

This Week at Grace

Sunday, Dec. 16

The Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m.

Not Just Donuts Coffee Hour after both services

8:00 hosts:

10:00 hosts:

Nursery for infants & toddlers, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday Speaker Series at 9 a.m.

Youth Confirmation Class at 9 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Gloria Deo Handbell Choir at 11:15 a.m.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal at 11:15 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 17

Parish office closed on Mondays.

Holy Ground at 6 p.m.

Community of Hope at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Women's Book Group at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Men's Group Breakfast at 8 a.m. (Steak 'N Shake)

Staff Meeting at 10 a.m.

St. Patrick Training Choir at 4:15 p.m.

St. Dunstan Handbell Choir at 4:30 p.m.

All Saints Handbell Choir at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 20

Parish Choristers at 4:15 p.m.

Advent Labyrinth Walk, 6 - 8 p.m.

Christian Yoga at 6:30 p.m.

Parish Choir at 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

No church events scheduled.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Altar Guild at 9:30 a.m.

The Messenger is a weekly publication of Grace Church. If you have information you would like included, please contact Janis in the church office.
janis.greenbaum@gracekirkwood.org.



Next Sunday at Grace

Sunday, Dec. 23

The Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m.

Not Just Donuts Coffee Hour after both services

8:00 hosts: *Please sign up*

10:00 hosts: *in the kitchen!*

Nursery for infants & toddlers, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Gloria Deo Handbell Choir at 11:15 a.m.

Hanging of the Greens at 11:15 a.m.

Parish Family News

Happy Birthday:

Dec. 16

Paul Allmon,
Patrick Moley



Dec. 17

Yvonne Johnson, John Woodruff

Dec. 18

Julie Haddock

Dec. 19

Carly Yanuck

Dec. 20

Ellen Heath-Monnig, Diana Thomas

Dec. 22

Julie Grossman, Barbara MacRobie

Dec. 23

John Adams, Brent Dudley

Happy Anniversary:

Dec. 22

Kathy & Jim Davis



Dec. 23

Patricia & Edgar Taylor

Birth Announcements:

Congratulations to **Mike and Liz Gibbons** on the birth of grandchild **Caroline Gayle O'Neill**, born Nov. 28 to parents Danny and Cherisse O'Neill.



Blessings to **Susan Vernon** on the birth of her daughter **Allison Danielle Vernon**, born November 6.

Festival Flower and Music Offering Due TODAY!

Make a special donation as a memorial gift or a gift of thanksgiving to help us adorn the church with beautiful decorations and provide guest musicians for our worship services. Forms are inserted into today's bulletin; envelopes are in the pews and in the Narthex.

The Messenger

Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018

News of the people and ministries of . . .



Scarf Sale for Gun Locks

TODAY! Sunday, Dec. 16 / after both services

- *Are you looking for a beautiful Christmas gift idea?*
- *Are you looking for a way to contribute to the safety of our community?*

We have received a new batch of cashmere scarves, imported from the Holy Ground. The scarves are available for sale today in Albright Parish Hall. Each **\$20** or **\$30** sale will fund the purchase of a gun lock, which will be distributed by *Women's Voices Raised*, free of charge, to anyone with an unsecured handgun in the home. Please check their website for upcoming events: womensvoicesraised.org.

The Giving Tree

Return your gifts TODAY: Sunday, Dec. 16

Thanks to everyone who purchased gifts to give to our neighbors in need this Christmas. Our gifts will benefit:

- Youth in detention (*Episcopal City Mission*)
- Women who have survived sexual exploitation, violence and addiction (*Bravely*)
- A local family that needs a helping hand (*Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association*).

Returning your gifts:

- ⇒ Place all gift cards in the envelopes supplied and return to Shari in the church office or drop in the Sunday collection plates.
- ⇒ Place unwrapped gifts under the tree in Albright Parish Hall.
- ⇒ ECM and Bravely gifts due TODAY! (Meacham Park gifts were due last week.)

Sunday Speaker Series: The Rev. Susie Skinner

TODAY! Sunday, Dec. 16 / 9 a.m.

LaVielle Conference Room

We are pleased to welcome the Rev. Susie Skinner to Grace Church this morning! Susie will present a light-hearted look at the holiday season with Christmas Trivia. Grab a cup of coffee and join the fun between services. Susie will also be preaching at the 10 a.m. service.

Children's Christmas Pageant

**REHEARSAL TODAY! Sunday, Dec. 16
11:15 a.m. / LaVielle Conference Room**

Children of all ages are invited to be part of our traditional Christmas Pageant, to be presented at our 4 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Speaking and non-speaking roles are available. We also need adults to help shepherd our flocks!

Christmas at Grace Church

**The Eve of the Nativity
Monday, Dec. 24**

3:30 p.m.: Service of Carols
with Choir and Brass Quartet

4 p.m.: Choral Eucharist
with Children's Christmas Pageant

10 p.m.: Candlelight Christmas Eucharist
with Cantor and Oboe

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Tuesday, Dec. 25**

10 a.m.: Christmas Eucharist

Christian Formation & Worship

Confirm Not Conform

TODAY! Sunday, Dec. 16 / 9 a.m.

Youth Room

Our youth confirmation program takes a closer look at church history and traditions as we continue our journey toward confirmation.

First Sundays @ 5: Epiphany

Sunday, Jan. 6 / 5 p.m.

All ages are invited to our monthly alternative worship service. We'll celebrate the Epiphany with Holy Eucharist and a free shared meal.

