



# Grace Notes

The mission of Grace Episcopal Church is:  
To know Jesus Christ, proclaim His Word,  
and live His teachings.

Volume 2019 No. 3

March 2019

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## *From Fr. Bill's Desk:*

Life is so cyclical. There are many cycles, but the one I'm thinking of is the daily cycle. I wake up, in quietude to prepare for the day. To be sure, there's shaving, showering, breakfast...but also prayerful acknowledgment of the gift of the new day and my hopes for it. Then that quiet of preparation turns into full-fledged action—the business of the day. After that, I decompress, as Carole and I share the day's events, eat supper, write letters, study, or watch the TV.

The church year is much like that. The upcoming season of Lent is a period of relatively “quiet” time for self-reflection and preparation for the glory of Easter. Without flagellating ourselves (remember, God loves us unconditionally, blemishes and all), we bring to mind the ways that we know that we've fallen short of God's expectations. With that, we also prepare for the stupendous grace of Easter—Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Wishes to each of you for a Holy Lent.

~Fr. Bill Martin

## 2019 Vestry Election Results

The following were elected as wardens, vestry members, and delegates at the January 27th Annual Congregational meeting.

Senior Warden:	Richard Winterrowd	
Junior Warden :	Marsha Moore	
Vestry member:	Glenn Cassity	<i>(Elected for three years)</i>
Vestry member:	Marcia Davis	<i>(Elected for three years)</i>
Vestry Member:	Dorothy Buck	<i>(Elected for three years)</i>
Auxiliary:	Dan Flanigin	
Auxiliary:	Nadine Frisby	

### Continuing Vestry Members:

Ann Armstrong:	<i>(Continuing for two years)</i>
Darelyn Harris:	<i>(Continuing for two years)</i>
Casey Orr :	<i>(Continuing for two years)</i>
Judy Branch:	<i>(Continuing for one year)</i>
Anne Michael:	<i>(Continuing for one year)</i>
Nga Wells:	<i>(Continuing for one year)</i>

Thanks for the services of Chad Keilman, Lynda Clark and Jackie Saylor whose terms expired at the congregational meeting.

### Grace Church Delegates:

These persons will serve as Grace Church delegates for this year:

#### Regional Convocation and Diocesan Convention:

Richard Winterrowd	<i>(Sr. Warden)</i>
Marsha Moore	<i>(Jr. Warden)</i>
Jackie Saylor	<i>(Elected)</i>

*Thank  
You*

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT GRACE

## THE ADULT FORUM (Sundays at 9:00 a.m.)

Mar. 3 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin/Deacon Steve Mallory

Mar. 10 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin

Mar. 17 TBA.....Fr. Bill Martin/Deacon Steve Mallory

Mar. 24 TBA.....Deacon Steve Mallory

Mar. 31 TBA.....Deacon Steve Mallory

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## WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday morning Bible Study resumed February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Our study will be on a book by Liz Curtis Higgs, called Embrace Grace. Everyone is welcome. Please contact me if you would like a book.

Thank you.

For information on the Weekday Bible Study please contact Jane Simmons at 918-557-0553, [simmokjh@yahoo.com](mailto:simmokjh@yahoo.com), or call the church office.

*~Jane Simmons*

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## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

As we begin 2019, Youth Sunday School continues under the direction of Judy Branch and Marsha Orr. Youth Sunday School is held in the Education Building as follows:

\*Youth Pre-K through 1st grade will be from 9:30-10:00 downstairs in the Education Building.

\*All other youth will be from 9:00-9:30 upstairs in the Education Building.

We are looking forward to exploring Christ's journey and the connections we can make together.

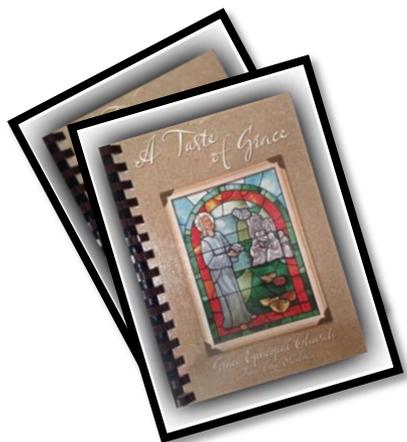
Hope to see you all each Sunday.



# BRIDGE LESSONS

Friday afternoon  
bridge lessons is a  
new activity for  
Grace Church and  
is off to great start.





**A Taste of Grace**  
A Collection of Recipes by  
**Grace Episcopal Church**  
**AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**\$15.00**

*Get your copy today!*

## **GIFT SHOP NEWS**

### **Come by our corner –**

The Lenten Season begins on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Have you thought about treating yourself or a beloved friend to a new cross or personal - sized Book of Common Prayer? Black leather books are always in stock but this prayer book can also be ordered with leather cover in red, white, or navy blue. Cost is \$45.

