

This Week at Grace

Sunday, Dec. 2

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m.

Not Just Donuts Coffee Hour after both services

8:00 hosts: Betty Bowersox

10:00 hosts: Jim & Jenn Wethington

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

Sunday Adult Forum at 9 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

First Sundays @ 5: Advent Event at 4 p.m.;

Holy Eucharist at 5 p.m.; Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 3

Parish office closed on Mondays.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Holy Land Pilgrimage

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

Women's Book Group at 10 a.m.

Holiday Sale Boutique Prep at Noon

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Holy Land Pilgrimage

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

Holiday Sale Boutique Prep at 9 a.m.

Staff Meeting at 10 a.m.

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

Thursday, Dec. 6

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Holiday Sale Boutique Prep at 9 a.m.

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. 7

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Holiday Sale Prep at 9 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Women of Grace Holiday Sale at 9 a.m.

Altar Guild at 9:30 a.m.

Next Sunday at Grace

Sunday, Dec. 9

Saint Nicholas Sunday

Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m.

Not Just Donuts Coffee Hour after both services

8:00 hosts: Mary Merriweather

10:00 hosts:

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

Trinity Hot Lunch: cooking at 9 a.m.; serving at 1 p.m.

Sunday Adult Forum at 9 a.m.

Youth Confirmation Class at 9 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Youth Mission Trip Kick-Off Event at 11:15 a.m.

Parish Family News

Happy Birthday:

Dec. 2	Tori Giessing
Dec. 3	Steve Sehie
Dec. 5	Julie Sward, Susan Vernon
Dec. 6	Alex Davis
Dec. 8	Sarah Boyle
Dec. 9	Krista Crump, Elizabeth Harding, Steven Mika, Brian Roche



Happy Anniversary:

Dec. 2	Lucinda & Ronald Cobb
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Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Now - Dec. 8

Fr. Todd and 14 members and friends of Grace Church are now on a pilgrimage in the Holy Land. Please keep the group in your prayers and watch for pictures posted on our Facebook page (Facebook.com/GraceChurchKirkwood).

In Sympathy:

The prayers of the parish family go to **Wayne and Shari Bonham** on the death of Wayne's sister, Helen Bonham Short, who died Nov. 23.



We also pray for **Vince and Michele Nicosia** on the death of Vince's nephew, Steve, who died Nov. 22.



Visit our website for updated news & events: www.GraceKirkwood.org

The Messenger

Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018

News of the people and ministries of . . .



First Sundays: Advent Event

TODAY! Sunday, Dec. 2

Albright Parish Hall

⇒ 4 p.m. - crafting

⇒ 5 p.m. - Holy Eucharist

⇒ 5:30 p.m. - casual dinner

Grace's Church School Committee invites all ages to begin the season of Advent at this special holiday event. Make a creative Advent wreath banner and pick up a variety of useful Advent resources; engage in Holy Eucharist, featuring the Godly Play Advent story; and enjoy a shared meal with your family and friends at Grace. The Rev. Emily Hillquist Davis will be our guest priest for special holiday event.

The Giving Tree

Pick up gift suggestion ornaments in Albright Parish Hall

Share your blessings this holiday season by purchasing gifts for those less fortunate. Select an ornament from the tree to 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.
- ⇒ Meacham Park gifts due Dec. 9; ECM and Bravely gifts due Dec. 16.

Women of Grace Holiday Sale

Saturday, Dec. 8 / 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Leftover Sale: Sunday, Dec. 9

Invite your friends, family and neighbors to stock up on holiday cheer at the Women of Grace Holiday Sale!

We sell homemade cookies by the pound, candy, baked goods, Christmas treats, books, DVDs, vintage and costume jewelry, and Christmas ornaments / decorations.

You can help in many ways, and all are very important to the event's success:

- ⇒ **Donate** books, DVDs, costume and vintage jewelry, Christmas ornaments & décor.
- ⇒ **Volunteer** to help set up the boutique, beginning Tuesday, Dec. 4 at noon.
- ⇒ **Help set up** Albright Parish Hall. Thursday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wrap tables, put up display signs, price and package donations.
- ⇒ **Bake cookies or other goodies. Deliver your items Friday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** If you need to drop off at another time, please fill out a form on the kitchen counter to leave with your donation.
- ⇒ **Work a shift** on Saturday or Sunday. Sign up sheets are in Albright Parish. We need MANY men, women and teens!
- ⇒ **Spread the word.** Distribute the green flyers (in the Narthex), invite friends and neighbors.

