).

We also need your help with the AUCTION! We are looking for donations of **NEW** items, any service or skill you are willing to offer, hosting a party in your home, and/or tickets to a local event. If YOU would like to make a monetary donation and sponsor a basket, let us know! If you have any questions, please call Kristi Peck 517-0320 or email at kpeckandkrew@yahoo.com.

Diocese of Missouri
ECW Annual Meeting
"Rejoice Together"

Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22
St. Martin's Episcopal Church
(15764 Clayton Rd., Ellisville 63011)

The Diocese of Missouri chapter of Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will hold its annual meeting at St. Martin's on October 21 and 22. All women are invited; registration is \$20 per person (does not include Friday events). Please register by October 7. Registration forms are available in Albright Hall or on the Diocese of Missouri's website at <http://www.diocesemo.org/ministries/episcopalchurchwomen.htm>

Friday, October 21, 2011

- 3 p.m. Shopping at *Three French Hens*
(6935 Manchester Road, Wildwood, 63040)
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner at Andria's Steakhouse
(16125 W. Chesterfield Parkway, 63017)
Individuals will order from menu & pay for their own meal. Spouses and significant others are welcome.
- 8 – 10 p.m. "House of Bishops"
(Zydeco Show & Blues Revue)
At St. Martin's Episcopal Church; \$10 donation at the door. Proceeds will be given to "Rebuild Our Church in Haiti"

Saturday, October 22, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. - Refreshments/Registration
- 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service (Offering given to Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Haiti.)
- 10:45 a.m. - Business Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:10 p.m. Workshop: "Creating with God"
- 2:10 p.m. Workshop: "Healthy Living"
- 3:10 p.m. Workshop: "Spiritual Times"
- 4:00 p.m. Gathering Time/Attendance Prizes

Two Bookstores will be open from 8:30am-4:00pm

Questions: contact Karen Birr (ksbirr@charter.net) or 314-831-7728)

Grace float wins 1st place
at Greentree Festival parade

Imagine the people of Grace Church traveling around the world, spreading God's peace. Now imagine that idea on a parade float! That's exactly what a group of Grace members did as they created an award-winning float for Kirkwood's 2011 Greentree Festival parade. The theme of the September 17 parade was "Travel around the world."

"We asked the congregation to tell us any place they had been or supported in any way," said Rebecca Harrison, one of the float's organizers. "Then we represented those prayers, donations and mission trips all over the float. We almost ran out of room!"

The float design also featured dancing suitcases, which were brought to life by an energetic group of parishioners, including Senior Warden Dick Entenmann, Chris Kurth, Mary, Merriweather, Lucy Ryan, Karen Wallach and Jim and Caroline Davis. Associate Rector The Rev. D. Rebecca Dinovo and her daughter Charlotte rode on the float along with Julie Grossman, Janet Mika and Chloe Poe. Bill Harrison drove the float and Mike Heywood supplied the tractor and helped with construction. Jim Willis provided a great soundtrack, which blasted travel songs from the float along the parade route.

This is the third consecutive year Grace Church has participated in the Greentree parade. In 2009, the group won third place in the business division; in 2010, we won first place in the business division; and this year, we won first place as the best overall theme.

Work on this year's float began in early August. For the third year in a row, Fehlig Lumber in downtown St. Louis donated the lumber for the float. There were other construction costs and an entrance fee, but Rebecca said the event is well-worth the small cost. "For community relations, I think it's almost invaluable." Thanks to everyone who donated their time, talent and energy to this fun event for Grace Church!

The Greentree Festival began in 1961 as a way to replace trees during a drought. According to the City of Kirkwood's website, "The City offered Pin Oaks, Sweet Gum, Thornless Locust, White Birch, and Tulip trees for sale for just \$1 each. Thousands of these trees were purchased and planted and to this day, many still flourish, lining a number of Kirkwood streets.

In fact, trees continue to be an important part of the annual Greentree Festival. Boy Scout Troop 325 sponsors the free give-away of hundreds of tree seedlings each year at the Festival." The parade is one of many events featured in this annual celebration.

**Evensong Service
in the Style of Taizé**
Sunday, November 6, at 5 pm

A Place to Meet God

Through a blend of ritual, reverence, and simplicity...

In the midst of community...

*In prayer for healing and wholeness
for oneself, for others and the Church...*

And to be renewed.

