



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# MESSENGER

**From the Rector**

**January 2020**

Dear Parishioners of Grace,

As you're reading this, I am most likely enjoying a little bit of sun and a lot of magic at Walt Disney World, as my family enjoys our first real vacation together in 18 months.

It will come as no surprise to anyone who has heard me talk about Disney World, or mention something Disney in a sermon, that we have been awaiting this trip with eager anticipation. Loren and I are huge Disney World fans, and we are fairly confident that our boys will be, also.

I don't know that I've explained the reasons for my love for Disney, but there are a handful of them. It's one of the few places I've ever been where the rest of the world seems to fade away, one of the few places where you really can "forget about your worries and your strife." It's a place of unbridled joy, where it's still okay to believe in magic, and where cynicism seems to hold no sway.

In addition to all these things, though, it's also a place where everyone really seems glad to see you. The prevailing philosophy from cast members (the term for Disney World employees) really does seem to be "Be our guest." From the moment you arrive on Disney property, you are welcomed with hospitality, warmth, and enthusiasm. Everyone is welcome, and it really seems like everyone wants you to be there.

Imagine if most churches took the same approach. Right now we tend to talk of "visitors," giving a sense that

someone is just here to take it all in, still something of an outsider, still without any real sense that they belong. In the rest of our lives, at least, we might sometimes happily let visitors pass unnoticed, not wanting to disturb them during their visit.

But if we learn from Disney's hospitality, and view those who join us for the first time not as "visitors" but as "guests," imagine how much differently we would act. Can you imagine ignoring or failing to extend hospitality to a guest? I don't know about you, but my grandmother would never forgive me. When we encounter guests, we welcome them with open arms and open hearts, and we try our hardest to make them feel at home. Disney does this well.

Jesus does it even better. Jesus welcomes everyone who comes to him, including those the rest of the world is too willing to overlook or brush aside or ignore. Everyone who comes to Jesus is received as an honored guest and made to feel at home with him. Our ministry of "Invite Welcome Connect" is really about trying to be this Christlike presence for all the guests who honor us with their presence.

In his *Rule*, St. Benedict famously said, "Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ." Let's remember to show our guests the radical hospitality that we learned from Jesus, before we ever relearned it from Disney.

Grace and peace,  
Ian

## CELEBRATING BISHOP WAYNE'S LEADERSHIP

For the past 18 years, the Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith has provided vision and leadership as the tenth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri. Bishop Smith will be retiring this spring.

On Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis a Celebration Eucharist celebrating the ministry and leadership of Bishop Wayne Smith will be held. All parishioners in the Diocese are invited to attend this service.

Immediately following this service, a luncheon reception will be held on the fourth floor of the Bishop Tuttle Memorial Building (attached to the Cathedral). The reception will include lunch, live jazz music and special presentations. It is free and all are invited; however reservations are required. Reservations will be done electronically and will open up in February. Please check the diocesan website ([www.diocesemo.org](http://www.diocesemo.org)) for details. Details will also be published in the weekly iSeek and in our Sunday bulletin.

In gratitude for the leadership and ministry of Bishop Smith, our farewell gift to him is the establishment of the Director's Discretionary Fund for the Deaconess Anne House, a member of the Episcopal Service Corps. Your tax-deductible gift to this fund will provide ongoing financial support for corps member emergency needs and continuing education and training experiences as well as neighborhood support for those in need.

You can contribute to this fund by visiting the DONATE page on the diocesan website (<https://www.diocesemo.org/donate>) or by sending a gift to the following:

The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri  
ATTN: Desiree Brattin  
1210 Locust Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63103

## CELEBRATION OF ABSALOM JONES Sunday, February 16 10:30 a.m.



Our 12th annual celebration of Absalom Jones, the first African American priest in the Episcopal Church of the United States, will be held during the 10:30 a.m. service on February 16. The Chancel Choir will lead the service music and perform anthems all composed or arranged by our very own Robert L. Mitchell, Sr. The service music should now be somewhat familiar to many in the congregation.

This service is always a highlight of the winter months. The choir is looking forward to this special service, and we hope the congregation is as well.