This is the perfect season to start or reinforce this use of our prayer cubes before each meal. These wooden cubes are also available for general prayers as well as mealtime prayers. Cost is \$2 or \$4 depending on the size.

The new spring version of our Grace Episcopal note cards have arrived from the print shop. Stop by and take a look. They are priced in packages of 5 for \$5 but can also be sold for \$1 each.

St. Patrick's Day is Sunday, March 17th. Check our stock and spread some Irish joy. You can shop after church on Sundays or Wednesdays or phone Jane or Joan if you need a special appointment. We are here to serve our members.

*~Joan Dick (762-2514) or Jane Worstell (762-3467)*

## **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Thank you to our Parish family for contributing items for the Child Development Center. They were very pleased to receive them. This month we are collecting stuffing for the bears made for Hospice clients. These bears are very special because they are for the families of those who receive Hospice services. Any size bag of polyester stuffing will be appreciated.

It seems impossible, but Lent is nearly upon us. I know so many give up things for Lent, but perhaps adding something for God each day would be not only more fulfilling, but good for the soul. Try to give encouragement, to show caring, to help someone in need each day of Lent. We are blessed even more when we do something for someone else. You just might be unable to stop when Lent is over! May you all be many times blessed,

*For His Sake,  
~Cheryl Happ*

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## **EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH**

Lent is quickly approaching! The Evangelism Committee has a challenge for you. How about instead of only giving something up for Lent, that you add something into your life for Lent. We have an awesome power at our hands, Prayer. So how about for Lent, let's put this tool to use in our lives? Every day during Lent, let's set our clocks for 8 o'clock pm, and for at least one minute, let's all pray together. Pray for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, and for a return to a Godly nation. Pray for our families, friends, and neighbors. And if you pray for more than a minute every evening, well, that's just an added benefit for our hearts. So, let's lift our hearts up to the Lord!

*~Darelyn Harris*

## ECW NEWS

- ❖ Game Day, on Thursday, February 14, was a big success this year!! Thanks to Nadine for making arrangements and to everyone who baked delicious cakes, we had lots of positive comments from the participants. We had 9 tables of ladies playing bridge and mahjogg who enjoyed the variety of yummy cakes. We added \$331.50 to the ECW bank account!! A big thank you to all who helped!
- ❖ We have scheduled March 15-16 for our spring rummage sale. So, please clean out those closets and your garage and bring it all to the church garage. We need items this time! If you can help move rummage from the garage to the Parish Hall on Sunday, March 10 at 1:00 p.m., please let me know! Last time we had about 35 volunteers and we were finished in a little over 30 minutes! We appreciate your help. The kids are a big help, too!
- ❖ Fellowship in our Parish Hall after church has more and more parishioners participating. If you enjoy the food, please consider volunteering to bring it some Sunday. The sign-up list is on the counter in the Parish Hall. We would really appreciate more help!!
- ❖ We are slowly selling more cookbooks. I know there is that someone you know that needs these wonderful recipes! Buy some cookbooks and keep them in reserve for out of town guests. They'll love the recipes.
- ❖ ECW will provide soup and crackers/bread for Soup and Stations on March 15 in the Christian Education Building since the Parish Hall will be filled with rummage.
- ❖ Please consider coming to our ECW meetings, always the first Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. September through May. We would love your input. We have fun setting up for the rummage and book/collectible sales. Come and join us!

Thanks!

*~Marcia Davis*

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WARDENS

As the Epiphany season comes to an end and we begin the Lenten season very early in the month of March, let us reflect on how blessed we are as a parish family. Let us continue to work together with love and understanding in building the kingdom of God here on earth at the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and Grand in Ponca City.

A highlight of the year is always eating the delicious pancakes prepared by the men of the church at the Shrove Tuesday pancake meal on March 5th. As you know this celebration marks the end of the Epiphany season and the beginning of Lent.

Lent is a penitential and reflective time as we prepare for the glory of Easter. As always, we have the opportunity to worship together in very meaningful services during Lent. Father Bill will open the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday on March 6<sup>th</sup>. He is making a special trip to be with us on this holy day so please make every effort to attend one of the two services.

Each Friday we will have Soup and Stations. Groups of the church such as EYC and ECW among others have agreed to provide delicious soup and usually bread or crackers for our dinner. Then they will lead us in a very meaningful Stations of the Cross service. We have one of the best and most beautiful sets of Stations iconic artwork adorning our aisle walls of the nave. Each marks a special moment in the last day of our Lord's earthly life. The artist Jo Saylor recently passed but left an incredible legacy in our parish with these intricate pieces of art. Please take time to be there each Friday for these weekly services throughout the season of Lent. You will not be disappointed.