The worship tradition represented in this Evensong service began many years ago in the ecumenical French monastic community called Taizé. It is a quiet service of meditation, reflection, readings and music. The experience finds its true meaning in the active participation of all assembled by focusing and deepening our faith through the power of prayer. Therefore, everyone is encouraged to participate as the Spirit moves them, whether that be in song, prayer, or quiet meditation.

Much of our modern personal need is for entertainment; we have "busy" souls. The liturgy that has been developed around the Taizé community is primarily for the worship of God, but it is also meant to quiet the soul. The quietness does not happen at once, but gradually during the worship. There is repetition in the words of the music, there are several periods of silence, and the readings are read slowly - all so that we may have a deep quiet grow in our hearts. Then we may be still and be at peace in the presence of God.



At this service we will commemorate before God the saints and faithful departed. Parishioners are invited to light candles to commemorate their family and friends who have gone before us. Please come and join us for this peaceful and moving service.

Holy Ground Women's Spirituality Group

"Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." ~ Exodus 3:5

At Holy Ground, women from Grace in their late teens and up are invited monthly for divine potluck, deep sharing, spiritual exploration/crafts/prayer, and informal Eucharist. Friends are always welcome, and it is more important that YOU get there than that you bring a dish to share.

This Fall Holy Ground will meet on the 1st Monday of the month from 6:30-8:30pm on Oct. 3, Nov. 7 and Dec. 5. We hope to see you there! Contact Gretchen Logue or Mo. Rebecca if you have any questions.

Bishop Wayne Smith 

Physicality in the Spiritual Life

These recent days of cooler weather provide a welcome respite from the heat and humidity of the summer just past, even for a lover of hot weather like me. The truth is that while I like to bask in the heat, I do not like to work in it. Exercise outdoors becomes arduous, and the simple labor of mowing the lawn at the Smiths' house on a hot July day can be my undoing.

Physical labor is no small thing for folks who, like me, are mostly not accustomed to such things. I think of my own circumstances in contrast to my father's, who labored all his life long, mostly as a farmer and a worker in road construction. His work was not so much a choice for him as a way of life. He did relish being outdoors, and he never much like air conditioning, inured as he was to the summer heat of West Texas. But be very clear: he labored hard in ways I have never had to.

Twenty-five years ago I read in a biography of Charles Simeon, the great evangelical thinker in 19th century England, some of the usual counsel he had for his students at Cambridge. He told them that every day he would walk to the two-mile stone (a mile marker from the University) to make certain the stone was still there, and he would commend such practice to anyone engaged in the "reading life." A four-mile daily walk is not a bad discipline for anyone engaged in what is otherwise a sedentary livelihood and manner of life, and I have managed to approximate that discipline for the past several decades (not, I will admit, daily). But I am also clear that I can choose not to engage in that discretionary exercise, on any given day or for stretches of time, whether for reasons of ill health, travel, a bum knee, or good old-fashioned laziness. My freedom to choose is not available to billions of people in this world, whose very life will depend on hard physical labor.

Such labor does not deserve any condescending glance or foolish romanticism. But we do well to remember that Benedict, in his Rule for Monks, described a spiritual life existing in a three-fold balance: (physical) work, study, and prayer - all to be undertaken for the sake of the community, which is the matrix of the monk's spiritual life, and for which there is no substitute. That is hardly an unreasonable balance - work, study, and prayer. Physicality is all the more necessary for anyone desiring a deeper spiritual life, especially since spirituality, misguided, can seduce a person into forgetting the body. Anyone who has ever engaged in a demanding course of study or a mentally or emotionally challenging vocation will have faced that challenge. Sometimes the option of Charles Simeon is the likely one available, and if so, then let us choose it.

But let us never forget those for whom such a choice is not an option, whose lives depend upon their labor.