### Women of Grace Bible Study Nanette Ellis



Our Women's Bible Study will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 13th. Our lesson is entitled "Disciples of Christ." Scriptures are Mark 1:16–20; Mark 2:13–17; Mark 3:13–19; Mark 8:27–9:1; Matthew 10:1; Luke 6:12–13; Luke 9:1–6; Luke 10:1–12; Acts 7: 54–8:3; and Acts 9:1–30.

How did Jesus call disciples during his earthly ministry? How did the risen and ascended Jesus call Paul? How does Jesus invite us to take up the cross and follow him?

All women are welcome to explore the call to discipleship with us!

The Annual Parish Meeting of Grace Episcopal Church was held in the Parish Hall on Sunday, January 19, having been rescheduled from January 12 due to winter weather.

The main order of business was the election of Vestry members and Diocesan Convention delegates. The following individuals were elected to three-year terms— **Ted Koenig, Susan Lissant, Christy Pond, and Sally Reid.** Last year Brent Hemphill, Junior Warden, had been elected to a one-year term in order to oversee the completion of several projects that had been begun. **Harry Richter** was elected to fulfill the remaining two years of this term.

**Dennis Belcher** was elected to a **three-year term** as Diocesan Convention Delegate and **Cheryl Nield** was elected as the alternate delegate to the Diocesan Convention. As Mary Russell has moved to St. Louis, **D’Arcy Crane** was elected to complete the **remaining two years** of her term as convention delegate.

**Samaritan Center**  
**Sally Reid**

One of Grace Church’s community ministries is the Samaritan Center, an interfaith social services agency. The center operates the fourth largest food pantry in the state; a clothing room provides clothing for those in need; volunteer attorneys represent those who need legal assistance to stabilize their lives; accountants help with tax preparation; a health clinic is available for those who do not have insurance, Medicare or Medicaid; and help is provided for payment of utility bills. These are just a few of the services the center provides.

Grace contributes monetarily to the Samaritan Center as well as collecting food for the pantry every other month, assisting with the annual Dinner and Auction, and providing volunteers for the food pantry. Grace volunteers help with the distribution of food the **second Thursday of each month from 3:45–5:30.** If you are interested in participating in this volunteer opportunity or have questions, please contact Sally Reid (sallyjcmo@hotmail.com). New volunteers are always welcome.

**Common Ground Toiletries Drive**  
**Vicki Myers**



Grace supports the efforts of Common Ground which is a benevolent organization that helps out persons in need with utility payments, rent, gas vouchers, and some prescription assistance. We have volunteers who are

receptionists and greet the clients. We also provide some financial assistance as Common Ground survives on donations from the local churches and others. Their executive director, Tina Mollenkamp, is asking for help with toiletries. Some of the clients are homeless or near homeless and are in need of basic hygiene items. The list is as follows:

- shampoo
- conditioner
- toothpaste
- tooth brushes
- mouthwash
- feminine hygiene products
- Band-Aids
- antibiotic cream
- chapstick
- deodorant
- adult socks
- backpacks

We will have a tub available in the narthex for the next two months. We hope that you will be generous in this ministry and help out many who have so little.

**FOOD FOR THE MONTH**

As the cold weather is here, let’s help stock the pantry at the **Salvation Army** by filling the wagon at the top of the stairs with canned goods soups, individual meals) this month. Thank you for sharing your plenty with those less fortunate.





DOING  
THE MOST  
GOOD<sup>SM</sup>

Football fever and watching the Chiefs' win over the Titans created a warm atmosphere on a frosty night as 53 people gathered to share a meal at the Salvation Army on January 19. Residents "Mr. and Mrs. Ed" (I didn't catch the last name) had food service experience, and helped unload the food, set up the steam tables, and assist in serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, cole slaw, and cookies.

I had the opportunity to spend a bit of time in the dining room, sitting at tables and visiting with some of the attendees. There were interesting conversations, especially at a table that included some fans of the Food Network who had opinions about the best way to prepare fried chicken: should it be marinated in a salt brine or should it be soaked in buttermilk? I had to admit that the chicken came from Steve's Country Café, but I learned a thing or two from those guests!

