

This Week at Grace

Sunday, Dec. 23

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m.

Not Just Donuts Coffee Hour after both services

8:00 hosts: Diane Warhover

10:00 hosts: Marty O'Leary

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.

Monday, Dec. 24

Parish office closed on Mondays.

Service of Carols at 3:30 p.m.

Choral Eucharist at 4 p.m.

Candlelight Eucharist at 10 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

Parish office closed for the holiday

Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 26

Parish office closed for the holiday

Thursday, Dec. 27

Parish office closed for the holiday

Friday, Dec. 28

Parish office closed for the holiday

Saturday, Dec. 29

Altar Guild at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 30

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

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, 10 - 11:30 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.

Parish Family News

Happy Birthday:

Dec. 23 John Adams, Brent Dudley

Dec. 24 Kathy Davis

Dec. 26 Carl Mitchell, Megan Roche

Dec. 28 Rumen Doerhoff

Dec. 29 Barry Bell, Elliot Wade,

Hallie Wagner



Happy Anniversary:

Dec. 27 Melissa & Ron Osborne

Dec. 28 Laura & David Legg,

Connie & Bill Nix

Dianne & Steve Sehie

Dec. 29 Edi & Dan Barnard,

The Rev. Emily Hillquist Davis

& Warren Davis



Birth Announcement:

Congratulations to Grace members

Doug & Pat O'Brien on the arrival of their

granddaughter. **Blair Robinson O'Brien** was born

Dec. 18 to parents Kathryn & Ken O'Brien.



Women of Grace Holiday Sale Recap

Over past years the Holiday Sale has attracted the greater community. Many thanks to all the donors of time, talent and treasure for their generous support. Special thanks to raffle item donors Barbara McRobie for her Christmas Gems tree and Deborah Caby for the Christmas door decoration. Net proceeds will be split between Women of Grace outreach programs and a special project for Grace.

An efficient email and telephone campaign, effective publicity, a reputation for affordable food, books, jewelry and holiday items, and a quality raffle contributed to outstanding results. Thanks to donations from the parish we had many delicious cookies and Country Store items to sell but **ran out of cookies by 10:30 a.m.** and nearly all Country Store goodies by the close. Please offer suggestions to **Debby Pidgeon** and her board to increase our cookie production so we avoid disappointing our loyal supporters. The board will meet in January to brainstorm ideas for 2019.



The Messenger

Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018

News of the people and ministries of . . .



Christmas Message from Presiding Bishop Curry

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry talks of good news of great joy in his Christmas message:

"Someone once said, in a Christmas poem, 'Love came down at Christmas.' That's what love is. To give, and not to count the cost. To give, not for what one can get, but for what the other can receive. That's what love is. God so loved the world, that he gave."

Watch Bishop Curry's complete message at:

www.episcopalchurch.org/library/video/2018-christmas-message-presiding-bishop-michael-curry

The Hanging of the Greens

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

All ages are invited to stay after the 10 a.m. worship service to help decorate our church for Christmas. A yummy pizza lunch is available in the parish hall for all helpers!

Reverse Advent Calendar: Return Food Collection TODAY!

Sunday, Dec. 23

Grace's Outreach Ministry invited us to remember the needs of others as we wait to celebrate the birth of Christ. Every day in Advent, we asked you to set aside one non-perishable food item, then bring your food collection in today. We'll send your donations to **Kirk Care** and **Trinity Food Pantry** to help our neighbors in need this holiday season.

Thank you for making our hunger barrel overflow this Christmas season!

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

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec. 30

8 & 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist



The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Sunday, Jan. 6

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9 a.m. Adult Forum
Epiphany: More than Wise Men

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

5 p.m. First Sundays @ 5:
Epiphany Celebration

Christian Formation & Worship

New Year's Eve Taize

Monday, Dec. 31 / 6 p.m.

Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, St. Louis

Enjoy a quiet, contemplative service of prayer, scripture, silence and chant that invites us to be still and know that God is God. This year's music will be under the direction of *David Sinden*, Director of Music at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Ladue. We will conclude with a toast to the New Year (choice of champagne or non-alcoholic beverage). All are welcome! Free off-street, lighted, secure parking is on the south side of the cathedral for your comfort. This event is co-sponsored by: *Confluence, a Center for Spirituality* and *Christ Church Cathedral*.

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.

Confirm Not Conform

Sunday, Jan. 13 & 20 / 9 a.m.

Youth Room

Our youth confirmation program takes a closer look at what we truly believe and how we put that faith into action as we continue our journey toward confirmation.

Spirituality and Fellowship

Young Adult Service Corps

Applications Due January 11

The Young Adult Service Corps is a ministry for Episcopalians ages 21-30 who are interested in exploring their faith in new ways by living and serving in communities around the world.

Applicants must have a high degree of maturity and possess a faith commitment, the willingness to be a humble guest, and the ability to be an authentic companion. The Deaconess Anne House in Old North St. Louis is a branch of the YASC. Learn more at www.episcopalchurch.org/young-adult-service-corps.

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.

Electronic Giving at Grace

Support the work of Grace through Electronic Giving. Have your contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically – you'll never have to remember your checkbook again. To set up a transfer, go to our website or contact Shari Bonham at finance@gracekirkwood.org for an authorization form.



Spirituality and Fellowship

Women's Book Group

Tuesday, Jan. 8 / 10 a.m. / Kean Library

The Book Group takes a Christmas and New Year's break, but returns Jan. 8 to continue their discussion of *The Accidental President: Harry S. Truman and the Four Months That Changed the World*, by A.J. Blaimie (chapters 18-22).

Grace on the Go:

100 Years of Muny History

Thursday, Jan. 11 / 10 a.m.

Grace on the Go will experience a curator's talk and a self-guided tour on "100 Seasons Between the Oaks: The Muny in Forest Park" at the Missouri History Museum. Cost is \$5, payable by **January 6**. Sign up as soon as possible; checks should be placed in an envelope with your name and "Grace on the Go" in the wall lockbox next to the mailboxes. Carpools leave Grace at 9:15 a.m. Lunch follows at noon at Café St. Louis.

Grace Community Labyrinth

Take a contemplative journey with God at our beautiful indoor labyrinth. Individuals are welcome any time the parish hall is not in use. Contact the church office to schedule group time.

Invite • Welcome • Connect



Welcome is the ministry of hospitality. It covers everything beginning with first impressions in the parking lot through follow-up with visitors. It is about seeing others and using listening skills to really hear them. It goes beyond improving how we greet and welcome our guests, but it requires fresh eyes in examining our facilities inside and out. Our spaces must feel welcoming and open to nourishing relationships. It is about being a friendly community, not a community of friends.

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).