



Lo & Behold

January 2012

The Grace Episcopal Church Newsletter

Paducah, KY

“Snow Day” Policy



The church office’s policy regarding adverse weather (i.e. snow and ice) is to be closed whenever Paducah City Schools are closed.

However, Sunday morning services are always held, regardless of the weather.

Parish Family In Memoriam:

Randy Stewart
(Sharon Chalke’s brother)
Polly Fowler
(Nancy F. Black’s stepmother)
Bill Bencoter
(Kimberly Stevens’ uncle)

*“May they gaze upon you, Lord,
face to face, and taste the
blessedness of perfect rest.”*

Joyously Announcing the Births of:

Claudia Elizabeth McElearney
*(Granddaughter of Gloria & Ralph
McElearney)*

Ethan William Minihan
(Son of Sara & Bill Minihan)

*“Let the little children come to me
and do not hinder them, for the
kingdom of God belongs to such as
these.”*

Organ Dedication Concert & Reception Sunday, January 29, 4:00 PM

Concert organist, recording artist, and Allen Organ Voicing Specialist Walter Strony will be with us the last week of January to voice our new organ so that it produces the very best sound in relation to the acoustical properties of our worship space. On Sunday, January 29, at 4:00 PM, we will dedicate the organ to the glory of God and then enjoy a gala concert by Mr. Strony, followed by a reception.

Walter Strony has performed hundreds of concerts from coast to coast in the United States, as well as in Japan, Australia, England, and Canada. In July 2007 he performed the first solo organ recital in many years at New York’s Radio City Music Hall. He is the only living organist to have been twice voted “Organist of the Year” by the American Theatre Organ Society—in 1991 and 1993. In 2011 he was the youngest inductee in the ATOS “Hall of Fame.” In addition to being a master Allen Organ voicer, author, and recording artist, Mr. Strony is equally at home playing both theatre and classical organ. Born in Chicago in 1955, he began music lessons at the age of seven. His theatre organ teacher was the famous Chicago organist Al Melgard, who for many years was Staff Organist at the Chicago Stadium. His classical studies were with Herbert L. White and Karel Paukert. In his spare time, Mr. Strony works on the restoration of his mid-century Las Vegas home and enjoys traveling, fine dining, and collecting Art Deco items.

We are in for a treat from this versatile concert artist, who has developed a style uniquely his own. Plan to be here yourself and invite guests!

Sunday Morning Christian Formation January 15-February 5 8:35 AM in the Adult Library

“Feasting on the Word” study of one of the day’s scripture readings, led by Terry Richards

After the 9:45 AM Worship Service

Upstairs:

“Weaving the Family of God” for Preschool-1st Gr., led by Charlene Baker & Stacy Grimes

“Godly Play” for 2nd-5th Gr., led by Meghan Holland

Middle School Class – TBA

Langstaff Room: “God, the Devil, & Bob” for High School/Adult, led by Stefan Jagoe

Adult Library: “Faith in Fiction” (reading *March* by Geraldine Brooks), led by Gerry Gutfreund and Matt Jaeger

Parish Annual Meeting Sunday, February 12

Vergers' Breakfast begins at **8:30 am** in Parish Hall.

Business Meeting begins at **9:00 am**.

Nursery for young children. Activity for 1st Grade and older led by Stefan Jagoe & Donna Groves.

Hear Reports, Vote on new Vestry members, Discussion

Holy Eucharist begins at **10:15 am**.

Bios of vestry nominees in February "Lo and Behold."



Project Hope Trivia Night



Project Hope's Trivia Night is Saturday, January 21. The doors open at 6:30 PM and play begins at 7 PM. Play will be in teams of six, and the entry fee is \$60 per team. All proceeds will benefit Project Hope No-Kill Animal Shelter. Concessions will be available when the doors open. Prizes will be awarded to winning teams. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.** To do so, call (618) 524-8939 or (270) 217-7781. If you cannot pre-register, you can register at the door.

Godly Play Updates!

A new Godly Play class has come to Grace! Godly Play is now offered in the Godly Play Room on **Sunday mornings for 2nd-5th graders** after the 9:45 Service. Please note that this class will follow the same story schedule as the Wednesday night group. The new class will include the same stories, but with advanced work options, deeper theological reflection, and more consistency. This class began on Sunday, January 8 and will follow the regular Christian Formation schedule.

The **Wednesday night sessions of Godly Play for 3-year-olds through 1st Graders** began January 11 at 5:15 PM in the Parish Hall. The six-week session goes through February 15. Dinner will be provided for the whole family, along with childcare for children too young to participate in Godly Play. The sign-up sheet is in Fletcher Hall (there is also a sign-up sheet to help prepare meals). While the children attend Godly Play, parents are invited to enjoy non-structured fellowship time.