This Salvation Army experience, centered around food and sharing time with the people who came together to partake of the nourishment and conversation, was humbling. Every person in that dining room has a story, but they don't have the same resources many of us have. "Mr. Ed" lost his job in a plant closing; "Mrs. Ed" has a serious health issue and is disabled; their mobile home was destroyed in the tornado that hit last May. Some of those folks have made bad choices and are struggling with the consequences, but they are God's children, too. Finally, none of us is assured that, at some time, we won't need help ourselves. Yes, serving the dinner was humbling, and also a blessing.

## Scouting News Tom Nield

We held a Court of Honor in January. Twenty-four scouts were recognized for earning a combined total of sixty-seven merit badges. Six scouts advanced in rank.

The Klondike Derby was held on the last Friday of January, going into the first Saturday and Sunday of February. Crew members helped staff activity stations where scouts demonstrated various scout skills. This is the first time that the Klondike Derby was organized as a Council level event and as a result there were seventeen patrols that participated.

The Lady Coyotes are taking a Saturday to work on various Second Class and First Class rank items.

Scout Sunday this year is on February 9, and we are hosting Coffee Hour. Please join us after the service.

We are assisting with Pack 20's Crossover event where are gaining five new members.

On the last Saturday of the month the scouts are spending the night in a cave at Stark Caverns and the Crew is going skiing/snow boarding at Hidden Valley Ski Resort.

Shrove Tuesday is on February 25 this year which means we are holding the annual Ham and Pancake Supper. You can use the ticket form in this month's *Messenger* or buy tickets in advance by visiting our website at [www.gracecouting.org](http://www.gracecouting.org). We just started using the "Square" payment acceptance service, and it's a bit more user friendly than PayPal. In addition to the River Ridge String Band providing music, I heard there will be a guest musician on the violin. Who can that be??

Check out [www.gracescouting.org](http://www.gracescouting.org) to see what your scouting program is up to!



**SCOUTS**  
BSA



## 2020 Shrove Tuesday Annual Ham and Pancake Supper Parish Hall

**25 Feb 2020, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

Join the Scouts and Venturers of Grace's Scouting program for the 2020 Shrove Tuesday Annual Ham and Pancake Supper. The River Ridge String Band is performing again. Fill out the bottom part of the flyer and bring to the supper or buy tickets online at

[www.gracescouting.org](http://www.gracescouting.org).

Laissez les bons temps rouler!



### 2020 Shrove Tuesday Annual Ham and Pancake Supper

Parish Hall

25 February 2020, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Adults: \$5.00, Youth 12 and Under: \$3.50, Maximum per Family: \$25

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Youth under 12: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

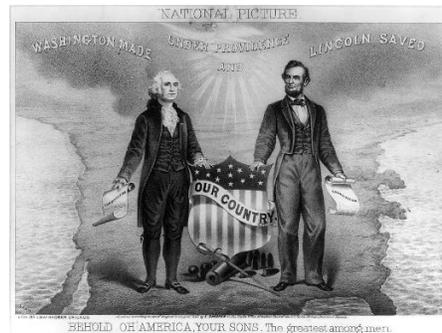
- 2 – Ian Lasch
- 4 – Ronald Grey
- 5 – Marie Duggan
- 8 – Madelyn Banister
- 9 – Gloria Sanning
- 10 – Lyric Seeney, Abigail Mpoy
- 15 – Michael Gilmore
- 19 – Claire Joyce Johnson
- 20 – Sequan Collier
- 21 – Susan Rozier, Marcel John
- 22 – Stacy Hartsfield
- 23 – David Johnson
- 24 – Lee West

### Who is the Parishioner...?

The answer to last month’s “Who is the parishioner?” is—

**Jerry Sill!** Jerry worked for the Missouri Hospital Association for 30 years! The first five years his title was vice president of legal affairs. Jerry was then promoted to senior vice president and general counsel. He held this position for the next 25 years, until he retired in 2011. During that tenure, Jerry shared his expertise on health care power of attorney and living will documents at adult forum.