Communication Jesus Style

(Preached at Grace in September by Mother Rebecca)

When I started out in ministry as a Resident Chaplain for my dormitory at a small liberal arts college, I had girls coming to complain to me day and night about other girls who had hurt them or done something wrong. Initially my response was to try and solve the problems. If Christy was upsetting Julie, I thought I needed to have a talk with Christy to rescue and “help” Julie. This “getting in the middle” quickly became exhausting and, as time went on, I became more and more frustrated with this approach and wanted to find a better way to communicate, rather than being caught up in these triangles. This type of communication, actually called triangulation by psychologists, happens a lot in western culture. In this people often take the roles of victim, persecutor, and rescuer. Clergy and the well intentioned are particularly vulnerable to getting trapped into the role of rescuer. Churches are not immune and have some of the worst reputations for this kind of communication. We church folks often try very hard to put on the appearance of being “nice” and non-confrontational. Sometimes we think this is more “Christian” of us, but that isn’t true. An example of poor communication and triangulation occurred in a women’s group I was in. Some women were complaining to the leader about another woman’s dominant style of expressing her opinions. I’ll call the woman “Patty.” The leader felt it was her “responsibility” to tell Patty how some of the others in the group felt about her...to be helpful. What do you think happened? Was this the beginning of some helpful soul searching for Patty and change for all involved? Of course not. Patty left the group and never came back, feeling rejected, without ever fully understanding what had actually offended some in the group in the first place. After all, just like the game “telephone,” the message is generally miscommunicated when it goes through another party. And in triangulation, there is not much room for reconciliation or helpful change. How could Patty reconcile with an anonymous portion of the group? How could she address specific concerns being funneled through one person serving as the messenger? In Patty’s mind, the group was talking about her behind her back and they didn’t have the grace to approach her directly. I don’t blame her for leaving.

In graduate school I began reading books and listening to talks about healthier forms of communication. The advice was always the same: Stop communicating indirectly through other people and start communicating directly. It made me squirm since this was not at all how my family functioned while growing up. In fact, many families don’t work this way and have their own roundabout patterns of communication. Most families and church groups could use a tune up when it comes to healthy communication.

It wasn’t until much later that I realized that Jesus gives us a healthy pattern of communication right smack dab in the Gospels that is in line with what experts and authors recommend today. In Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus gives us a series of steps to follow for healthy Christian communication. Step 1: Jesus says, “*If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.*” Notice Jesus does not say “go and complain about it to someone else,” nor “go and confront the person in a crowd or group of people.” He says go and talk *directly* to the person *alone*. *But, we say, that won’t work, they won’t listen to me.* Well, we don’t get to skip the first step just because we don’t think it will work. Always give others a chance and confront them gracefully. That’s how we’d want others to handle it if we were the ones who had offended. But if step 1 fails, there is step 2. Jesus says, “*if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.*” Step 2 is only to be taken if step 1 has completely failed. The second step involves bringing only 1 or 2 people with you to talk to the person directly yourself if step 1 didn’t work. Notice it is not a group of people and that the other 1 or 2 people aren’t there to talk for you: They are there to witness the conversation. This often happens for couples today in marital counseling: If talking it out privately hasn’t worked, they need 1 more person, (a counselor) present. This can be tremendously helpful. But if this fails, and step 1 or 2 are almost always successful, only then does Jesus give us permission to get others involved. We often skip to step 3 the first time someone does something we’re unhappy about. We want others to know all about how someone has wronged us. Yet this is

(Continued on page 10)

Standing Notices

The **Sacrament of Holy Baptism** is administered on All Saints’ Day or the Sunday after (Nov. 6), the First Sunday after Epiphany (Baptism of Our Lord), at the Great Vigil of Easter, and Pentecost. Baptisms are reserved for these occasions or when the Bishop is present. The **Sacrament of Holy Matrimony** is offered to members of the parish in good standing and members of their immediate family. Lent is not a suitable season. Please contact Mother Rebecca to arrange for baptism, marriage or to report a death or hospitalization

Pastoral Care at Grace Church

The Clergy are available by appointment to discuss personal, pastoral or spiritual matters; please call or e-mail the clergy directly. In case of a pastoral emergency, please call the parish office at 314-821-1806. For pastoral emergencies after office hours - call the parish office and press “7” to be connected to the priest-on-call 24 hours, seven days a week. In case of severe illness, hospitalization, when a person is near death or at the death of a member of the church, please notify the clergy as soon as possible in order to secure the ministrations of the church.



BRIDGE Report: October 5, 2011

Financial Status

Total dollars committed \$1,106,904
Total dollars received \$466,847

Project Status

HVAC:

Project is nearly complete; entire project to be completed mid-October.