This popular event brings hundreds of people from throughout our area to Grace Church.

Proceeds will be split among Women of Grace outreach projects and a special project for Grace.

Thanks for your support!

Christian Formation & Worship

Sunday School Special Events:

⇒ **Service Day: Sunday, Dec. 2 / 9:30 a.m.**

Our students learn the importance of serving others as we begin Advent. Preschool and elementary students will be making holiday treat bags and cards to distribute at next week's Trinity Hot Lunch. Middle and High School youth will use the proceeds from their Turkey Cookie Sales to Christmas shop for local families in need.

⇒ **Saint Nicholas Day: Sunday, Dec. 9**

When students come from their classes to the 10 a.m. service next Sunday, we'll have a fun presentation about the real Saint Nicholas. We're expecting a special visitor — be sure to leave your shoes in the hall for a special treat!

Adult Forum: Chaos & Christmas

Sunday, Dec. 2 & 9 / 9 a.m.

LaVielle Conference Room

Mother Ginny uses a little comedy to find faith in our daily lives. Join us between services to watch holiday episodes of the classic TV sitcom *M*A*S*H* and have fun discussing how we can reconcile the chaos of the season with Christmas.

Youth Mission Trip Kick-Off

Sunday, Dec. 9 / 11:15 a.m.

All high school youth are invited to be a part of Grace's 24th Annual Youth Mission Trip. Students interested in participating and parents should attend this important event to get our calendar of events and details about this year's trip. A light lunch will be provided.

RSVP to Janis TODAY:

janis.greenbaum@gracekirkwood.org

Sunday Speaker Series: Christmas Trivia

Sunday, Dec. 16 / 9 a.m.

LaVielle Conference Room

Grace is pleased to welcome the Rev. Susie Skinner for a light-hearted lesson in holiday history. Join us between services for a fun exploration of Christmas trivia.

Holiday Outreach and Fun

Reverse Advent Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 2 - 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. We'll send the food to Kirk Care and Trinity Food Pantries to help our neighbors in need this holiday season.

Ornament Exchange Party

Monday, Dec. 10 / 6 p.m.

Engelbrecht residence: 414 E. Madison

Enjoy a fun evening with friends at Grace's Ornament Exchange Party. This year's event is hosted by Becky Engelbrecht, Sandi Adams and Ann VanConia. Dinner and dessert will be served.

Bring one wrapped ornament and \$20 to the party. All proceeds go to Grace's Outreach Ministry. Sign up today in Albright Parish Hall.

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. The message they receive is the true gift: That they are beloved children of God and that someone cares about them and believes they have the power to change their life's path. A light lunch will be provided.

RSVP to 314-436-3545 or

ecmdirectorstl@gmail.com

Invite • Welcome • Connect



Invite a friend to bake cookies with you for the Holiday Sale and then come shop Dec. 8 to support this outreach event!

Spirituality and Fellowship

Holiday Brass Concert & Lunch

Monday, Dec. 3 / Manchester Methodist

10:15 a.m. / doors open at 9:15 a.m.

Seats reserved until 9:30 a.m. (pre-concert begins)

One ticket is suddenly available (\$24).

Contact Christie Boyle ASAP

Grace on the Go seating is to the right side of the center aisle. Volunteers are available to guide you. After-concert lunch is at Hearth Room Café in Lamp & Lantern Village at Clayton and Woods Mill. Parking to access the upper level is available on the north and south sides of the complex (no stairs or ramp on south end). Restaurant is on the west side of the landscaped walkway. Ask for Grace on the Go private room.

Women's Book Group

Tuesdays / 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. Blaime (chapters 5-9). All are invited to come for the fellowship - even if you don't read the book.

Advent Labyrinth Walks

Thursday, Dec. 6, 13, 20 / 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. Spend as much time as you need.

IRA Charitable Rollovers

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make a contribution to Grace Church directly from your Traditional IRA as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). Your gift will not count as taxable income and will count toward your minimal distribution requirements for 2018. Best of all, you'll help Grace's ministries do God's work in the world! Please talk with your financial advisor to learn more or contact the church office for assistance.



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
Opal Lackey	Walter Leach	Avery Link
Chris Meyer	Kit Mills	Lucille Miller
Marilyn Monson	Johnnie Nelson	Chloe Poe
Heather Schmitt	Alinda Sledge	Kathryn Theis
Linda Ustruck	Beth VanConia	Bob Waechter
Blake Walker	Jodie Walker	Kent & Marilyn Wilton
Lucas Woehle		

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).