



# Lo & Behold

February 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:

Ann Lockett  
*(Doris Ross’s aunt)*  
Elliott Mitchell, III  
*(former parishioner)*

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

## Joyously Announcing the Births of:

Mason Earl Scott  
*(Grandson of Laurie Karns)*

Kyle Holden Stamper  
*(Son of Lindsey & Aaron Stamper.  
Aaron is St Matthew ELCA pastor)*

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

## 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 & teens.

Reports, Vestry Elections, Discussion

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

Bios of vestry nominees are on Page 2 & 3.

## Organ Dedication – Judy Bray Honored

When Senior Warden Phil Counts asked Organist Judy Bray to come forward at the beginning of the recent Organ Dedication Concert, she admitted later to being flabbergasted! Phil presented Judy with a copy of the plaque that will hang on the wall near the organ: “The organ is dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of Judith Bray for her devoted service to Grace Episcopal Church as organist and choir director, 1956- . . . ‘Let every instrument be tuned for praise!’” The gala occasion continued as guest organist Walter Strony beautifully demonstrated the wide range of stops and tonal variations our new organ is capable of producing. A standing ovation and three encores attested to his talent and the audience’s enjoyment. A copy of the service of dedication, photos from the event, a description of the organ, the front page article from the *Paducah Sun*, and the list of donors to the fund will be posted on the bulletin board nearest the entrance to the church

## Special Documentary Movie Showing “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”

**Sunday, February 19 & 26, 11:10 AM in the Langstaff Room**

The prize-winning documentary *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* is the gripping account of a group of brave and visionary women who demanded peace for Liberia, a nation torn to shreds by a decades-old civil war. The film combines contemporary interviews, archival images, and scenes of present-day Liberia to recount the experiences and memories of the women who were instrumental in bringing lasting peace to their country in 2003. The 2011 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who was elected President of Liberia as a result of the women’s efforts, and to Leymah Gbowee, a leader in this non-violent fight and a major character in the film. The *New York Times* said of the film: “Uplifting, disheartening, inspiring, enraging—the mind reels while watching the documentary *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*.” Critic Frank Scheck said: “*Pray the Devil Back to Hell* is powerful enough to make even the most cynical believe in the ability of ordinary people to induce political change.” The Rev. Libby Wade and Liberian native Johnette Mends-Cole will lead discussion after the video.

## **2012 Vestry Nominee Biographies:**

### **Mr. Jason Coltharp, Esq.**

**Family:** wife, Heather; sons, Ben and Evan

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Number of years as a member of Grace:** 35 years

**Please list your experiences in ministry at Grace:** Former acolyte, former youth representative on the vestry

**Please list your experiences in ministry and/or leadership elsewhere:** Board of Directors, Easter Seals W. Kentucky; Board of Directors, Kentucky Tennis Association; President, Paducah Tennis Association; Board of Directors, Paducah McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency; Member, Organizational Committee, Paducah Renaissance Alliance; Past Secretary & Board Member, Paducah Film Society (d/b/a Maiden Alley Cinema); Past Secretary-Treasurer, McCracken County Bar Association; Paducah McCracken County Growth, Inc.; Leadership Paducah (Class 20); Past President, McCracken County chapter of the University of Kentucky Alumni Association.

**I believe the most important issue facing the Church is...** maintaining and growing an active and vibrant congregation in an increasingly distracted, fractionalized and secular society.

**I believe God is calling Grace Church to....** serve as a moral anchor for our community, unite our congregation in faith, and minister to those in need, both spiritually and physically.

### **Mr. Carl Harris**

**Family:** Wife, Julie; Daughters, Janie-20 & Sarah-16

**Occupation:** Medical Equipment Representative, Alliance Medical Solutions, LLC

**Number of years as a member at Grace:** 11

**Please list your experiences of ministry at Grace:** Jr. Warden, Vestry, Financial Audit Committee-Chair, Stewardship Committee, Rector Search Committee, Christian Formation Teacher & Usher

**Please list your experiences of ministry and/or leadership elsewhere:** Kiwanis Club of Downtown Paducah, Treasurer & Board of Directors

**I believe the most important issue facing the Church is...** the need for more active participation of children and young adults in all facets of the church.

**I believe God is calling Grace Church to...** continue our community outreach efforts and build connections with those people with spiritual and/or economic needs.

### **Dr. Julie Kraus Hideg**

**Family:** Michael and Frannie (7 yo), Parents are John and Fran Kraus

**Occupation:** Psychologist

**Number of years as a member of Grace:** 34

**Please list your experiences in ministry at Grace:** Godly Play committee member, Sunday School helper, Christmas Pageant Organizer

**Please list your experiences in ministry and/or leadership elsewhere:** I am the owner of a psychology private practice and have previously been in a supervisory role as a Psychologist.

