

Summer 2018

Over 150 Years in the Heart of White Plains



The
ANGELUS
News of the Life of GRACE CHURCH



Recognizing the Grace Church Usher Guild

A Letter from your Interim Pastor

If we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. [Romans 8:25]

The Sundays of June through November in our liturgical calendar are numbered as the *Sundays after Pentecost*. This is also called "ordinary time." The English phrase "ordinary time" translates the Latin term *tempus per annum* (literally "time through the year"). The liturgical



color is green – the color of life, the color of hope. We walk and worship together without either the ecstasy of the mountaintop or the sorrow of the valley, offering to each other and to our community a quiet and trusting companionship.

This is also the season of preparation for new ministry at Grace/La Gracia. The Search Committee and the congregation are now on parallel paths: As the Search Committee reviews applications and interviews candidates, the congregation prepares to be a partner in a new ministry. More than a time of waiting, it is a time of watchfulness, a time when we pay attention to what is not yet finished and when we let our grace-filled hope be our moral compass.

What are some ways to prepare?

Renew our relationships: We all know that it's easy for people to drift away during a transition period. Call someone you have not seen in church recently or make plans to get together with friends and families during the summer.

Renew our souls: Worship brings us together. Create a rhythm for Sunday worship this summer. If you haven't yet attended the 12:30 pm service, now is the time to experience it; if you don't ordinarily worship at 10, now is the time to share in worship at 9 am. If you are not able to attend on Sundays, come to a weekday service at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or at 7:30 pm on Thursday evenings.

Renew our space: Volunteer a few hours to help clear the clutter in some of our rooms: We need to re-organize the collection of books in the Library, our Sunday School rooms, and our Music Program offices. It would be nice to have the playground ready for use after the scaffolding for work on the windows has been removed. Even while your Vestry plans important major projects, let us not forget the importance of small, ordinary tasks.

In these “ordinary” days, let us be open to the surprises of grace that happen only when we allow time to watch and to listen. In the words of Frederick Buechner: *Listen to your life. Listen to what happens to you because it is through what happens to you that God speaks. It's in language that's not always easy to decipher, but it's there powerfully, memorably, unforgettably.*¹

¹ Frederick Buechner, *Now and Then: A Memoir of Vocation* (San Francisco: Harper, 1983), p. 3.

Carta del pastor Interino

Si esperamos algo que todavía no vemos, lo esperamos con paciencia. [Romanos 8:25]

Los domingos de Junio hasta Noviembre en nuestro calendario litúrgico están numerados como los domingos después de Pentecostés. Esto también se llama "tiempo ordinario". La frase en inglés "tiempo ordinario" traduce el término latino tempus por año (literalmente "tiempo a través del año"). El color litúrgico es verde: el color de la vida, el color de la esperanza. Caminamos y adoramos juntos sin el éxtasis de la cima de la montaña o el dolor del valle, ofreciendo a los demás y a nuestra comunidad una compañía tranquila y confiada.



Esta es también la temporada de preparación para un nuevo ministerio en Grace / La Gracia. El Comité de Búsqueda y la congregación ahora están en caminos paralelos: a medida que el Comité de Búsqueda revisa las solicitudes y entrevista a los candidatos, la congregación se prepara para ser compañeros de un nuevo ministerio. Más que un tiempo de espera, es un momento de vigilancia, un momento en que prestamos atención a lo que aún no ha terminado y cuando dejamos que nuestra esperanza llene de gracia sea nuestra brújula moral.

¿Cuáles son algunas maneras de prepararse?

Renovar nuestras relaciones: Todos sabemos que es fácil para las personas alejarse durante un periodo de transición. Llame a alguien que no ha visto en la iglesia recientemente o haga planes para reunirse con amigos y familiares durante el verano.

Renovar nuestras almas: La adoración nos une. Crea un ritmo para la misa del domingo este verano. Si aún no ha asistido al servicio de las 12:30 p.m., ahora es el momento de experimentarlo; si normalmente no vienes a la misa de las 10, ahora es el momento de compartir la adoración a las 9 a. m. Si no puede asistir los domingos, vaya a un servicio de lunes a viernes al mediodía los martes y jueves, o a las 7:30 p. M. Los jueves por la noche.

