

GRACE NOTES—October 2022

MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER



What would you do if you won a big prize? A prize in the tens of thousands or so. Would you spend it all on the trip of a lifetime? Split it with your relatives? Pay off your mortgage or car loan? Set up funds for your young relatives' post high school education?

One of my seminary classmates, David Sibley, now an Episcopal priest in the state of Washington, just had a three-day winning streak on *Jeopardy!* and won \$79,000. On Twitter he's said his family will tithe his winnings - that's 10% - to the church he serves. The vestry will decide what to do with the money, and he will abstain from the discussion.

David and his wife have a young child, and he's also said that providing for her college education is a priority. By the time their daughter is ready to go to college, the cost for a private college is likely to exceed \$100,000 per year (there are schools where it costs that much already!). So why is he tithing his winnings to the parish? Ten percent off the top? He says, "It's an act of trust in what God has done, what God will do, and a way for me to grow spiritually through that trust".

This might seem rather admirable, but perhaps it's only for those individuals who are spiritual heavyweights. Most of us would do no such thing. We might think the best and most prudent thing to do is to secure the future for ourselves or our loved ones. (And maybe treat ourselves, just a little bit).

In the parables of Jesus, over and over again we find people who are just not very good at asset management. The shepherd who leaves 99 sheep at risk in order to chase after one that is lost. The woman who loses a coin and when she finds it, throws a party for the neighbors (that must have cost something!). Then there's the cautionary tale of the man who had so much grain that he wanted to tear down his barns in order to build bigger ones - but he died before he could do that.

We also hear about the time a kid had a couple of fish and five rounds of pita to share, and Jesus said the blessing and amazingly, there was enough for thousands of people, with 12 baskets of leftovers.

If we close our hands to hang on tightly to what we already have (99 sheep, 9 coins, piles and piles of grain, etc.), how can we open our hands (and our hearts) to trust God?



Cathy +

A LETTER FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN



And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces. Luke 9:16-17, NRSV

October 2022

Dear Members of Grace,

When I was asked to serve as your Senior Warden this year, I had no idea what an honor it would turn out to be. More than being the chair of our leadership, I have had the opportunity throughout the year to witness the many ways that you contribute to the church and to our neighbors. While we do spend a lot of time in our vestry meetings talking about our own finances and operations, we spend even more discussing how we can serve our neighbors and focus our work on the world. How blessed we are!

More Than Enough, our campaign for this year's pledge campaign, calls us to remember that when we share what we have with the world, miracles happen.

In his epistle, St. James reminds us that our faith and our works are both necessary to activate our true calling as Christians. It is not enough to simply believe, but we must act on that faith to serve our neighbors and change the world. You do this all the time, in so many ways. How blessed we are!

Your works are not just about the programs our church sponsors or arranges in our community, or the things we pray for on Sundays; they are also about the way you raise your family, pursue your career, participate in the civic life of our community, volunteer your time in schools, shelters, and social causes. We are called to be the body, and I have seen you be the hands, heart, and head of God in our community. Inspired and informed by your faith, you give so much to our neighbors. How blessed we are!

Thank you. Thank you for all that you do for the Church and for the world. In a couple of weeks, you will be receiving an invitation to pledge your gifts for the year to come. I ask that you pray with us as we launch our annual gathering of gifts and gratitude, and consider how you will contribute your gift of work.

"When we give out of our abundance, there is always more than enough." Share your blessings.

With humble thanks,

Barb Reeves

Barb Reeves, Senior Warden
Grace Episcopal Church Baldwinsville

Current COVID-19 Precautions

The Vestry has determined that, going forward, we will calibrate our precautions to the level of transmission reported by the CDC, and to their recommendations. In the CDC's system, counties are assigned a weekly status of green, yellow or red, depending on rates of transmission. Therefore, we will increase or decrease the ventilation, recommend or require masks and physical distancing, and other measures depending on the current status of Onondaga County.

At the time of publication, the Head Start program will again require universal masking, therefore we will still require universal masking in common areas Monday through Friday during school hours until arrival at your destination. This requirement could change, and any changes will be reported in This Week at Grace and on our website.



Photo by Jan Kopřiva on Unsplash.com

MINISTRY MASH UP VERSION 2.0

In an effort to further identify ways to focus our ministries and resources in a more focused and purposeful way, the Vestry Ministry Mash Up version 2.0. continues through October 11th, sheets with each ministry are posted in the Welcome Area. You have been given 5 red dots and 3 yellow dots. At any time during the month you may:

Place the red dots on ministries that you think are most important to our core mission.

