

# GRACE NOTES—November 2022

## MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER



From 1994 through 1997 there was an all-female Canadian “death metal” band, named *November Grief*. The band’s original name was *Mistrust*, but it was changed because, according to the band, “...this name fit the music better.” Although I’m far from a death-metal enthusiast, I’m intrigued by this re-naming. I wonder if it unintentionally reflects a larger truth.

November can be a difficult month. The days grow colder and shorter, much of the vegetation dies, and many people find depression and grief intensified. Even in our church’s lectionary readings, themes of death and end times predominate. There are a few bright spots, with the celebration of Thanksgiving in the US, and the beginning of Advent, leading up to Christmas, but these too, can be difficult, especially for those facing loss.

The loss of those dear to us, whether recent or long past may be mourned, and lesser losses may be mourned as well: The loss of proximity when friends or family members move far away. The loss of a long-time home upon downsizing. The loss of identity from the end of work, or volunteer positions. The loss of physical capabilities. The loss of economic security in a time of rampant inflation.

All of these losses may cause us to draw back from others, and perhaps from God, out of discouragement or shame, or the idea that “we shouldn’t ought to feel this way”. But as we hear at every funeral, we believe that in death, “life is changed, not ended...” and as the Book of Common Prayer states,

*... Joy [of the certainty of God’s love in Christ]...does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.*

At the beginning of November we rejoice with – and mourn – those great Saints of the Church, who have shown us what a life of faith looks like, and remember also our own beloved dead. The celebration of All Saints Day and All Souls day, are usually rolled into one on the Sunday following as All Saints Sunday, this year occurring on November 6th.

I invite you to enter into this period of remembering, of acknowledging our grief and our gratitude, and to share with others what losses and blessings you are experiencing, and to give thanks for our Christian trust in God, who wipes the tears from every eye, who cannot be separated from us – or from those we mourn by anything in all creation. Not even death.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cathy", followed by a plus sign (+). The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, personal style.

## GRACE SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



As we prepare for Grace Sunday on November 20th, thoughts of reflection topics are before me: precious things; our honest relationship with money; Lazarus and the rich man; on enough and abundance; a testimony of stewardship; on generosity; about humility and giving and receiving. We have a few more weeks of reflection, prayer and discernment regarding our More than Enough stewardship campaign.

This scripture verse calls to mind from 2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

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 Thanksgiving Meals.

When we give out of our abundance, there is always more than enough.

[GIVE](#)

## ALTAR GUILD

### WANT TO SHINE?

Be a star by helping  
the Altar Guild polish brass  
on Saturday November 5th  
from 9 A.M.—11 A.M.



## 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.

During the school day, we 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

## SYRACUSE HOME WORSHIP



Worship at Syracuse Home  
for Evening Prayer is scheduled  
at 3 pm on November 6 & 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.

## TURN BACK TIME.....DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

It's that time of year....to turn back time as  
**Daylight Savings Time ends**  
at 2:00A.M. on Sunday November 6, 2022



## OCTOBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Treasurer Dave Ferrari reported that we are awaiting the final report of the required audit. Our 2023 budget is in progress. The remaining \$30.00 in the Bell Fund will be moved to the Music Fund.
- We are seeking to fill three places on the vestry: a two-year warden term and two three-year member terms.
- Within Vestry Guideposts, we continue to work with our timing. A designated timekeeper will be appointed.
- Grace Sunday is November 20. Be grateful; be generous. A pledge card/giving estimate can be found on our website.
- We have a snow plowing contract.
- November Outreach is filling 10 Thanksgiving Meal baskets. Sign up sheets are in the Welcome Area.
- We received a letter of thanks from Roberts Wesleyan College regarding Jenna Reese's church award, stating they will match this grant. Yeah, Jenna!
- The candle holders will be refurbished and a portable mic will be purchased through Memorial Funds. A memorial donation was received from Jim Makowiec's cousins to rebuild and refurbish the BBQ pit. Our property men added to that.
- The fire extinguishers have been inspected. We will need a replacement fire extinguisher for the organ gallery next year.
- The Amazon Smile sign-up is in process.
- The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for November 22nd 7 P.M.