**I believe the most important issue facing the Church is....** continued growth and presence in the community.

**I believe God is calling Grace Church to ...**continue to keep the doors open to all people.

### **Four Rivers Deanery Meeting**

#### **St. Mary's, Madisonville**

**Saturday, February 18, 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM**

Lay and clergy representatives from each of the churches in our Deanery (the geographical region stretching from Owensboro to Hickman) will discuss how congregations fund the work of the diocese with the goal of presenting a new proposal at the next Diocesan Convention. While this may not be the most exciting topic, it is vital that our congregation be represented at the table as options are explored that will effect our budgeting process in the future, as well as the ability of the diocese to carry out its mission. Please contact the Rev. Libby Wade if you are able to go.

## 2012 Vestry Nominee Bio's cont...

### Dr. Shirley M. Menendez

**Family:** Husband- Jesus S. Menendez \* Son-Mark Menendez \* Daughter-in-Law- Donna W. Menendez \*Granddaughter - Caroline Moore Menendez \* Grandson - Max Clinton Menendez \* Mother - Mary O. Moore \* Sisters- Nancy M. Waldrop and Jayne M. Waldrop \* Brothers - John C. Moore and C. Thomas Moore

**Occupation:** Educator

**Number of Years as a Member of Grace Church:** 43 years

**Please list your experiences in ministry at Grace:** Education for Ministry (EfM)\* Godly Play \* Altar Guild \* Church School Teacher \* Morrow Fund Committee \* Developed Initial Instrument for Compassion Fund \* Other

**Other experiences in leadership:** President, National Dissemination Study Group; President, Kentucky Association of University Women; Chair, Kentucky Business and Professional Women's Foundation; Member, Kentucky Council on Higher Education; Member, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; Secretary, West Kentucky Community & Technical College Board of Trustees; Member, Board of Directors, PJC, Inc.; Director, Illinois Statewide Facilitator Center for the National Diffusion Network; Educational Administrator

**I believe the most important issue facing the Church is...** that of having the current populace to experience the personal relevance to the love of God in a technological age.

**I believe God is calling Grace Church to...** continue outreach in the community and to express an inclusive, nurturing environment for those who cross the church threshold.

### Dr. David A. Meyer

**Family:** Spouse: Sara Lewis, daughters: Elisabeth, Katherine (married to Adam Weckman) and grandchildren: Easton and Annie

**Occupation:** Physician, Psychiatry

**Years at Grace:** Almost 25 years

**Experience in Grace Ministry:** Choir, Cantor; song leader, guitarist at Sunday evening service; Worship Committee; Verger's Guild; Christian Formation Classes; former Vestry member; Deputy and alternative deputy to Diocesan Conventions; Feed and Read Book Group.

**Other Ministry:** My psychiatric practice gives me daily opportunities to work in ministry.

**Leadership:** Served on Paducah Symphony Board; presently on the Board of the American Academy of Clinical Psychiatrists.

**The most important issue facing the Church is...** finding our vitality. Divisive dogmas and practices have weakened the Good News, much like what has happened in government. We must recover the basic truth of our faith and emerge, working together out of our own traditions, and not be timid or afraid.

**God is calling Grace to be...** the people of the Beatitudes and paradoxically, to be more outspoken in proclaiming our Anglican faith and practices reaching out to persons who consider themselves as "spiritual but not religious."

### **EYC Blood Drive: We Need You!**

The annual EYC-facilitated Red Cross Blood Drive is just around the corner - Sunday, February 26th in the Parish Hall. It is hard to imagine a better way to serve the cause of Christ and help others in such a significant way! So EYC parents, let's step up and lead by example by donating blood and by encouraging your youngster to give as well (must be at least 16 years old and meet the height/weight requirements). Those EYCers who are not eligible to give can help by recruiting donors and by helping with the logistics on the day of the drive. The rest of our congregation can show support by rolling up a sleeve! Walk-ins are welcome, but advance registration is the preferred method. If you would like to be a donor, call Stefan at 519-6019 or email - stefan@gracepaducahyouth.net.



*Together we can save a life*

### **Vintage Grace Luncheons Return**

**11:30 AM in the Parish Hall**

**Thursday, February 23**

"Lift High the Cross" with the Rev. Libby Wade

**Thursday, March 22**—Program TBA

**Friday, April 27**—Quilt Luncheon

**Thursday, May 24**—Program TBA

Marian Bates has given much time and talent to guide this group from its beginning three years ago. While she will continue to be involved, she is passing the torch as Vintage Grace Coordinator to Johnette Mends-Cole at the end of the February Luncheon. All Grace members and friends (male and female) who are age 60 and above are invited to participate in this luncheon series. Those younger than 60 are also encouraged to help with the meals or other Vintage Grace activities. Please call Kimberly in the Parish Office to make a reservation for the February event.