Other:

- New carpeting installed in the parish office, Ministry Office and LaVielle Conference Room; 1st floor hallway carpeted in early October.
- Painting of Albright Hall complete; new baseboards installed
- Furniture (4 new chairs and 2 new side tables) for the Narthex delivered in late September.
- Approval has been given to hire an architect to develop a plan for Nave and Narthex upgrades

Ministry Impact:

Work to be done in conjunction with our Mission teams.

Upcoming Events at Grace

Visitation for Janet Heyer - See p. 11
Friday, October 7, 5—9 p.m. (Kean Library)

Blessing of the Animals - See p. 3
Saturday, October 8, 11:00 a.m.

Funeral for Janet Heyer - See p. 11
Saturday, October 8, 1:00 p.m.

Progressive Dinner - See p. 5
Saturday, October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Children's Sermon - See p. 2
Sunday, October 23, 10:00 a.m.

Grace on the Go - See p. 5
Monday, October 24, 8:30 a.m. (sign up by 10/17)

Pumpkin Carving & Vespers - See p. 2
Sunday, October 30, 5:00 p.m.

Deadline for Holiday Concert Tickets - See p. 5
Saturday, October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Stewardship Ingathering - See p. 3
Sunday, November 6, at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Taizé Evensong - See p. 7
Sunday, November 6, 5:00 p.m.

Trivia Night - See p. 5
Saturday, November 19, 6:00 p.m.

Highlights of the Vestry Meeting September 13, 2011

Tim Engelbrecht explained the newly developed Grace Legacy Fund of Grace Episcopal Church, which is a less restrictive endowment fund. The fund is separate from the Grace Episcopal Church Endowment Fund and will be administered by the Trustees of the Endowment Fund. The vestry unanimously approved establishing the Legacy Fund as well as adopting the Legacy Fund procedures. Thanks to Tim and his team for all of their work in developing the fund.

Thanks to the vestry members who served 64 hungry people on September 11 at Trinity Hot Lunch at Trinity Episcopal Church in the Central West End.

Debbie Pidgeon became a member of Grace in August. Father Todd encourages all members of Grace to attend The Magnetic Church seminar at Grace Church on November 10 and 11.

August 2011 was a typical month financially speaking. Revenues were \$40,355 and expenses were \$43,688. Our current cash reserves would cover 2.5 months of our 2011 budgeted expenses.

It is anticipated that a loan of about \$266,000 will be taken out by year's end to pay for capital campaign projects that are in progress.

Albright Hall has been painted. Carpet will be laid in the main floor hallway and some offices in September. Furniture for the narthex will be arriving in September.

Grace Church will host a trivia night on November 19. Melanie Jianakoplos sent a note thanking the people of Grace for their support of her studies at Virginia Theological Seminary.

At Holy Ground, women from Grace in their late teens and up are invited monthly for divine potluck, deep sharing, spiritual exploration/crafts/prayer, and informal Eucharist. Friends are always welcome, and it is more important that YOU get there than that you bring a dish to share.

Mother Rebecca has nine candidates for confirmation in her confirmation class.

There will be a Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 8, at 11:00am.

Vestry Members

Class of '12	Jim Davis, Julie Grossman, Elizabeth Kaul, Chris Kurth
Class of '13	Tim Cenova, Jan McMichael, Marty O'Leary, Tom Petrie, Brian Roche
Class of '14	Shari Bonham, Dick Entenmann, Richard Eschenroeder, Leah Giessing
Secretary	Sue Nixon



Aging with Grace

The Shepherd Center

The Shepherd Center is “an interfaith volunteer organization that provides programs and services for older adults” to enable them to continue living vital and independent lives as their situations change. This fall we celebrate “Our Lucky 13” years of service. Check out our website: www.shepherdscenter-wk.org

Helping Senior Neighbors Fall Tri-Fecta

The Shepherd’s Center Fall “Chores Galore,” Webster Groves’ “Make a Difference Day” and “Hands on Kirkwood” all fall on the same helpful fall day, **Saturday, October 22**. Shepherd’s Center is recruiting youth groups, families and scouts to help with raking, trimming and bagging, which greatly helps senior neighbors remain independent at home. If your group is able to lend a hand that morning, call Gayle at Shepherd’s Center (395-0988) to sign up. If that morning is unavailable, volunteer to work another fall Saturday.

Shepherd’s Center Travelers

Do you enjoy a concert and a meal with friends? The Shepherd’s Travelers have planned 2 trips to do just that on **November 18** and **December 13**. Call for details and to RSVP (395-0988). You are sure to enjoy yourself!