### **YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR HARVEST DINNER**

November 13th at 12 o'clock at Grace Church

Kindly RSVP to office phone: 315.635.3214

or by email: [Staceywolf08@gmail.com](mailto:Staceywolf08@gmail.com)

Please indicate — dining in, pickup/to go or if you'll need delivery service.



## GLIMPSES FROM OCTOBER: ANIMAL BLESSING & BUNCO! WINNERS



## 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](http://GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org).



### 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](mailto:Music@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org)



## A NOTE OF THANKS

We received a thank you card....

“Grace Church,

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity for Bee Full Food Pantry! The peanut butter donation is greatly appreciated & the Bee Full Families will use it throughout the year!

Take Care,

Sheila Heaton, Bee Full”

## OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/EPISCOPAL PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK

The following information is via About OGR/EPPN Mailed Pamphlet from the Episcopal Church, NY, NY.

*“Expand Your Knowledge: Stay up-to-date on and ask questions about current legislation and policy during our Weekly Network Calls Thursdays 1:00-1:30pm ET. Join one of our virtual webinars including the Closer Looks with OGR, or tune in to a virtual (and sometimes in person!) advocacy, civic engagement, or civil discourse training.*

*Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse: Equip yourself for more constructive political conversations using Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse. Help bridge partisan divides, learn from others, and enlarge the sacred space for healthy dialogue.*

*Misinformation, Disinformation, Fake News: Why Do We Care? : As Christians, we are not called to a life of half-truths and deception. We are called to follow a God who is “the way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6). The Prayer Book also teaches that among our duties to our neighbors is “to be honest and fair in our dealings” and to “speak truth, and not mislead others by our silence” (pg. 848). None of us is immune to the deception of misinformation, let us therefore examine our own conduct to limit the spread of deceitful information and call upon our leaders to work towards the same. Learn more and equip yourself to recognize and overcome misinformation in this critical resource. “*

## SUBSCRIBE TO GRACE'S EMAIL NEWS

Want the latest news? We send weekly *Grace Community This Week*, this monthly newsletter *Grace Notes* and periodic other notices. To subscribe from our website, scroll to the bottom of the page, and complete the subscription form. Be sure to reply to the email you receive to complete the process. Unsubscribing is easy, just click the notice at the bottom of any email we've sent you. Contact the parish office with questions.

A blue rectangular button with the text "Sign up" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

## GRACE CHURCH NEEDS YOU !!!

The vestry is essential in helping Grace Episcopal Church continue its mission of "Being a visible sign of Christ's love, seeking and serving Christ in all persons".

We are in need of 2 Vestry Members and a Jr. Warden. Please, pray on it and consider helping out in this very important role. If you have any questions, PLEASE, reach out to a Vestry Member, the Wardens or Mother Cathy.