Month of Grace + Prayer

Jan. 13 - Feb. 12

First Congregational Church, Webster Groves

Take a spiritual retreat in everyday life with this month of guided prayer. The event begins and ends with group sessions. You'll be assigned a spiritual guide to meet privately with each Tuesday at your convenience. You'll enrich your spirit by learning how to incorporate different methods of prayer into your everyday life. Learn more and register at momentsofgraceandprayer.org or contact Clarence Heller at clarenceheller@gmail.com or 314-258-9066. Please register by Jan. 4.

Dismantling Racism Workshop

Jan. 19 & 20

Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion, University City

The Diocesan Commission for Dismantling Racism offers this 2-day workshop focused on recognizing and eliminating institutional racism in the Church. It is REQUIRED for all clergy and persons seeking ordination, youth workers, employees, and wardens. It is suggested training for any lay leadership in the Diocese of Missouri. There is no cost for this workshop. **Registration is required by Jan. 11.** Learn more and register at diocesemo.org/ministries/dismantling-racism-commission.

Holiday Outreach

Reverse Advent Calendar

Now - Sunday, Dec. 23

Grace's Outreach Ministry invites us to remember the needs of others as we wait to celebrate the birth of Christ! Every day in Advent, set aside one non-perishable food item. Collect your items at home with your family and bring them to Grace on the Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec. 23). We'll send the food to Kirk Care and Trinity Food Pantries to help our neighbors in need this holiday season.

Holiday Gift Wrapping Party

Monday, Dec. 17, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Webster Groves

Come help make Christmas a reminder of God's lavish, unconditional, limitless and abundant love for the children in detention during the holidays. **Episcopal City Mission** ensures each child they serve has at least one gift to unwrap. A light lunch will be provided while wrapping. **RSVP to 314-436-3545 or ecmdirectorstl@gmail.com**

Grace and Gratitude:

Grace's Trinity Hot Lunch ministry served 68 neighbors in need on December 9. Our sincere thanks goes to all involved, including:



- ♦ **Cooking Team:** Kathy Davis, Susanne Haring, Sue Nixon, Debby Pidgeon, Edie Bernard
- ♦ **Serving Team:** Edie Bernard, Jim Davis, Father Todd, Corinna Kurth Baker
- ♦ **Goody bags & Christmas cards:** Grace's Church School Students (created Dec. 2)
- ♦ **Shopping Team:** Vince & Michele Nicosia

A very special thanks goes to Chris Kurth, who has led this ministry for many years and has overseen a positive leadership transition over the past several months. We are grateful for the time, effort and love you have poured into this ministry, Chris!

Spirituality and Fellowship

Holy Ground

Monday, Dec. 17 / 6 p.m.

Enjoy fellowship and worship with your friends at this special holiday event. We'll begin with a potluck supper, then spread holiday cheer by making cards for our shut-in friends and discussing holiday traditions. The evening ends with an informal Eucharist. All are invited!

Women's Book Group

Tuesday, Dec. 18 / 10 a.m. / Kean Library

The Book Group continues their discussion of *The Accidental President: Harry S. Truman and the Four Months That Changed the World*, by A.J. Blaimie (chapters 14-17). All are invited to come for the fellowship - even if you don't read the book.

Advent Labyrinth Evenings

Thursday, Dec. 20 / Doors open 6 - 8 p.m.

You are invited to calm your senses during this holiday season at Grace's indoor labyrinth. Come to get away from the crowds and enjoy candlelight, soft music and time alone with God.

The Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, Dec. 23 / 11:15 a.m.

All ages are invited to stay after the 10 a.m. worship service next Sunday to enjoy a pizza lunch and help decorate our church for Christmas.

Invite • Welcome • Connect



Invite provides new opportunities to invite people not only into a relationship with the congregation at Grace but also inviting them into a relationship with God and Jesus Christ.

There are many people waiting for and hungry for an invitation to be part of a church community. Personal invitation is the most essential part of reaching out.

Intercessory Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:

Vernon Balster	Dorothy Bardwell	Carroll Bollard
DC Bollard	Kathy Bradford	Marilyn Brown
Chris Clark	Jackson Clark	Paris Coffey
Janie Cooper	Tom Dotson	Ellen Friedla
David Fly	Craig Franklin	Betty French
Mary Etta Heggie	Cathy Hilton	Martha Johnston
Carolyn Klebolt	Opal Lackey	Walter Leach
Avery Link	Chris Meyer	Kit Mills
Lucille Miller	Marilyn Monson	Johnnie Nelson
Michele Nicosia	Chloe Poe	Heather Schmitt
Alinda Sledge	Kathryn Theis	Linda Ustruck
Beth VanConia	Bob Waechter	Blake Walker
Jodie Walker	Lucas Woehle	Kent & Marilyn Wilton

Contact Janis in the church office to update this list.

Pastoral Care

Grace's clergy are available by appointment to discuss personal, pastoral or spiritual matters; please call or email 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 a day, 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.

Sacraments

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is administered four times each year at Grace Church:

- ♦ The Baptism of our Lord (Jan. 13, 2019)
- ♦ The Great Vigil of Easter (April 20, 2019)
- ♦ Pentecost (June 9, 2019)
- ♦ All Saints' Sunday (Nov. 3, 2019)

Please contact the church office to arrange for a baptism or marriage, request the Reconciliation of a Penitent (confession) or Unction (anointing of the sick).