Communication Jesus Style

(Continued from page 8)

only a last resort according to Jesus, and if this doesn’t help, we can move on to step 4 where Jesus advises to simply let them be to us as a “Gentile” or “tax collector.” Aha, we think, that means we can ignore or exclude them! Isn’t that what people did back then? Perhaps, but how did *Jesus* treat Gentiles and tax collectors? Jesus called tax collectors to be his disciples. Jesus fellowshipped, healed and praised Gentile men and women who demonstrated great faith. Jesus even revealed profound and divine truths to Gentiles and fellow sinners – like the Samaritan woman at the well. He did not shun and exclude anyone for being sinners, tax collectors, or different in some way. So we’re not off the hook, and the key to this comes down to the 5th and final step, often overlooked but brings the whole process together when Jesus says, “*Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*” Jesus is talking about forgiveness: we “lose” someone when we forgive them and in doing so, we “bind” all that is evil and sinful. We are called to lose, to let go, to untie, to set free, to forgive those who wrong us. In doing so we bind, chain, and stop sin from continuing to harm us and them. This passage ties perfectly into our epistle lesson where St. Paul says, “*Love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.*” Forgiving others is loving our neighbors, even when they don’t deserve it or have rebuffed our attempt to reconcile. It is not

Aging Successfully Lectures at St. Luke's

St. Luke’s Hospital is offering this free (registration required) lecture series for older adults, caregivers and members of the “sandwich generation” on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at St. Luke’s. For information or to register, please visit their [website](#) or call 314-542-4848.

Oct. 4 *Normal Changes in Hearing as We Age*
Stephanie Schutzenhofer, AuD, CCC-A

Normal Changes in Vision as We Age
Adam Fedyk, MD

Oct. 11 *Driver Safety in Older Adults*
Claire Kelly, OTR/L

Fall Risk and Safety in the Home
Dinah Hayes, PT, DPT, MHA

Nov. 1 *Safety When Taking Multiple Medications*
Way Huey, PharmD, BCPS, FCCM

Nov. 8 *Navigating Your Way From Hospital to Home: Understanding Your Healthcare Options*

Nov. 15 *End of Life Planning and Care Giving*
Diane Jorgenson, MSW, LCSW
Becky Lasater, MSW, LCSW
Heather Poropat, RN, CHPN

easy, but it is central to our faith and Christian practice.

Imagine how many misunderstandings, resentments, divisions, and arguments could be avoided in the church and in our families if we followed Jesus’ words and put them into practice. Instead of complaining to others and triangulating, we go directly to the person prayerfully and privately and talk to them honestly with the sincere hope of reconciliation. If we need to hear an apology....ask for it! We really can say, “I was hurt by this, I need to find mutual forgiveness.” By telling people what we need, we give them the opportunity to «AddressBlock» either clarify things for us or to practice the holy art of apologizing and forgiving.

A parishioner of mine was once deeply offended and concerned by a sermon I preached on the topic of sin. In fact, he was downright angry and ready to leave over it. Instead of leaving the church or grumbling to everyone else about it however, he immediately called and made an appointment to talk to me. We had lunch and he explained his concerns to me, which, in fact, really turned out to be a misunderstanding of my sermon. But we gained clarity, were reconciled, and our relationship actually deepened from that point on. When it was time for me to leave St. John’s, he was one of my most vocal supporters.

It’s amazing what happens when we follow Jesus’ way for us in our families, our church, at work, and in our lives. Jesus’ words on this topic move us out of the traps sprung by unhealthy communication patterns and into a life of reconciliation; practicing peace, love, and forgiveness with all those with whom we relate. Thanks be to God.

News from the Parish Family

The parish mourns the death of **Aaron Becker** on September 27. Our sympathy is extended to his mother and step-father, **Anne Perkins and Michael Michenfelder**, his father **Arthur Becker** and Aaron's family. Aaron was baptized at Grace Church and remained a member here until his death. Funeral services for Aaron were held at Grace on October 3; his ashes will be scattered at a later date near his grandparent's home in Georgian Bay, Ontario. Aaron was 22 years old.