The question this month is what parishioner family has a drive (street) named after their father, father-in-law, and grandfather?



“Your love of liberty – your respect for the laws – your habits of industry – and your practice of the moral and religious obligations, are the strongest claims to national and individual happiness.”

– **George Washington**

“Character is like a tree and reputation its shadow. The shadow is what we think it is and the tree is the real thing.”

— **Abraham Lincoln**

## FEBRUARY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### USHERS

#### 8:00 O'clock Service

Feb Bob Morris  
Mar Dennis Belcher

#### 10:30 O'clock Service

Feb 2 Vicki Myers  
9 Vicki Myers  
16 Lisa Fox  
23 Lisa Fox

### SERVERS

#### 8:00 O'clock Service

Feb 2 Krista Barnett  
9 Brian Barnett  
16 Brian or Krista Barnett  
23 Krista Barnett

#### 10:30 O'clock Service

Feb 2 Darby Hall, Josie Hall, Caroline Hensley  
9 Andrew Nield, Jordan Myers, Devon Kanga  
16 Henry Stier, Warren Stier, Malaika Kamara  
23 Matt Krause, Ted Krause, Mae Krause

### ACOLYTE DIRECTORS

Feb 2 Ted Koenig  
9 Bernard Collier  
16 Ted Koenig  
23 Matt Krause

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### 8:00 O'clock Service

Feb 2 Jerry Sill  
9 Todd Rodemeyer  
16 Tom Nield  
23 Todd Rodemeyer  
Mar 1 Jerry Sill

#### 10:30 O'clock Service

Feb 2 Lisa Fox, Robyn Burnett  
9 Joseph Nylander, Dotty Sanning  
16 Tom Nield, Debra Greene  
23 Sarah Schedler,  
Mar 1 Steve Hall, Harry Richter

### LECTORS

Feb 2 Linda Tyson  
9 Tom Nield  
16 Matthew Laudano  
23 Christy Pond  
Mar 1 Jim Pond

### ALTAR GUILD

#### 8:00 O'clock Service

Feb Kevin Thompson, Liz Lehmann  
Mar Michelle Rodemeyer

#### 10:30 O'clock Service

Feb Vicki Myers  
Mar Debra Greene

#### Wednesday

Feb Karel Lowery  
Mar Dan Eckles

### VESTRY PERSON OF THE WEEK

Feb 2 Jamie Hall  
9 Harry Richter  
16 Kevin Thompson  
23 Jim Perch

### NURSERY ASSISTANTS

Feb 2 JoAnn Mohler  
9 Katie Spear  
16 Jennifer Krause  
23 Cathy Harbison

### COUNTERS

Feb 2 Carol Robertson and Susan Lissant  
9 Vicki Myers and Carolyn Kerr  
16 Carol Robertson and Susan Lissant  
23 Dotty Sanning and Janie Johnson  
Mar 1 Harry Richter and TBA

### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

We invite you to consider hosting coffee hour. Please sign the list in the parish hall if you would like to participate in this particular ministry of hospitality.

Feb 2 Judy and Terry Allen  
9 Scouts  
16 TBA  
23 TBA



Grace Episcopal Church  
217 Adams St.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Return Service Request

**DEADLINE**

The deadline for the March Messenger is

Monday, Feb. 17th.

Submit articles for the Messenger

to the editor, Sally Reid:

sallyjcmo@hotmail.com

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Telephone	635-4405
Fax	636-5512
Rector	rector@gracechurchjc.org
Church office	office@gracechurchjc.org
Website	gracechurchjc.org

**VESTRY MEMBERS**

Jamie Hall, Senior Warden  
Harry Richter, Junior Warden

Minette Barlay  
David Heise  
Ted Koenig  
Susan Lissant  
Jim Perch  
Christy Pond  
Sally Reid  
David Rice  
Dotty Sanning  
Kevin Thompson

Tom Nield, Treasurer  
Caroline Kerr, Secretary

**CONVENTION DELEGATES**

Jim Markham  
Dennis Belcher  
D'Arcy Crane  
Cheryle Nield (alternate)