We will continue with our normal Sunday schedule of Holy Eucharist for the first three Sundays of the month. The remaining two weeks we will have Morning Prayer. Palm Sunday, on April 14<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of Holy Week. During Holy Week there will be services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and of course Easter Sunday. Father Bill and Carole will be here for all these important services in our liturgical year. Let us all participate as well.

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As you can see, I keep stressing the importance of attendance. We are blessed with the Book of Common Prayer and with our incredible traditions in the Episcopal Church. Each service has meaning and a purpose. Stitched together into a liturgical calendar they tell the incredible story of our faith. Your weekly participation makes that witness so much more meaningful for all who attend. Corporate worship is so important and creates an amazing synergy and ties us all together in our faith. And receiving the Holy Eucharist weekly is so important that we are committed to having it as many weeks of the month as possible. Let us rededicate ourselves to attending more regularly during this Lenten season and then from then on throughout the rest of the year!

See you in church during Lent and can't wait for a glorious Eastertide!

*Sincerely,  
~Your Wardens*



**SOUP & STATIONS**

We are very appreciative to all of the groups who will be hosting Soup and Stations this year during lent. In addition to providing soup each Friday they will also be providing readers for Stations of the Cross. We hope this will involve more people in this special Lenten discipline. The list below shows what group is responsible for each week.

- |                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Week 1 - March 8  | Church Leadership (Vestry) |
| Week 2 - March 15 | ECW                        |
| Week 3 - March 22 | DOK                        |
| Week 4 - March 29 | EYC                        |
| Week 5 - April 5  | Altar Guild                |
| Week 6 - April 12 | Choir                      |

**Soup at 5:30 with Stations of the Cross at 6:00**

## HOW HYMNS ARE CHOSEN

I have had some questions lately about how the hymns are chosen for each Sunday, so I decided to rerun this explanation of the process.

I am sometimes asked who chooses the hymns we sing each Sunday. The answer is, I do. Although I do have favorite hymns, they are not chosen for that reason. For each Sunday I first read and reread the collect, psalm and the three lessons for the day. Sometimes a theme or themes just jump out at me, and the choices for music are obvious. Other times it is a little harder. When I started doing this many years ago all I had were the lessons and the hymnal (with all 600 hymns to choose from), but today there are helpful publications that make it a little easier. The one I use is “The Episcopal Musician's Handbook” which is published each year by The Living Church Foundation. Each Sunday has a list of 20-25 hymns which could be used to enrich the meaning of the lessons. I don't use that exclusively, but it is helpful.

The first hymn should be a hymn of praise that includes some reference to the lessons. The sequence hymn either ties the lessons together or at least has a point from one of the lessons. The communion hymns can either be general communion hymns or have specific mention of the lessons. The closing hymn should be a kind of summary and a sending out with what we have heard.

I have heard some say that they don't sing so they don't open their hymnals. My suggestion is that even if you don't sing, you could open your hymnal and at least read the words as they are sung. It is amazing that sometimes the meaning of a lesson can be brought home through the hymns.

Our choir anthems are chosen the same way as the hymns. Chad chooses the anthems for the adult choir, and I choose the anthems for the youth choir. It was suggested not long ago that we include the words to the anthems in the bulletin, and we have been doing that. It was a good suggestion!

I would welcome a list of your favorite hymns. I have had people do that, and I am happy to use them when they go with the lessons. I had one such list not too long ago, and we were able to use all of them within a few months. You can leave your list in the office or email it to me at [gejack7@msn.com](mailto:gejack7@msn.com).

*~Jackie Saylor*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR! A PERSONAL MESSAGE

Granted, it's a little late...but it's still the first quarter! I've noticed that I tend to think about, and sometimes even act on, my New Year's resolutions during the first quarter of the year. After that, I don't usually make much more progress. ☹️

Maybe you're like that too. And maybe, like me, one of your resolutions is to get your "financial house" in order. It's clearer to me every day that tomorrow isn't guaranteed in this earthly body. Some parts of that transition are completely out of my control, but I want to make the parts that are in my control easier for my family. And I want to be sure that my wishes are known and carried out.

There's no need to go into detail, but you can probably guess where I'm going with this by now. We've joined Everlasting Grace, our legacy program. If my financial circumstances change at any time, I know that I can also change my commitment to Everlasting Grace. But it was an easy part of our overall estate plan to carry out.

I'm certainly not finished with this resolution, but at least I've started! If you have not yet joined, please consider finding a way that fits your situation. There are lots of ways to join, and many of those are by establishing future gifts. More information can be found on our website, [www.gracechurchponcacity.org](http://www.gracechurchponcacity.org), along with an enrollment form.