Thank you, Allen Wolf, Junior Warden

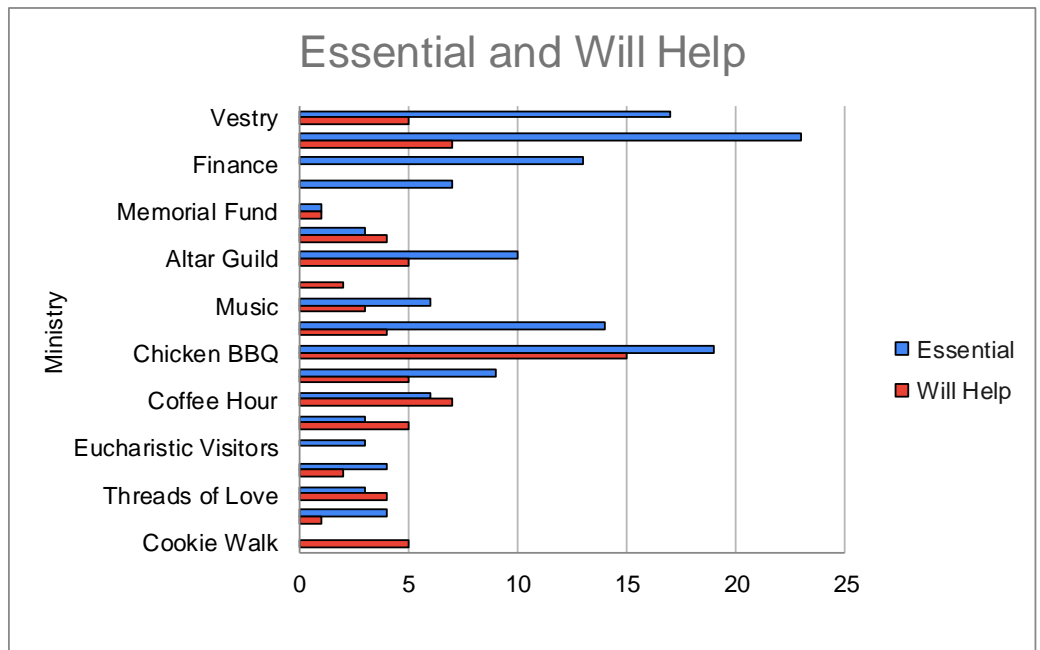
## FOLLOW—UP: MINISTRY MASH UP VERSION 2.0



*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*

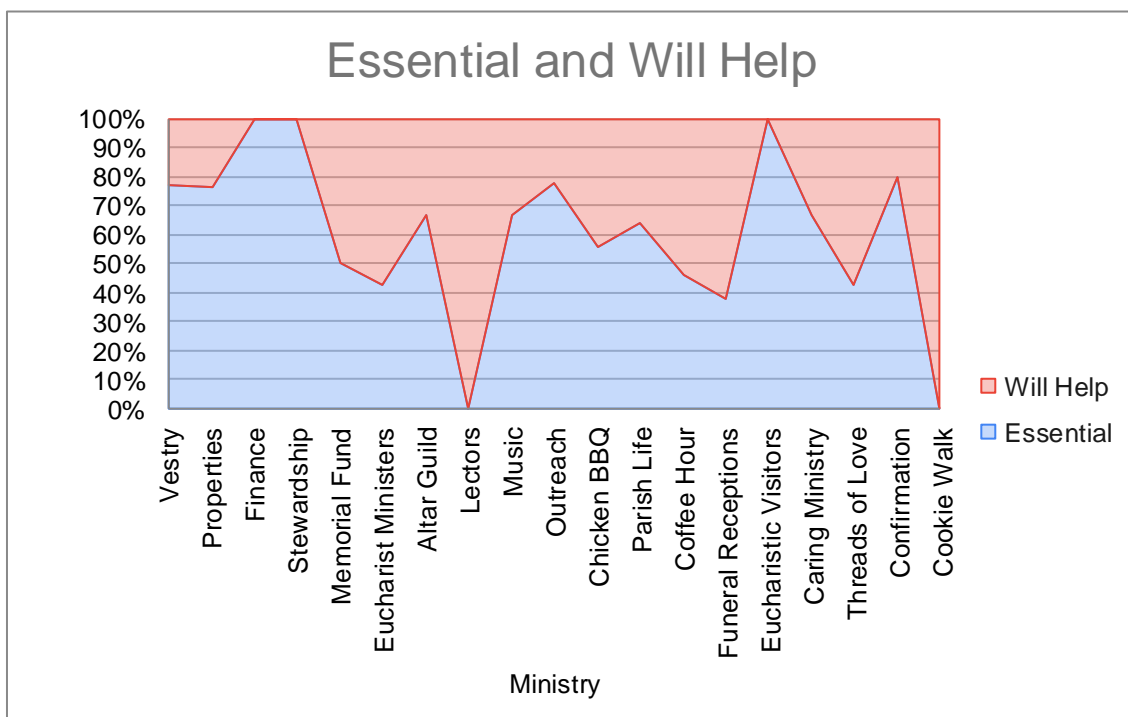
Here are the results from the Ministry Mash Up. The vestry is currently reviewing them to evaluate our ministries and how to best use our resources as a parish.