Renovar nuestro espacio: ofrézcase como voluntario unas horas para ayudar a organizar algunas de nuestras aulas de clase: Necesitamos reorganizar la colección de libros en la Biblioteca, nuestras aulas de Escuela Dominical y nuestras oficinas del Programa de Música. Sería bueno tener el patio de recreo listo para usar después de que se haya eliminado el andamio para trabajar en las ventanas. Incluso cuando su Junta parroquial planea importantes proyectos importantes, no olvidemos la importancia de las tareas pequeñas y ordinarias.

En estos días "ordinarios", permitámonos abrirnos a las sorpresas de la gracia que ocurren solo cuando damos tiempo para mirar y escuchar. En palabras de Frederick Buechner: *“Escucha tu vida. Escucha lo que te sucede porque es a través de lo que te sucede Dios te habla. Está en un lenguaje que no siempre es fácil de descifrar, pero está ahí de manera poderosa, memorable e inolvidable”*.

¹ Frederick Buechner, *Now and Then: A Memoir of Vocation* (San Francisco: Harper, 1983), p. 3.

***The Deadline For The Fall Angelus
Is August 15th. As Always, Thank You For
Your Contributions!***



Angelus Feature: Carolyn Rogers Recognition

Honoring Carolyn Rogers

In addition to celebrating Mother's Day, this year, May should also be declared the month to celebrate Carolyn Rogers! Carolyn has the distinction of receiving well-deserved major recognition for her long-term selfless commitment to nursing not by one, but TWO distinguished organizations—*Hudson Valley Magazine* (a sister publication of *Westchester Magazine*) and Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester.

On May 9, Carolyn was honored as one of the Top 20 nurses of the Hudson Valley at the annual Excellence in Nursing celebration hosted by *Hudson Valley Magazine* at the Grand View in Poughkeepsie. At the awards dinner, Carolyn was further surprised to learn that she had also been selected by the panel of esteemed judges as the Top Nurse of 2018. The extraordinary honor may have been a shock to Carolyn, but not to those who know her, have had the pleasure of working with her, or who have been fortunate to be the recipient of her care.

As Carolyn's profile in *Hudson Valley Magazine* states:

“After retiring from a 44-year career as an RN, octogenarian Carolyn Rogers is supremely disinterested in taking it easy. Instead, she continues to provide seniors, low-income families, and the homeless with blood pressure screenings, preventative health education, and a compassionate ear as the lead volunteer for the Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester's (VNSW) ‘Ask the Visiting Nurse’ program, a role she has embraced for almost 30 years. Through her work at VNSW, Carolyn found that home healthcare is much more than taking vitals—it's about educating patients so they can play a role in managing their health. Today, at age 83, Carolyn continues to get up early, dispensing care to vulnerable, underserved people.”

One week later, Carolyn Rogers was also among the exceptional honorees recognized by the Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester at the VNSW Foundation's Spring Gala held on May 16 at the Willow Ridge Country Club in Harrison. Carolyn was presented the “Outstanding Achievement in Nursing Award,” for her tireless efforts and advocacy for seniors and at-risk individuals as well as her ongoing support of the VNSW community service mission. Proceeds from the gala help maintain the agency's home healthcare programs and charitable care for the uninsured.

Kudos to Carolyn, who regards providing compassionate care as a privilege, not a duty.

Submitted by Karen Odom

Photo and Excellence in Nursing profile courtesy of *Hudson Valley Magazine*



Grace Church Parish Retreat:

The Life in the Spirit

Friday September 7, 2018, 7PM-9:30 PM

Saturday September 8, 2018 8:45 AM-4:30 PM

At Grace Church

To the thirsty I will give water without price from the fountain of the water of life . . .

[Revelation 21:5]

Last year, after hearing about the La Gracia retreat, several people asked for a similar retreat to be held in English. Fr. Adolfo is leading plans for this retreat, to be held at the beginning of the coming program year.

The Life in the Spirit retreat follows a curriculum developed by The Word of God, a Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It is an ecumenical approach to the Gospel and to the church's teaching on the Holy Spirit, and it is designed to lead participants into a deeper understanding of their sacramental and spiritual lives, both as individuals and as a community. It has four goals:

- 1) To help participants to establish, reestablish or deepen an individual relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- 2) To help participants yield to the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. God is active in the lives of believers.
- 3) To help participants be joined to Christ more fully by building a community with whom they can share their Christian life and from whom they can receive support
- 4) To help participants begin to make use of effective means of growth in their relationship with Christ, such as small faith-sharing groups, prayer, study, sacraments, and the reading of Scripture.