Place the yellow dots on ministries you can participate in.

You can put more than one dot on the same ministry, but you only get to place 5 red dots, so choose wisely. All of these ministries are valuable in their own right, but we need to be intentional about our resources and this exercise can help us determine where to focus our energy.

Remember, Red=Essential and Yellow=Participate.



Photo by No Revisions on Unsplash

“Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24

SEPTEMBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- August vestry minutes approved as corrected
- Maria Jackson presented various possible fund-raising projects that we may try.
- Treasurer Dave Ferrari will be meeting here with the auditor on October 7th. The finance report was approved. Next year's budget will have work begun. It was moved by Allen Wolf and seconded by Sue Purdy to have the Treasurer and Sr. Warden have access to the monthly diocesan UIF report.
- We are in need of a Head Counter, please see announcement below.
- Four vestry members are needed. Please think about this for donating time and talent.
- COVID—masks continue to be required in common areas during Head Start school hours. Masks are optional otherwise
- Ministry Mash Up Version 2.0 ends shortly. Please do your part
- Vestry guideposts and Mutual Ministry work items are analyzed monthly . We will be working to firm up our timing.
- Grace Sunday is November 10th. Our annual pledge campaign is on.
- Parking permits and signs seem to be working. Periodic checks will continue.
- The Blessing of the Animals is Sunday, October 2nd at 4:00 P.M.
- The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for October 26th, 7 P.M

HELP NEEDED

Are you called to serve as Head Counter?

Responsibilities: Schedule and lead counters entering contribution information to Realm contribution management system, and generate giving statements. Review batch entries and correct as needed, and troubleshoot data entry issues. Retrieve reports and input electronic giving from Tithely. Train new counters, maintain current procedures documents, and respond to giving statement inquiries. Arrange for ordering of contribution envelopes. Annually enter new year pledges and submit counters report to annual meeting.

1 Timothy 1:12

*I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord,
because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service,*

ST. FRANCIS ANIMAL BLESSING



Photo Credit: Bastien
Plu via unsplash

Sunday October 2nd at 4 pm join us in the Memorial Garden for the Blessing of Animals followed by treats for animals and their human companions. This begins our October Outreach Pet Project collecting donations for HumaneCNY.



Photo Credit: Bundo
Kim, via unsplash

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” Galatians 6:10



We need your help with services in church. Will you volunteer to assist us? We are in need of Lectors to read the first lesson and psalm. We email you the reading a few days prior to the service. If so, please contact the Parish Office.

Also urgently needed are volunteers to run our livestream at the 11:00 service and baptisms and funerals. No particular technical skill is needed, although familiarity with a touch-screen is helpful. Training and resources will be provided, contact Mother Cathy or Ash McNamara for information.



COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

OFFICE HOURS

TUES 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM WED 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM THURS 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Please contact our parish office
in case there have been changes to Maria's schedule

VESTRY MEMBERS NEEDED

Are you called to lead? The work of the vestry has two faces: leadership and management. As a vestry member, together with the rector and wardens, you will be expected to manage and lead. Vestry members should be able to make the following commitments:

- ⊗ Vestry meetings (1x per month, plus occasional additional meetings as needed);
- ⊗ Committee work (usu. 1x per month);
- ⊗ Vestry retreat (annual);
- ⊗ Regular attendance at worship services (rotating services occasionally);
- ⊗ Congregational events: coffee hours, meals, fundraisers, adult ed. programs, etc.;
- ⊗ Diocesan meetings, as necessary;
- ⊗ Annual meeting.
- ⊗ Exercise confidentiality and practice healthy, honest, open communication patterns in the parish.

Qualifications

Eighteen years of age or older;

Baptized; (wardens must be confirmed)

Active member of the parish who is regular in worship attendance and contribution of time and talent and treasure.

Please prayerfully consider your calling to this important role.

CALLING ALL SINGERS!!!