The parish is also mourning the death of life-long member **Janet Murphy Heyer** on October 5. Visitation will be held at Grace Church Friday evening, October 7, 5—9 p.m.; funeral services will be held Saturday, October 8, at 1 p.m. followed by a reception in Albright Hall. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Grace Church Legacy Fund. Janet was baptized, confirmed and married at Grace Church. She graduated from Kirkwood High School and Washington University. Her parents, **Sam and Barbara Murphy** were long-time members and are interred in Grace Church's Columbarium. Our sympathy is extended to Janet's husband **Mike Heyer**, her daughters **Megan and Jenny**, and grandson **Jackson**. Janet's remains will be interred in Grace's Columbarium. *Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

A Note of Thanks from Mike Heyer

I just wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know how moved my family and I are at the overwhelming response to Janet's illness. We can't thank the Parish enough for their thoughts and prayers, and the many meals we have been given. Love, *Mike*

Congratulations to **Kristin & John Frisch** on the September 12 birth of **Molly Elizabeth Frisch**. Proud grandparents are **Janet & Steve Mika**. Congratulations also to **Connie and Richard Marchetto** on the birth of a grandson, **Gavin Jacob Schwab**, born September 2 to **Joseph & Lori Schwab** in Edmond OK.

Congratulations to **Thomas Fliss** on earning a perfect 36 composite score on the ACT college entrance exam on September 10. Ed is the son of **Edward Fliss and Barbara MacRobie** and attends Metro Academic and Classical High School through the Voluntary Transfer Program. He had no idea when he walked out of the classroom that he would have a perfect score, a rare feat accomplished by less than 1/10 of 1% of students who take the test. He is only the 51st student in the St. Louis region to earn a perfect composite score since 2000 and is the first St. Louis Public School student with a perfect score during that time span. "I knew I did well, but I wasn't 100% sure about some of my answers," Thomas recalls. "I guess they went my way, though. That's the difference between earning a 34 or a 36." Thomas plans to major in computer science in college and is currently considering Stanford, Cal Tech, Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Carnegie Mellon University.

Thank You from Melanie Jianakoplos

It is always so nice to come home and find my Grace family there to greet me with open arms. I would like to thank all of you for your generous contributions to my ministry and education at VTS. I am looking forward to starting class tomorrow and with your support, I will be able to buy my books! Thank you very much for your love and support. Grace & Peace, *Melanie Jianakoplos*

Parish Intercessory Prayer List

Remember in your prayers for health and strength our brothers and sisters at Grace:

Jana, John & Sean Adams	Ed Fliss	Betty Nellums
Barbara Berry	Ellen Friedla	Kay Nelson
Emilie Brandhorst	Folsta and Mike Gibbons	Dick Russell
Mary Cadwallader	Rebecca Harrison	Beverly Sparks-Shands
Laura Cobb	Brendan Hart	Hazel Treanor
Ginger Dokos	Llewelyn Heigham	
Richard Eschendoeder	Janet Heyer	

... and remember also our friends and family:

Catherine Dokos	Ginger and John's sister-in-law	Kathy Leipziger	Mike Fitzgerald's younger sister
Dorothy Duncan	Ginger Dokos' sister	Mrs. Pennyman	Friend of Sean Adams'
William Duncan	Ginger Dokos' brother-in-law	Lydia Poehling	P. Danner's great granddaughter
Mary Engelbrecht	Tim's mother	Terry Vasher	Friend of Ron & Alice Jones
Greg Hampton	Fr. Todd's friend	Fred Weissenborn	Friend of the parish

Names cycle through our prayer list a month at a time. By the 25th of each month, please inform Angela Breeher in the parish office (821-1806, ext. 10) if continued prayers are requested for the following month or to add new names.

The *Messenger* Schedule

The Messenger will be published monthly, on the last Tuesday of each month. The submission deadline for articles will be noon on the preceding Tuesday. Please submit articles to Angela Breeher, Parish Administrator, in the Grace Church office by email (angela.breeher@gracekirkwood.org), fax (314-821-7404) or U.S. mail.

	Article <u>Deadline</u>	Publication <u>Date</u>
November Edition	Oct. 18	Oct. 25
December Edition	Nov. 22	Nov. 29
January 2012 Edition	Dec. 20	Jan. 3, 2012

Newsletter Staff

Editor/Layout: Angela Breeher

Distribution: Katie Conrad, Rebecca Harrison, Vince Nicosia, Betty Salisbury



514 East Argonne
Kirkwood, MO 63122