The retreat will include seminars, small group discussions, hymns and prayers. The seminar topics include: 1: God's Love, 2: God Saves Us 3: New Life 4: Receiving God's Gifts 5: Receive the Holy Spirit 6: Growth 7: Transformation

Because each session builds upon the ones before it, we ask that you make the commitment to participate in the entire series.

Friday evening will begin at 7 pm with prayer, the first seminar and small group discussion, and some refreshments. Saturday will be a full day of five seminars, small group discussions, and prayer; refreshments and lunch will be provided. Our Sunday liturgy will weave together the central themes of the retreat.

The Rev. Henrietta Andrew (Jane Washington's cousin, who preached at Elizabeth Carson's memorial service), will be a guest preacher for the retreat, and she will preach at the 8am and 10 am services on Sunday September 9th. Other preachers will be Luis Henriquez Hernandez (who preached at last year's La Gracia retreat), Mother Judith, and Father Adolfo.

If you are not able to come to the retreat itself you will have the opportunity to participate from home on a Prayer Team with the commitment to pray for the participants and for the community of Grace Church at designated times on Friday and Saturday.

Childcare will be available on Friday evening and Saturday, with age-appropriate activities.

Watch for more news about signing up, the cost, schedule details, and how to help with preparations.

The Latino Ministry at La Gracia

By Father Adolfo Moronta



Today, some of the most fertile ground for the growth of the Episcopal Church lies in the Latino community. Grace Church is among the parishes in this Diocese that is rising to this opportunity by reaching out to the Latino community and including it in our mission and ministry.

La Gracia reflects and benefits from the growing Latino population in New York and the country at large. During the first decade of the 21st century,

Latinos became the largest minority group in the United States numbering 45.5 million and growing. In the United States, more than 41 million people speak Spanish as a first language (about 13% of the population), and 12 million are bilingual Spanish speakers. This also makes this nation the second-largest Spanish speaking country in the world after Mexico.

In addition to language, Latinos share many cultural and demographic similarities. They are generally younger than the population at large and have a higher birth rate. They also have strong extended families and a strong faith in God. Many nationalities are represented among Latinos that contribute diverse histories and customs to our community. At La Gracia, we welcome parishioners from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Peru, Bolivia, and others. We are diverse, but united by our common language and faith.



There is much about the Episcopal Church that is appealing to Latinos. Most Latinos were raised in the Roman Catholic Church with its liturgical traditions. The Episcopal Church has similar liturgical traditions that provide Latinos a familiarity and comfort in worship. But additionally, our Protestant roots are also factors in our appeal. We offer communion to any repentant baptized person, and we give parishioners a voice in the running of a parish and the selection of clergy. Perhaps our single greatest strength is our welcoming. Our slogan says it all: “The Episcopal Church welcomes you”, and there are no exceptions. One is welcome regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. What a blessing that is!

We can proudly say that Grace/ La Gracia is home to the largest Spanish speaking ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of New York, with an average attendance of 170 per Sunday. Besides the main Eucharistic service on Sundays at 12:30 PM, there is also Sunday School with about 35 children per Sunday, Prayer Group meetings in the homes of the parishioners every Wednesday at 7:30 pm, and a second Eucharist on Thursdays at 7:30 pm. Ongoing, we celebrate baptisms, weddings and Quinceaneras. We have workshops and a major retreat once a year. This year for the Bishop’s visitation, 23 will be received and 10 will be confirmed.

Our Latino ministry is not just growing in numbers, but is also growing spiritually and in understanding of the Episcopal Church. This growth is shown by the number of people signing up to be part of several ministries such as the Altar Guild, Acolytes, Lectors, Ushers, Readers and as volunteers. Stewardship is an important reflection of commitment with pledges this year at a high of \$25,000 compared to the \$5,000 that was pledged last year.