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Tuesday, February 21, 5:30-7:00 PM

Lent will soon be upon us, that season of penance, sacrifice, and introspection. But before that, let's pig out on some delicious, and yes, fattening pancakes! It's an old English custom to rid the pantry of those items that would not be eaten during Lent. Our tradition is to use the proceeds from this rich fellowship supper to supplement the EYC/GRACEKIDS budget for the rest of the year, helping with events such as the GRACEKIDS visit to Kentucky Down Under in May and the annual lock-in this fall. We need EYCers to help with the cooking, and GRACEKIDS to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up. As for the rest of you—just show up hungry and enjoy an evening of food and fellowship. Pancakes, sausage, and fruit salad will be on the menu.

## LENT 2012----Facing the Principalities and Powers

In *A People on a Pilgrimage* (1998), the Rev. Dr. John Westerhoff offers this commentary on Lent: "Lent is a time in the story of our pilgrimage...when we become aware of lost innocence. The naivete of childhood comes to an end and we face the hard realities about ourselves, others, and the world. Lent is a reminder of our adolescence. Having attempted to live as childlike dreamers, we turn to reflect on how we are doing. It is the story of our continued struggle for identity and purpose. Once again we become aware of the principalities and powers surrounding us. We become aware of evil's presence and the temptations that are ever with us. We become aware of how we have denied and distorted the truth about ourselves. Lent, like every season, is lived in the light of Good Friday-Easter. But just as we do every Advent, in Lent we open ourselves to being pregnant with God. Every Christmas we give birth to a new possibility, every Epiphany we live in the naivete of childlike dreams, every Lent we face up to the struggle to acknowledge who and whose we really are and the continuous battle with these principalities and powers that work against our actualizing our true identity. Lent is that serious, penitential season when we prepare for the reaffirmation of our baptismal vows and covenant." In the sacrament of baptism we claim our most basic identity as children of God. **(Want to be Baptized at the Easter Vigil on April 7? Contact one of our clergy as soon as possible!)**

## Wednesday Nights February 29-March 28

5:15 Pot Luck Supper on 2/29 and 3/28

Other suppers catered with donations to defray cost

5:45 Nursery Open for Babies/Toddlers

Godly Play for 3 Yr.-1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Lenten Arts & Crafts for 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Middle School/High School help with the 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

Grade group or join an Adult group

6:00 Adult Classes (Choose from the following two)

Book Discussion: Rob Bell's *Love Wins*:

*A book about heaven, hell,*

*and the fate of every person who ever lived*

Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment. Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news?" Whether you agree, disagree, or fall somewhere in the middle, this book will nudge you to face some issues head-on. Coordinator: Stefan Jagoe. If you want the church to order a book for you (~\$12), call Stefan or Kimberly.

"Caught Between Lamentation and Praise"

Engaging Poetry, Scripture, and Ourselves

As human beings, our lives are not all sunshine and roses. Sometimes a deep cry of lament is the most honest expression of our feelings. At other times our mourning turns into dancing and we freely celebrate our alleluia moments. The Psalms teach us that God is ready to accept all the authentic cries of the human heart. Poetry can help us touch those cries of lament and praise. This group will continue through April 4 with these weekly topics: Light and Shadow, Small Things, Looking for Signs, Transitions, So This Is How It Freakin' Ends, and Teethgnashing. Join Gloria McElearney and Libby Wade for this discussion group.

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

February 22 at Noon and 6:00 PM

## Make Morning Prayer Part of

## Your Lenten Discipline

Last fall we began offering Morning Prayer on Thursday mornings at 7:30. We focus on one scripture lesson appointed for the day, followed by a brief reflection and then traditional prayers and personal petitions. Deacon Richard officiates most Thursdays. We are out the door by 7:50 at the latest, and blue jeans are commonly seen, so come as you are. If you haven't chosen a Lenten discipline yet, why not consider joining us for Morning Prayer each Thursday? The midweek spiritual boost may be just what you're looking for!

## Other Worship Opportunities

Tuesdays at 8:00 AM – Centering Prayer Group

Wednesdays at Noon – Holy Eucharist

Sundays—Holy Eucharist at 7:30 AM, 9:45 AM, 5:00 PM

**Please Check the Grace Web Site and Weekly Parish E-Mail Update and Sunday Announcements for Sunday Morning Christian Formation Classes for All Ages. Several new classes will be offered in Lent.**

## New Resource for Home Use

*Prayer Practices: Samples to Build On*

This booklet has short, one page "snapshots" of thirteen different prayer practices, each one designed to help you explore a variety of "prayer practices" within the Christian tradition. Each "practice" has suggestions on how to explore it, as well as a list of resources that might be helpful. Look for this booklet and other Lenten booklets in Fletcher Hall beginning Sunday, February 19.