Are you interested in being involved with Godly Play at Grace Church? Do you want to learn about one of the fastest growing ministries at Grace Church? Are you interested in learning more about storytelling, sacred space, or the spirituality of children? If the answer is **YES** to **ANY** of these questions, we invite you to join us for an **Introduction to Godly Play**. Beginning on **January 13** at 5 PM, the first day will include an introduction, dinner, and full Godly Play session experience (with a trained instructor from NY!). Saturday includes breakfast and lunch, liturgical stories, parables, sacred space, and Godly Play's unique version of "classroom management." This training is usually \$200+, but Grace members get it for just \$30, which is an incredible opportunity. Learn more at godlyplayfoundation.org.

As always, if you have any questions about Godly Play at Grace Church, you can contact The Rev. Meghan Holland at megc.holland@gmail.com or by calling the church.

Greetings from Former Members

Christmas greetings were received from Dr. and Mrs. Robin Howe (living in South Carolina) and Mr. and Mrs. James Burr (living in Virginia/Tennessee) wishing their Grace friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank You

The Altar Guild would like to thank Debbie Shelton for making the darling Chrismon Tree for the sacristy. Great job, Debbie. We love it!!

Have you turned in your 2012 Pledge Card?

If not, please do so now!

We have received to date 111 pledges totaling \$357,051. 60% of those pledges are either new or increased, and the total is 9.4% higher than 2011. That's extremely good news. Yet some who pledged for 2011 have not pledged for 2012, and there are many others who do not pledge at all. What amazing work we could do if all joined in!

Thanks to the 111 individuals and families who responded to our fall stewardship process, we now have all but 79 days of 2012 funded through pledges. While we will fund some of those days through sources other than pledged income, your commitment to giving would help us accomplish such things as increasing programming for children and young families, supplementing outreach ministries, and enhancing ministry with our older members. Pledge cards are available in the church, Fletcher Hall, and the Parish Office, or you can call Trish Hines on Monday or Wednesday.

2012 Offering Envelopes

If you wish to place your weekly offering in a special envelope, please pick up one of the boxes in the window near the baptismal font in the church. Don't worry about the date. Just cross it out and write in the correct date. The number on the card does not make a difference either. Checks are easily identified and credited to the correct account. If you give cash, please write your name on the envelope, so that you receive credit for this charitable gift.



Empty Bowls Project

Lowertown artist Michael Terra is repeating the highly successful Empty Bowls project to help fund the Community Kitchen (serving lunch M-F at 225 Broadway). Last year the project raised \$12,500 and the goal is set even higher this year. You can help by glazing a bowl at Terra Cottage (\$5), 514 N 7th St. Individuals and groups are welcome. On February 25, from 11 am to 4 pm at the Convention Center, you can purchase a bowl and fill it with food from a Paducah restaurant for only \$15.

Thanks to St. Matthew Lutheran

Grace hosted St. Matthew for worship last September, and they returned the favor by inviting us to join them on January 1. Pastor Aaron Stamper included both Libby and Meghan in worship leadership that day, and Debbie Shelton served as lector. The people of St. Matthew gave us a warm welcome before the service and as we shared a delightful reception afterward. It is good that we are building a relationship with our Lutheran brothers and sisters, as our denominations are in full communion with each other in recognition of our common mission in Christ.

Boy Scout Sunday—February 5, 9:45 AM

Troop 1, Boy Scouts of America, sponsored by Grace Church, is one of the few Boy Scout troops in the United States in continuous existence since Scouting began 101 years ago. Every year on Boy Scout Sunday, we welcome Troop 1 Scouts and their families to worship with us. They will process and sit together and assist with leading the service. Dr. Carl Baker recently completed his tenure as Scoutmaster, and John Baker (member of Grace) is the new Scoutmaster. Troop 1 currently has a roster of about 50 boys, five of whom became Eagle Scouts in an impressive ceremony here at Grace on the afternoon of Sunday, January 1. Congratulations to Nicholas and Bradley Baker, Peter and Noah Eddings, and John Stigall! Troop 1 welcomes boys between the ages of 11 and 18. Check out their website at www.troop1paducah.com.

Thank You Notes

Thanks to Laura Taylor for coordinating this year's Advent Giving Tree Project. Laura shared the following note from Sheila Forrest, PCM Homeless Shelter Director: "I want to thank Grace Church for everything that the members did for the residents...they were all thrilled...surprised...and grateful! The stockings also made the residents' day! There were smiles all around!! I wish all the members of Grace congregation and the church leaders a blessed and bountiful New Year with all the grace that only God can bestow!..."