*With love to my Grace Church family,  
~Marsha Moore*

### **PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT**

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, one who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



**PERIPATETIC PARISHIONERS**  
Worship bulletins have been received from:

**Chuck & Kristin Webb**  
Church of Our Savior - Palm Bay, FL

*Remember to take your  
bulletins to the Parish Office.*

*Thanks for sharing your travels with us.  
Thanks for always coming home.*

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## **STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

The Stewardship Canvass Committee is pleased to announce that we are making progress toward our goal for underwriting God's work at Grace Church in 2019.

As of January 5th:

- \* 53 Pledge Units have been received
- \* \$177,010 have been pledged for 2019
- \* Our budget requires \$200,000+

January 5th, a second mailing was sent to those not participating. We pray more parishioners will join us in the celebration of God's gifts in our lives by bringing your pledge card to church next Sunday or mailing it today. If you need a pledge card, one is available at church services, the church office, or by contacting Jerry Orr, Stewardship Chairman, at 763-7038.

*Faithfully,*  
*~The Grace Church Stewardship Canvass Committee*

## **FLOWERS & SANCTUARY LAMPS**

Now is the perfect time to consider participating in the ministry of the altar flowers and sanctuary lamps. These are provided through the generosity of parishioners who pay for them as an offering to the glory of God. Those parishioners are listed in Grace Notes each month as well as in the weekly bulletin.

For additional information, to request an available date for the flowers or lamp, or to make any changes in the current schedule, please contact Cynthia Winterrowd at:

cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com or 580-761-0415.

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## **FUNERAL & WEDDING FLOWER INFORMATION**

The only flowers allowed for funerals and weddings are the two (2) Altar Vases (no sprays, pictures, or other flowers or plants for funerals or flowers down the aisle for weddings). Flowers can be put in the two (2) brass vases in the Columbarium if the family wants them for a funeral and/or interment. If there are any questions please have the family call the church, 765-7609, and speak with the priest or Cynthia Winterrowd, 761-0415 or email [cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com).  
Thanks.

~Cynthia Winterrowd

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## **REMINDER**

Please look over the Prayer List that is in your weekly Sunday bulletin. There are many names listed that have been there for several months. If you have someone listed that has recovered or needs to be moved to another category, please contact the office so we may keep the list current. Thank you.

## MARCH ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers will be given to the glory of God by:

- Mar. 3 **Marcia & Paul Davis** in thanksgiving for the birthday of their daughter, Bonnie Davis Smith; and by **Susan & David Beard** in loving memory of Inez & W. D. Beard
- Mar. 10 LENT - NO FLOWERS
- Mar. 17 LENT - NO FLOWERS
- Mar. 24 LENT - NO FLOWERS
- Mar. 31 LENT - NO FLOWERS
- .....

## MARCH SANCTUARY LAMP CANDLE

The sanctuary lamp candle will be given to the glory of God by:

- Mar. 3 **Vickie & Deacon Steve Mallory** in thanksgiving for family and friends.
- Mar. 10 **Kimberly Taber** in thanksgiving for her children Ethan, Madison, Ryan & Catherine.
- Mar. 17 **Linda & Glenn Cassity** in loving memory of Linda's mother, Maxine Freeman.
- Mar. 24 **Judy Wakefield Sanfilippo** in memory of Allen & Margaret Wakefield and Jim Wakefield.
- Mar. 31 **Cynthia & Bill Winterrowd** in thanksgiving for the wedding anniversaries of their children, Richard & Debbie, Michael & Stephanie, Stephen & Kristi, and Claire & Greg, and for their daughter-in-law, Sue.
- .....

**Available dates for the altar flowers are as follows:**

May 12, 19 & 26, June 2, 9 & 30, July 20,  
August 4, 11, 18 & 25, September 8, 22 & 29,  
November 24 and December 22.

**Available dates for the sanctuary lamp are as follows:**

April 14, June 30, November 17 & December 2

To request an available date for 2018 for the flowers or lamp, or to make any changes in the current schedule, please contact Cynthia Winterrowd at: [cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.winterrowd@gmail.com) or 580-761-0415.

## Dates to Remember

## MARCH

### BIRTHDAYS

1 Chris Bartley  
7 Madison Taber  
12 Marilyn Dotson  
23 Judy Sanfilippo  
24 Sandy Bishop  
24 Bob Howard  
25 Steve McGuire  
27 Charlie O'Rear

### ANNIVERSARIES

27 Lloyd & Pat Jones  
31 Larry & Polly Feezell

MARCH 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

*If your name is missing from the birthday or anniversary list,  
please call us at 765-7609 so we can update our records.*

*We do not want to leave anyone out!*

## EVENSONG

March 10 - 5:00 p.m.

*Please join us.*

If you have items for Grace Notes, please email them to:  
TL@standingbearpark.com.

**The deadline for Grace Notes is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**