The Eucharistic services of La Gracia follow the Book of Common Prayer but with a cultural flare. Latinos have a different worship style with lively music and the clapping of hands. We raise our hands when we pray, and there is at least one intense moment of prayer where each individual is given the opportunity to connect with the Holy Spirit and be touched by the Lord.

La Gracia is growing because of the emphasis we put in spiritual growth and our successful use of the “mix” (welcoming, events, and incorporation). In other words, we provide a welcoming atmosphere and, throughout the year, we have a series of important faith related events. We welcome all to join us and to gradually become incorporated in the active life and ministries of the church.



We are blessed to be part of a church that worships God in two languages and that celebrates different cultures. As we continue our faith journey with the Lord, we keep in mind the words of Jesus: “That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” (John 17:21).

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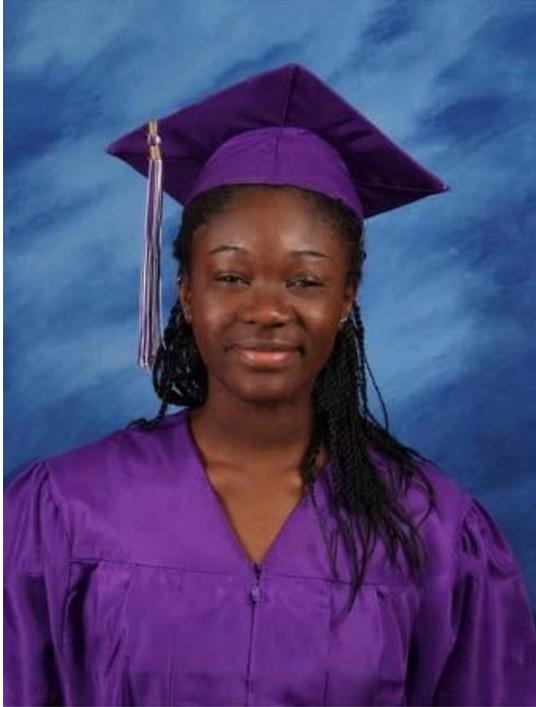
www.gracewhiteplains.org

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The Westchester County Press

Thursday, May 17, 2018

PURCHASE, NY – The Black Scholars Community Partnership Initiative will host its thirty-second (32nd) annual Black Scholars Reception on Sunday, June 3, 2018 in Purchase, New York.

This year the student speaker will be **Dana Walters**, a senior at New Rochelle High School, where she is actively involved in many extra- and co-curricular activities, such as the school's Performing and Visual Arts program. According to Dana, "Throughout my senior year, I participated in a Program called Ignite through which I mentored a class of special needs students. I am also a member of the National Honor Society as well as the Spanish Honor Society, and a

recipient of the Math Department Chair's Award." In addition to her involvement at New Rochelle High School, Dana rows at Pelham Community Rowing Association (PCRA) where she is captain of the Girls Varsity Team. She has also been a girl scout since the second grade and is currently an ambassador, which is the highest level of scouting. She takes pride in working with her troop to plan workshops on healthy relationships, the portrayal of women in the media, and healthy eating, among other things. The troop went to Costa Rica in 2017 and conducted a service project to prevent soil erosion. Presently, she volunteers at the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) in the dental clinic for special needs patients. She attends Grace Episcopal Church in White Plains and serves as an acolyte, teaches Sunday school and volunteers at the soup kitchen and the women's shelter. In the fall, Dana will attend Cornell University to study environmental engineering.

New Rochelle Girl Scouts partner with the Episcopal Church Women to bring Paint Night to Samaritan House

New Rochelle Girl Scout Troop 1868 held a paint night with dinner for the women of Samaritan House on March 11, 2018, in the Parish Hall. The Scouts provided the painting supplies and dinner items. The Episcopal Church Women brought beverages and assisted with the dinner preparation. The paint exercise was led by Girl Scout, Bethany Tallan, a senior at New Rochelle High School, who will be attending the School of the Visual Arts and studying animation. She



was assisted by fellow scouts Shirley Reyes, Dana Walters and Sarah Yearwood who are also high school seniors.

The women of Samaritan House and the ECW took part in creating a scenic landscape as they conversed and collaborated on their painting techniques. Although everyone painted the same scene, the approaches were varied, and the resulting art work was as unique as the person who created it. The scouts moved from table to table replenishing art supplies, advising the artists, offering encouragement

and chatting.