## Reading Camp Joins International Network

Our Paducah branch of Reading Camp recently joined the new International Network of Reading Camps administered out of the Diocese of Lexington. As members of the Network, we will benefit from sharing ideas with Reading Camps from Kentucky to Michigan to Cameroon and beyond. We will also have full access to a brand new manual developed by the Diocese of Lexington after ten years of experience. The Rev. Libby Wade will represent Grace at the Network Training Seminar in early March.

Meanwhile, back at Grace, Dabney Haugh, Nancy F. Black, and the Rev. Meghan Holland are heading a team to lead **“Winter Magic”**—a **mini-camp for our 2011 Reading Campers—on Saturday, March 3, from 9 AM – Noon.** Three learning centers, a special guest, and lunch will be provided. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dabney.

### Moving Forward

#### Turnaround Strategies for Your Church

Presented by St. Matthew’s Church & the Diocese of KY  
At St. Matthew’s, 330 N. Hubbards Lane, Louisville

**March 2 (7-9 PM ET)**

**& March 3 (9:30 AM – 2:30 PM ET)**

Episcopal priest Tom Ehrich has experience assisting congregations in forming and taking practical steps to be more effective in the proclamation of the Gospel. He challenges, encourages, and speaks plainly about evangelism and mission. Tom has agreed to continue working with congregations who send a team to this event with the goal of designing a specific action plan unique to each congregation. **Please contact the Rev. Libby Wade as soon as possible if you can represent Grace.**

## *PCM News & Notes: A Year in Review & Looking Forward to 2012!*

Christmas has come and gone, but the results of the canned food drive at Noble Park are still being felt. The final totals of the PCM portion are not in yet, but the community response was incredible. Several groups will be coming in to help sort the food. If you have a group that would like to help sort food items, contact Heidi.

Through a donation, PCM was able to produce a spot that ran on WPSD during the holidays. If you are a Facebook user and haven’t done a “like” for PCM, you need to do that. Hopefully the spot will be on the Facebook page soon if you missed it when it aired.

Please check out the copy of the Program Area Statistics for 2011 on the bulletin board by the vesting room. PCM does God’s work with human hands. The programs of PCM are programs of compassion and helping. The statistics for the program clearly show the need in this area and how PCM helps those in need.

One thing that is a constant with the coming of spring is the awarding of the Lally Scholarship. This is traditionally awarded around St. Patrick’s Day in honor of the Lally family. High school seniors who intend to pursue a degree in a human service field should contact their high school counselor to get an application. The deadline for applications is 4:00 p.m. on March 12.

Volunteers are preparing to begin the fifth Breaking Barriers series at the McCracken County Jail. This is the curriculum that is designed to help female inmates change behaviors that have caused them to make bad choices. It is the curriculum that women will use to prepare them to transition to the Fresh Start house when that facility is ready.

As always, keep the staff and programs of Paducah Cooperative Ministry in your prayers. Many days the challenges they face are daunting. They welcome volunteers and your financial support can make a big difference in someone’s life.

Greg Baur, PCM Board member



Faith In Film begins its 5th Year!

Tentative start up date is  
March 12, 2012.

*(More information to come!)*

## Soup-er Bowl of Caring

The EYC's SOUP-ER BOWL OF CARING effort this year will be a canned soup drive at the Hannan Plaza Kroger on Saturday, February 4th from 11 am until 3pm. Begun in 1993, the Soup-er Bowl of Caring is a national day of volunteering (the Saturday before the Super Bowl) co-sponsored by the NFL that encourages youth across the nation to engage in activities that combat hunger in the U.S. So how can you help? EYC and GRACEKIDS parents can make sure that their youngster takes a shift at Kroger, and the rest of you can stop by the store during the drive and buy a few cans of soup, all of which will be donated to the food pantry of PCM.

In addition to Saturday’s activity, on Super Bowl Sunday the youth will be collecting monetary donations after the 9:45 service. These will go to Martha’s Vineyard.

Stefan Jagoe, Youth Minister

Join us for:  
**Boy Scout Sunday**  
*on February 5, 2012!*

Scout Troop 1 is the 7th oldest troop in the United States and has been continuously chartered since 1911!

On Sunday, February 5, members of the Scouts will join us at the 9:45 service and will help lead us in worship. A reception will follow in Fletcher Hall.



**Good News Time Sign-Up!**

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, a few Sundays have been taken. The sign-up can be found in Fletcher Hall.



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.



**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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