



MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER

Every Spring at Grace I wait with great anticipation for the blooming trees on the church property. Magnolia by the playground. Mostly white on the parking lot side, followed by the lovely pink-purple on the Memorial Garden side, they are exquisite reminders of spring, new life, and the return of green growing things. The white and pink petals cascade down like rice or confetti at a wedding, as the tiny fresh green leaves begin to emerge. A quote sometimes attributed to Martin Luther captures this — *“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.”*

This year I feel more than usually in need of resurrection reminders. We are ever-so-slowly and cautiously emerging from pandemic restrictions. Most of us have lost family and friends, either to the virus or other causes. Many were unable to say goodbye, and some have yet to observe the formal rites of grieving. Family, school and parish events were cancelled or postponed. Some have suffered financial harm or devastation. No one has escaped unscathed.

But through our disappointment, suffering and grief, there is still the Gospel message: Death is not the end. God is always with those who suffer. Jesus still acts in our lives, often through other people. The ancient funeral song from the Orthodox tradition captures it: *All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

God not only shows up in the beauty of spring, but also in the beauty of those who come alongside others in their distress, in the beauty of those who reach out to others, despite their own losses, and in the beauty of a community of faith. This issue of *Grace Notes* is chock-full of pictures and accounts of that beauty. May we all read our Lord's promise of resurrection there!



APRIL VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Treasurer's job description was adopted. Thank you, Ash.
- TRI-ANNUAL giving statements will go out in May.
- The Mutual Ministry Review work is on-going, and we are in compliance.
- The livestreaming tech purchase plan was tabled, pending further discussion of audience, need, and price.
- Diocesan Convention (November 12-13, 2021) delegates are Ash McNamara, and Barb Reeves. Alternates are Nancy Fredette and Brad Pettit.
- Chicken BBQ is on! June 5, 2021. DRIVE-THRU ONLY! There is no pre-purchase tickets available this year. Back parking-lot entrance. \$10/half chicken dinner. Details forthcoming at next CBBQ meeting, May 12, at 7PM. Thank you, Allen.
- Outreach reported that St. Paul's was more than pleased with the quantity and quality of our donated coats.
- The Bishop and deans have met/ZOOMED, and will do so with the rest of the clergy, to discuss adjustments to the present church-gathering rules. (Soon we may be able to coffee-chat , OUSIDE in clement weather!)

PENTECOST WITH THE WIDER CHURCH

The Episcopal Church greets Pentecost with *One in the Spirit, a Way of Love Revival Weekend* designed to fan the flames of hope, celebrate difference, honor creation, foster beloved community, and send people toward Jesus's Way of Love. The weekend of events includes the following:

Saturday, May 22, 6-7:30 p.m. ET: Concert for the Human Family and "From Many, One" Community Conversations

Sunday, May 23, 4-5:30 p.m. ET: Churchwide Pentecost Revival Worship from Philadelphia, Navajoland, Seattle, St. Louis, and Washington, D.C.

"Pentecost is the season when we celebrate the birth of the church and the Spirit landing on the glorious diversity of God's people," said Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. "Thanks to vaccinations and CDC recommendations, it's also the moment when lots of our churches can finally open their arms more fully to the public. We want to mark this moment of renewal with a revival and pray that God would rain blessing, guid-

ance and power down on all people.” For more information, and to register go to <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/events/pentecost-season-opens-with-way-of-love-revival-weekend-one-in-the-spirit/>

CHICKEN BBQ HELP

Help! There are many jobs on the day of the BBQ and everybody is welcomed to help. There is a sign up in the welcoming area or you can call the church office to have your name added to the volunteer board. Please consider donating some of your time to help out on the day of the BBQ.



Desserts! We need 600 Individually wrapped 2X2 inch brownies or cookie bars!

Please be generous with brownie and cookie size. One 9X12 inch pan will make 12 brownies or cookies.

If you are interested in chairing please let Allen Wolf know, as he is stepping back from chairing and coordinating.

LITURGY ASSISTANCE NEEDED



Are you interested in helping with services in church? One household (i.e., those who live in the same home) is needed to read lessons, psalm and prayers of the people, and to make the responses at



each service. Please contact Mother Cathy if you are interested in helping out.

THANK YOU LETTERS FROM HEAD START

The children from Head Start sent Grace Church thank you letters for their Easter Baskets.



Thank you for the
Easter basket. I
loved it. I ate
all my candy and
put the tattoos on.

Hoppy
Easter!
Love,
ISRAEL

Thank you
for the
Easter Basket!
-Connor Williams

Johnny



Thank You!

Thank-you so much for the beautiful
 Easter Basket for Charlie. We will
 enjoy the basket for several years. You
 ladies have and ^{the} church has made a
 difficult year more bearable. Thank
 you again it was much appreciated.

Rhonda Wall

...for being
 so thoughtful.

charlie

Ray Hogue
 THANK YOU SO
 much Grace Episcop
 al Church for giving
 me a easter basket.

THANK YOU LETTER FOR PARISH LIFE



Darra 4/6/21
Dear Parish Life Members,
I want to thank-you
for the "goodie bag" I
received months ago.
It really made my day
and cheered me up. I appreciate
you thinking of me with
your kindness.
Thanks again.
Darra Randall

We are still receiving few letters from Parish Members thanking Parish Life for the wonderful 'goodie bags' they sent out months ago.

Once again we give many thanks to all the Parish Life Members for their wonderful job.

CLEAN UP DAY

After the 9AM service on Sunday May 2, 2021, a few parish members stayed or joined to clean up the garden near the bell. Fresh mulch was placed down and some weeding was done to get rid of the dandelions. The flag was even re-



moved from the tree along with the branch the flag kept getting caught on. Thank you to everyone that came and helped out with Clean Up Day.



A BIG THANK YOU!



Thank you to those who continue to support the church by mailing in your offerings. For those who would like to make a gift without having to write a check and use the postal system, please

consider giving online by clicking the green button on the home page of our website that says, "Give." It is an easy and safe way to give to Grace.



GIVE

HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 11:00 AM alternate-week in-person Sunday services (and some holidays too!). You can also see and hear every Sunday's music on our YouTube channel. Can't find our Facebook Page or YouTube



Channel? Click the social media icons in the header and footer on our website GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org.

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Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

WORSHIP

Sunday Rite 1 8:00 A.M.
Sunday Rite 2 11:00 A.M.
Tuesdays 12:00 NOON



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