At the end of the painting session, we shared a meal and conversation. It was an evening of warmth and fellowship that was enjoyed by all. Father Greg Boyle S.J. says, “The heart of ministry is to receive people and then enter into the exquisite mutuality God intends for us all.” He goes on to describe this as a place where there is no “us” and no “them” but rather a circle of kinship whose boundaries are blurred. We may not have realized it, but that evening we received each other, looking beyond our differences in age, race, and circumstance and created a circle of kinship.

Melanie Jackson



MODERN GOOD SAMARITANS AT WORK

By Mary Baker

Grace Church was blessed on May 6th to have Anahaita Kotval, Executive Director of Lifting Up Westchester, speak to our congregations at our morning services. She reminded us of those who



valiantly endeavored so hard to begin the work in White Plains to help those in great need. This work has grown into the large organization it is today.

People in Westchester are still poor and need so much help. That has not changed! But what has changed is the organization which provides that help. In the early days, Grace Church parishioners were the “workers” who stood up to meet the need and who championed this ministry. Many of them are still members of Grace Church today and we love to hear the “witness” of their early endeavors.

But times have changed. The work today is administered and often carried out mainly through paid professionals who do the actual day-to-day “work.” Grace Church parishioners still serve on the Board and many volunteer their services at Grace’s Kitchen on a regular basis, but other duties are not so available on a regular basis. Of course, we are encouraged to give financially and attend the yearly Gala. However, parishioners today often are missing out on the emotional “passion” that accompanies day-to-day involvement with their gifts of time and talent.

Are there some perhaps overlooked areas where parishioners could work for the good of the poor through Lifting Up Westchester? Here are some possibilities:

1. Get a few friends together to prepare sandwiches to be given out at Grace/s Kitchen one Friday a month for guests to take for the weekend.
2. Do you have a vegetable garden? Too many zucchinis, tomatoes? Bring fresh vegetables cleaned and ready to cook to the Soup Kitchen.
3. Organize a regular non-perishable food drive with your friends/family/organization.
4. Regularly provide snacks for the kids of the Brighter Futures Program. They can be used for summer camp as well as throughout the school year.
5. Think about groups you belong to and what talents you know of either in yourself or your friends and acquaintances. How can they be shared with those in need at Lifting Up Westchester? Be creative. For more inspiration, see Melanie Jackson’s account in this issue of how her Girl Scout troop brought the gift of art to Samaritan House! How rewarding this was for all concerned.

These don’t have to be lonely endeavors. Get a few friends/relatives together to do the activity. Have lunch together as you work!

These are just a few possible ideas. You may come up with others. People right here in White Plains need our help. We need to model the Good Samaritan who saw the need and stepped up to carry out a solution! Parishioners saw that need many years ago and started Lifting Up Westchester. The need is still there. Our participation is still needed!

For more information, call Nancy Inzinna, Volunteer and Community Outreach Manager. Her phone number is (914) 949-3098, ext, 9735.



**Diocese of New York
2018 Summer Youth Conference**

**Incarnation Center
253 Bushy Hill Rd.
Ivoryton, CT**

August 19-25, 2018

SYC: Love thy Neighbor

Please join us for the week, and make friendships that last a lifetime!

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NYSYC

Visit us on Instagram: www.instagram.com/therealsyc/

Event cost: \$300.00 (Financial aid available)

Mail to: Christy Miller • 53 Gladstone Ave. • Walden, NY 12586 • 845-778-8663

Please enclose a non-refundable deposit of \$25 to NY Summer Youth Conference

SUMMER YOUTH CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Summer Youth Conference is a spiritual retreat for teens in a summer camp setting. We come together for a week to worship, play, and sing. Our days consist of a theme-related morning program with discussion groups, daily services, swimming, boating, and sports.

Our evenings are full of activities like a dance, talent show, and campfire. We return home a little different than when we arrived; stronger for the love and friendship we've added to our lives.

A Message From The Stewardship Committee

We thank all of our parishioners for their monetary pledges and commitments of their time and talent. The first quarterly statements has been prepared and distributed to those present at church. If you have not received your first quarter statement please see Ella Fitzgerald at the 8am service or Charlotte Roberson at the 10am service.