On page 15 of the Book of Common Prayer the seven “Principal Feasts” are described. Is it surprising that one of them is All Saints’ Day? We will observe All Saints’ on **Sunday, November 6th**, and plan to have a choir for the 11:00 AM service. **If you are interested in singing in our All Saints’ holiday (holy-day) choir**, please email Jeff Wise at Music@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org



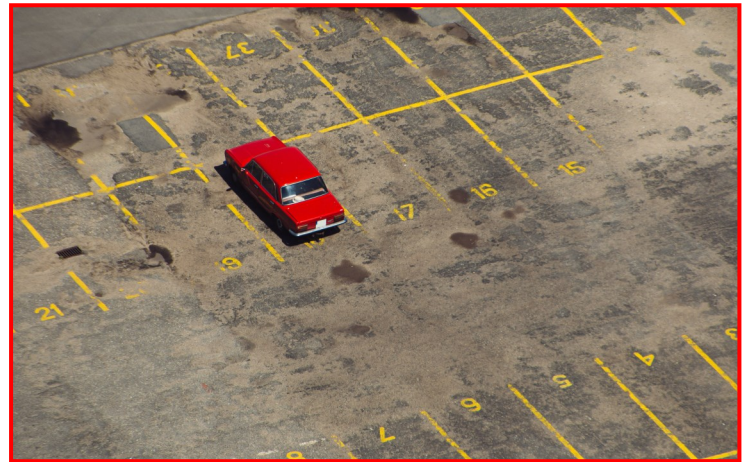
SYRACUSE HOME WORSHIP



Worship at Syracuse Home has resumed! Next dates are Evening Prayer at 3 pm on October 16, November 6 and December 11. Readers, singers, musicians, and people to help residents with the bulletin are all needed. Please speak to Mother Cathy if interested in helping out.

PARKING PATROL THANKS

Many thanks to Wardens Barb Reeves and Allen Wolf, and Communications Coordinator Maria Jackson! Due to their (repeated) efforts the student parking is now running smoothly. Resolving parking conflicts, tracking repeat offenders and increasing signage (yet again!) takes time and effort. Our current challenges are due in part to the reduced availability of off-site student parking this year.



AND JUST FOR FUN...

Tomato Sorbet

2 oz. sugar

2 fluid oz water

6 tomatoes (peeled and seeded)

4 fluid oz lemon juice

1/2 to 3/4 tsp salt

3/4 oz tomato paste

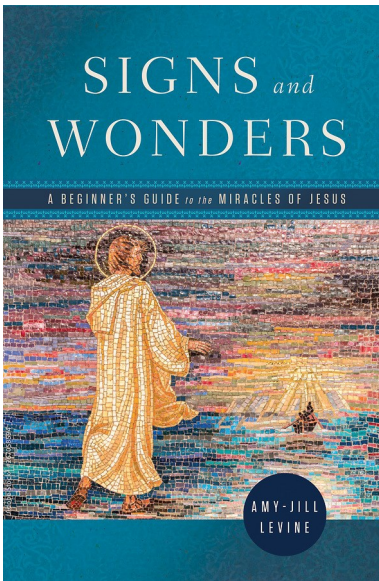
2 oz basil, chopped.

Combine in food processor. Pour into non-reactive tray and freeze, stirring occasionally. Serve with parmesan crackers or bruschetta toasts.



Photo by Vince Lee on Unsplash

TUESDAY FORUM RETURNS

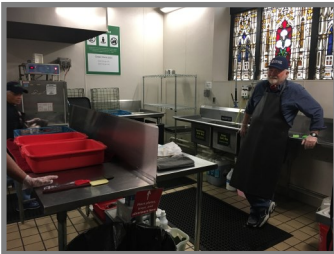


There's still time to join the Tuesday Forum at 1:00 pm. Our second session is October 11th. The Forum will start the season with a six-part series on Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*. In this book and companion videos, she explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus's words and actions. The book is available from your favorite bookseller, and on Kindle. List price is \$16.99 (though discounts are available). The parish has ordered some copies for \$12 each which you may obtain by contacting the parish office. You can see a preview of Professor Levine talking about this book on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Ru9yfoS6y8c>

SAMARITAN MEAL



Thank you to those who worked at the 9/25 Samaritan meal service shift: Terry Taranto, Laura Moreau, Joy Pople, Sue Purdy, Tom and Jeannie LaMere. We also had 1 volunteer from the 1st Presbyterian Church and one volunteer from St Mark's Lutheran Church. Approximately 125-150 people were served a meal that included a sausage and peppers sandwich with cheese sauce, green beans, yogurt and beverage.



Photos: Laura Moreau



HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 11:00 AM Sunday services. We have several very regular attendees, and others find it convenient during travel or bad weather. Can't find our Facebook Page or YouTube Channel? Click the social media icons in the header and footer on our website GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org.



ANNUAL BRICK DEDICATION

Our annual brick dedication service occurred on Sunday September 11th following the 9:00 AM Service in memory especially for Paul Cooney; in thanksgiving for the McCall Family and for Cate and Jenna Griffo. Graham Jackson played TAPS on flute and Parish Life served refreshments following the dedication.