Thanks to 5th Grader Sophie Henney for envisioning and coordinating the stocking project for these families. Sophie says, "I want to thank you all for helping me with my stocking project. My initial idea was to give each family a stocking, but with your generous donations, each person at the PCM Shelter got a stocking. This includes five men from Tent City. I was able to make 39 stockings with your help. Thanks again!" This project was the final step for Sophie's Girl Scout God and Family Badge, which she will receive in church soon. Her scout troop meets at Grace. Peggy Henney is the Troop Leader.



Reading Camp 2012 at Grace

Spring Gathering for Campers – Saturday, March 3

(To volunteer, call Dabney Haugh)

Summer Reading Camp – July 16-20

(Volunteer opportunities will be announced in March)

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you knit or crochet? Are you interested in contributing your talent to one of Grace Church's many ministries?

The Prayer Shawl ministry makes prayer shawls and baby blankets, as well as watch caps and scarves for the Seaman's Church Institute. Items can be knitted or crocheted, and there are patterns in the Langstaff Room. There is often extra yarn available as well. Items can be turned in at the office (Seaman's items can be placed in the crate in Langstaff Room) or given to Libby. For more information or to volunteer to help make items, contact Adele Marano at: amarano@hotmail.com.

If you enjoy knitting and crocheting, but would like a bit of company while you create, consider joining the group of "prayer shawl" ladies at First Presbyterian Church once a month.

The Presbyterian Needle Arts Group meets in the Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian at 1:00 PM on the last Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Stephanie Young at: soyknits@bellsouth.net.

For more information about the Prayer Shawl "movement," visit: www.shawlministry.com



Stained Glass Windows

The last two windows have been installed in the Langstaff Room. Crafted by Jack Wallis of Murray, the Haugh window depicts Jesus' Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, while the Turok window depicts the Sermon on the Mount. Thanks to Dabney and Bob Haugh and Charles and Mary Turok for the gift of these windows to complete the set to the glory of God and in honor of their loved ones.

Well Done Thy Good and Faithful Servant! Acolytes in Action:

Many thanks to our hard working Acolytes who helped make the festive chocolate drizzled pretzels and many more thanks to our congregation who purchased them! With such teamwork we were able to raise \$319 for Project Aids Orphan. We added to that another \$200 that had been raised from another project for a total donation of \$519. Project Aids Orphan is a not-for-profit organization supporting children who have been orphaned by the AIDS crisis in East Africa. Funding goes directly towards Mission House of Hope which provides food, clothing, health care, and education to AIDS orphans in Kenya. In Kenya, one out of every three adults is HIV positive. There are approximately one million AIDS orphans in Kenya alone. We are so proud of our Acolytes...working locally, helping globally.

Julie Jaeger- Acolyte Director and Trish & Jeff Hines- Acolyte Outreach

Kroger Cards Earned:

\$297.50

for the last quarter of 2011
(Oct, Nov, & Dec)!



PCM Food Item for
January-March 2012

Spaghetti!

Bring any type of non-perishable pasta product, pasta noodles, and pasta sauce and place it in the PCM Food Pantry cabinet.



By the Numbers

- 368 – Worshippers at Grace on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (only 300 in 2010!)
 - 12—Worship Services in the last week of December
 - 20—Participants in Home Communion in December
 - 19—Children in the Nativity Pageant
 - 18—Anthems sung by Choir on 12/18 and 12/24
 - 150—Chrismons created and distributed
 - 624—Cans of Soup collected in 3 months for PCM
 - 84—Pairs of Socks collected by EYC for residents of Medco Nursing Home
 - 10—Hours of Salvation Army Bell Ringing by Youth
 - \$519.00—For Project Aids Orphan from the Acolytes
 - 100+—People served by Grace at Broadway Community Kitchen on Sunday, December 18
 - 9—Local businesses who provided food for the Broadway Community Kitchen lunch
 - \$1,046.39—Special Christmas Offering for Stained Glass Renovation, PCM Fresh Start Program, and Broadway Community Kitchen
- Behind the numbers are people--church members, visitors, shut ins, elderly and infirm, hungry, needy, strangers—all connected through the work of Grace Church as we carry out Christ's mission to love God and love neighbor.



GRACE CHURCH, YOU ARE AMAZING! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANY WAY WITH OUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION THIS YEAR! Libby+

We need people to sign up to lead Good News! The curriculum is provided so there is no substantial planning ahead of time. We just need a few folks to sign up to lead one or two Sundays at a time so we can continue to have Good News! So far, only one Sunday has been taken. The sign-up can be found in Fletcher Hall.

Grace Episcopal Church
820 Broadway
Paducah, KY 42001
(270) 443-1363
(270) 443-5066 (fax)
grachurch@hotmail.com
www.gracepaducah.net

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Paducah, KY 42001
Permit No. 167