As of the end of the first quarter we were about \$13,000 below in pledged income. The pledged money was used to set up our budget. In order to meet our expenses and operate our programs



we do need the income pledged, By the end of June we ask that you complete one half of your pledge. If you will be away for the summer please try to pay your pledge in advance.

We ask you to pray for Grace/LaGracia Church. Your pledges will help us to keep the church beautiful and operating in a fiscally strong manor. This is turn will put us in the best position to call a new Rector.

Submitted by Charlotte Roberson

Un mensaje del Comité de Mayordomía

Agradecemos a todos nuestros feligreses por sus promesas monetarias y compromisos de su tiempo y talento. Los primeros estados trimestrales han sido preparados y distribuidos a los presentes en la iglesia. Si no ha recibido su estado del primer trimestre, vea a Ella Fitzgerald en el servicio de las 8 am o a Charlotte Roberson en el servicio de las 10 am.

Al final del primer trimestre, estábamos en \$ 13,000 por debajo de los ingresos prometidos. El dinero prometido fue utilizado para establecer nuestro presupuesto. Para cubrir nuestros gastos y operar nuestros programas, necesitamos los ingresos con los que se han comprometido. Para fines de junio le pedimos que complete la mitad de su promesa. Si va a estar fuera durante el verano, intente pagar su promesa por adelantado.

Te pedimos que ores por Grace / La Gracia. Sus promesas nos ayudarán a mantener la iglesia bella y operando en una casa físicamente fuerte. Esto a su vez nos pondrá en la mejor posición para llamar a un nuevo Rector.

Inspiring words from Corrie Ten Boon

By now you are probably aware of Corrie Ten Boon (1892-1983) and her powerful witness. She is a shining example of a Christian life well lived even though she went through times of unbelievable brutality. It would be a blessing to you to become more familiar with her life and words. Search for her on the web!

If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. But if you look at Christ, you'll be at rest.

The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation.

Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable, and receives the impossible.

There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still.

Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees.

Submitted by Mary Baker

Social Media

Spring is here and brings with it an opportunity for change and renewal. With that said, Grace Church is looking to renew our commitment to keeping all informed as well as changing some of the ways we communicate. According to recent research, nearly 80% of Internet users are active on some form of social media. To that end, we are introducing 2 new social media accounts and reviving our facebook page. *



Our **Snapchat** account is specifically aimed at teens and young adults e.g., those who like to post frequently. **Instagram** will provide a simple yet effective way to reach out to new visitors and stay connected with our faithful attendees.

Grace/La Gracia has two distinct **facebook** pages both of which can be accessed through our webpage <http://www.gracewhiteplains.org>. Iglesia Episcopal La Gracia/Grace is geared toward



the Spanish speaking members of our congregation and Grace/La Gracia is geared toward the English speaking members of our congregation. Please visit both, as we will continue to use facebook as our primary avenue for promoting our church calendar and to highlight church-wide events.

facebook: @gracewhiteplains /@lagraciawhiteplains
Instagram: gracechurchny
Snapchat: chatwith-grace

Please note there are a number of Grace Churches out there, so kindly be aware of this when typing our names.

Feel free to reach any of us at the email addresses provided below with your comments or suggestions.

facebook - Grace/La Gracia or Instagram

Cynthia Sangurima-Brown cyndysbrown@gmail.com

Snapchat

Elizabeth Carden eac10601@gmail.com

facebook - Iglesia Episcopal La Gracia/Grace

The Rev. Adolfo Moronta AMoronta@gracechurchwhiteplains.org

*Parents or guardians who wish their children to be *excluded* from photos posted on social media should contact the office. chatwith-grace will be monitored by an adult

A Letter of Thanks from Deacon Martha Jane Dunphy and Sharon Werth

April 2, 2018

Dear Grace Church,

We are still living out of boxes, and are finding items we haven't seen in years, but wanted to take some time to thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. Know this: We have admitted to each other that we miss Grace enormously but we want you to know the Episcopal church here (Church of the Advent) is in the search process also, and we were welcomed warmly. I turned to Sharon and said, "I smell incense," and she commented "It's just your vivid imagination, Martha Jane. Maybe the next priest will be "high church." I said, "We can hope for that."