BUNCO NIGHT



Please join us for Bunco on October 29th at 7pm in the undercroft. No experience (or skill) necessary; it's a game of chance and lots of laughs. As Halloween will be right around the corner, treats will be provided but we promise "no tricks". Well, maybe a few! Please sign up in the Welcome Area so we know

ALTAR FLOWER OPPORTUNITIES



Autumn has arrived and so have the cooler temperatures, making way for colorful landscapes. There's spectacular floral blooms and a wonderful time of year for flowers to be displayed upon the altar. Altar decoration sponsorship is \$50 per Sunday. Decorations are available to take home after the 11:00 AM service. On Sundays when we worship at Syracuse Home one arrangement is usually brought for residents to enjoy. For more information contact the parish office.

Photo Credit: Sue Hughes, Unsplash

THREADS OF LOVE



Threads of Love is an industrious group of sewers and helpers which meets most Wednesday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 in the lower level Conference room, (taking breaks during the holidays and summer months). Infant sleepers are constructed from fun fleece print fabric, and donated to local charities. The group expects to begin meeting this year on September 14th. Contact Mary Helen Foster for more information.

ALTAR GUILD



Reminder....you're invited Saturday, October 8th at 9:30am for the next Altar Guild meeting. If you'd like to serve by caring for the altar, it's furnishings and it's linens, we encourage you to attend the meeting for more information.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who continue to support the church by bringing or 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. You may also contribute in this way for flowers, or to special efforts like Samaritan Center Meals. Photo Credit Courtney Hedger via unsplash

GIVE

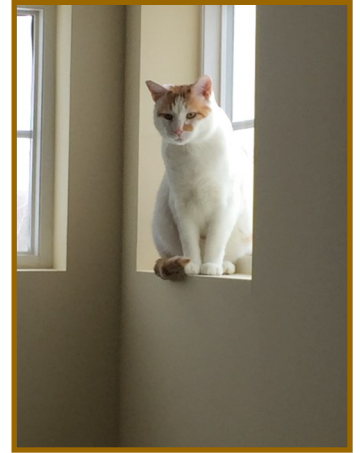


OCTOBER OUTREACH PET PROJECT

“Pet Project” To Benefit HumaneCNY

HumaneCNY is an animal shelter located in Liverpool, which seeks to better our community through kindness to animals.

Their mission: To provide our community with an animal shelter that shows compassion and respect for life by following a no-kill philosophy and by striving to provide the cats and dogs entrusted to their care with permanent, loving homes. They have been the advocate and caretaker of homeless cats and dogs since 1966.



This year during the month of October, Outreach is asking parishioners to bring in any of the following:

- ⇒ Bleach
- ⇒ Hand soap
- ⇒ Laundry detergent, dryer sheets
- ⇒ Trash bags 30 gallon or larger
- ⇒ Dry Cat Food—Purina One Sensitive Skin & Stomach &/or Pete’s Style Wet Food
- ⇒ Dog Food—Purina One Canned Chopped or Gravy; Please no dry dog food
- ⇒ Paper towels
- ⇒ Window cleaner
- ⇒ Cat litter: non-clumping
- ⇒ Pet toys
- ⇒ Used but clean flat sheets, blankets and towels
- ⇒ Postage stamps

Or consider a tax-deductible donation as an alternative to bringing in items. Anyone interested in doing this can send a donation to:

HumaneCNY
4915 West Taft Road
Liverpool, NY 13088

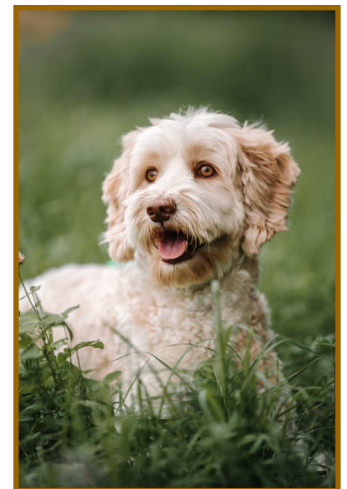


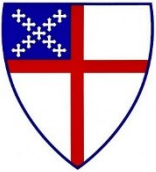
Photo Credit: Janoush Diggelmann, via unsplash

Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org
315 635 3214
110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027



Tuesday 12:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 2
Sunday 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 2 with music & livestreamed
Sunday 8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite 1

WORSHIP



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