But know this: Our hearts and prayers are with you always, and for all time. We are so grateful to you for the money and the farewell party. Your kindness will never be forgotten. Until we see you again (we'll be back and forth for doctor appointments until we find doctors here), know that we miss you and warm weather.

Love and Peace,
Martha Jane and Sharon.

Here is their new address:

The Reverend Martha Jane Dunphy
Sharon Werth
222 Broadway
West Cape May, New Jersey 08204
Phone: 609-770-7134



Rev. Adolfo Moronta

We all have heard about 5 de mayo but do we really know what it is all about? Is it the day we celebrate Mexican independence? Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla that took place on May 5 1862, and where the Mexican army defeated French forces who vastly outnumbered them and had more sophisticated arms. Although Mexico did not secure independence from France until five years later, this battle represents for them that God is on the side of the weak and will help them in any time of struggle. Beginning in 1863, Cinco de Mayo has been a day to celebrate God's blessings on Mexican culture.

People usually go out to the streets to celebrate on Cinco de Mayo, some even wearing Mexican sombreros. In all, it is a day of festivity. Music is an important asset. We all get a taste of the Mexican culture as we hear the mariachi bands playing songs such as "Viva Mexico, Viva America", "Cielito Lindo", and "La Bamba," among others.





Since this past Cinco de Mayo was the first Saturday of the month, we integrated the celebration as part of our Saturday service. For this occasion, the Eucharist took place on the front lawn of the church and it was a celebration of Social Justice. A Mariachi band played all the hymns, and members of both Grace and La Gracia joined for the bilingual service. Joining us were many others who happened to be walking by and stopped to take in

part of the service. After the Eucharist, the joyful celebration also included many Mexican treats such as black beans, Guacamole, Pico de Gallo, chips, and Mexican bread, among others.

Viva Mexico!

SCRIPTURAL WORDS FOR THE GARDENER

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other.”

John 15:5, 16-17

Submitted by Mary Baker

OOPS! CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help!

Miss Charlese Mason sang ‘I will not pass this way again,’ giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Celebrating Our Graduates

Cassius Owens



Dana Walters



We celebrate our Graduates on June 10th.

Cassius Owens is graduating from White Plains High School, and plans to attend Hofstra University in the fall, with a major in psychology

Dana Walters is graduating from New Rochelle High School, and plans to attend Cornell University in the fall to study environmental engineering

In Addition

Ashley Elliott graduated in May from SUNY Purchase, with a B.S. in Communications and a minor in Sociology

Peter Munsch earned his MBA in May from Iona College in Information Systems with an Advanced Certificate in international Business

Pastoral Care Committee / Eucharistic Visitors

Grace Church has a very active Pastoral Care Ministry with a roster of 11 Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Lay Eucharistic Visitors are licensed (every three years) by the Diocese of New York, to administer the consecrated elements to members of the congregation who are unable to attend Church.

Some of our Lay Eucharistic Visitors hold a dual license and also serve as Lay Eucharistic Ministers. Lay Eucharistic Ministers serve on the Altar assisting the Celebrant by administering the chalice during communion. Lay Eucharistic Visitors take consecrated communion to our sick and shut-ins. The work of lay ministers as defined in the Catechism of our Prayer Book (BCP, page 855) states, ***“The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests and deacons.”*** It then describes the scope and focus of the various ministries. ***“The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ’s work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship and governance of the Church.”***

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are the bridge between Grace Church and the community we serve. Their ministry is carried out every Sunday when they take communion to the sick and shut-in members of the parish. As of April, for 2018, Eucharistic Visitors administered 62 communions to parishioners at home or in nursing home/rehabilitation facilities. Eucharistic Visitors visit in pairs, use an abbreviated Service based on Rite II from BCP. We share all printed information, bulletins, Angelus, letter, etc. during our visit. This is a very rewarding ministry and the parishioners we visit are grateful for the opportunity to receive communion and share in the news and activities of Grace Church. Providing pastoral care to our members is a way of being good stewards and sharing God’s gifts with each other through the Body of Christ. As an additional part of our service to the congregation, Eucharistic Visitors participate in the monthly healing service on the 4th Sunday of the month.

The Pastoral Care Committee is also responsible for mailing or giving out Birthday, Sympathy, Get Well and Thinking of You greeting cards to those parishioners we have information for. We've also begun to manage the weekly Prayer List, by determining if and when we should remove names from the prayer list. We've established a procedure of checking with the person that requested to have a name added to the Prayer List before taking removing the name. This Lay Ministry has been quietly active for a number of years and while it is important for us to provide pastoral care to members of the congregation, we understand how important it is for us to provide spiritual care to ourselves so that we can minister to others. On March 17, 2018, we held a Pastoral Care Team Retreat that consisted of role playing, making prayer beads, etc. It was an uplifting day that provide us with the Spiritual Renewal that we needed.

A great concern of the committee is being kept informed of parishioners who may be in need of pastoral care (a visit, phone call, communion or a card). Therefore, I implore you to help the committee stay informed of the needs of your fellow parishioners. If you are concerned about a parishioner whom you feel could benefit from the service of the Pastoral Care Committee, please contact the Church Office, Reverend Lee, a member of the committee or me so that we can reach out to that person to let them know that we as a Parish care about their wellbeing. If you are interested in becoming a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please call the office, speak to Reverend Lee, a member of the Pastoral Care Committee or me:

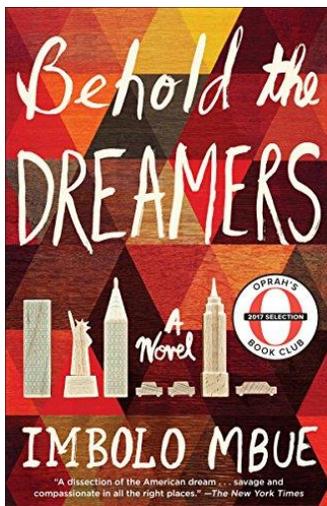
Marie A. Barrow
Cynthia R. Cole
Lisa A. Daley
Arlene Grant

Judith A. Hutton
Eileen V. McClean
Cecelia E. Paegler
Carolyn Rogers

Audrey A. Taylor
Raywald A. Williams

Faithfully Submitted,
Pastoral Care Committee Lay Contact
Sandy Gadsden-McAllister

Spend the Summer with the Book Club!

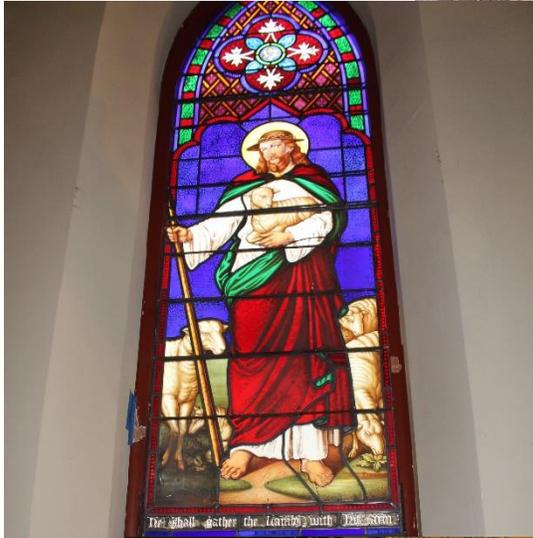


What are you doing this summer? Why not spend part of it with Jende Jonga, an immigrant from the Cameroon, living in Harlem while struggling to realize his American Dream. Jonga is the main character in **Behold the Dreamers**, Imbolo Mbue's timely novel (and an Oprah Book Club selection) that, in addition to immigration, explores marriage, class, and race. Join the Book Club in exploring our summer read that takes the reader on an intense journey in someone else's shoes. We'll share our thoughts about **Behold the Dreamers** when we resume our monthly meetings in the fall. Watch for the date and time in the fall. Until then, happy summer, happy reading!

Submitted by Karen Odom (karenodom@yahoo.com)

Ongoing Projects at Grace/La Gracia

The sub-committees of the Building and Grounds Committee are making good progress in the restoration of the stained glass windows and the church's organ.



Outreach at Grace



Volunteering at Grace's Kitchen on Memorial Day



Supporting Lifting Up Westchester at the Oasis of Hope Annual Event

Celebrating Downtown Music at Grace's 30th Anniversary



Rest in Peace



Clara Harmon

William M. Coggins



The
ANGELUS
News of the Life of GRACE CHURCH