# FOLLOW — UP: MINISTRY MASH UP VERSION 2.0

| Ministry             | Essential | Will Help | Difference |    |   |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----|---|
| Vestry               |           | 17        | 5          | 12 | Must have ministries to run the church. |
| Properties           |           | 23        | 7          | 16 |   |
| Finance              |           | 13        | 0          | 13 |   |
| Stewardship          |           | 7         | 0          | 7  |   |
| Memorial Fund        |           | 1         | 1          | 0  |   |
| Eucharist Ministers  |           | 3         | 4          | -1 | Worship                                 |
| Altar Guild          |           | 10        | 5          | 5  |   |
| Lectors              |           | 0         | 2          | -2 |   |
| Music                |           | 6         | 3          | 3  |   |
| Outreach             |           | 14        | 4          | 10 |   |
| Chicken BBQ          |           | 19        | 15         | 4  |   |
| Parish Life          |           | 9         | 5          | 4  |   |
| Coffee Hour          |           | 6         | 7          | -1 |   |
| Funeral Receptions   |           | 3         | 5          | -2 |   |
| Eucharistic Visitors |           | 3         | 0          | 3  |   |
| Caring Ministry      |           | 4         | 2          | 2  |   |
| Threads of Love      |           | 3         | 4          | -1 |   |
| Confirmation         |           | 4         | 1          | 3  |   |
| Cookie Walk          |           | 0         | 5          | -5 |   |



## Special Events

### **St. Margaret's Ecumenical & Retreat Center**

**47 Jordan Road**

**New Hartford, NY 13413**

**315.724.2324**

### **Tools for Working Through Holiday Grief**

Join Dave Roberts, MSW, LMSW workshop facilitator with guest panelists to be held at St. Margaret's on November 10th from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.. *'The workshop is designed to provide hope, support, comfort and tools to help those working through holiday grief.'*

Register by November 4th/Donations graciously accepted.

### **Overnight Advent Retreat**

There's an overnight Advent Retreat beginning at 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 4th and concluding at 3:00 P.M. on Monday, December 5th.

Meditations, silence, worship, discussion and the Chaplain will be available for spiritual guidance/conversation during the periods of silence with the *"purpose to help us be more open to the deeper meaning of Advent and Christmas"*. For more information on fees and registration, please refer to the St. Margaret's November & December Newsletter available in the Grace Church Welcome Area.

### **Advent Bible Study**

Join Deacon Barbara Groves for

*Mary Had a Baby* by Cheryl Kirk-Duggan & Marilyn E. Thornton:

An Advent Bible Study based on African American Spirituals

on November 29th, December 6th, 13th and 20th.

Sessions begin at 2:00 P.M. and will be offered in person and via Zoom.

Registrations are due by November 21st.

Donations gladly accepted.

**For Information on these Special Events & More**

**Go to: <https://www.stmargarethouseny.org>**

## NOVEMBER OUTREACH

### Thanksgiving Baskets

The Outreach Committee is asking for your help in gathering food to fill ten baskets to provide the basics for a Thanksgiving dinner for some Head Start families.

We have sign-up sheets in the Welcome Area of the items needed. Please print your name and phone number next to the item(s) you would like to donate, and bring the item(s) to church by November 13th.

Gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked "Thanksgiving Baskets" and delivered to the office. If you choose to provide via our website, please note "Thanksgiving Baskets".

When you bring in your item(s), please place a check mark next to the item(s) from the list you have delivered.

**Please note: The frozen turkeys and pies MUST be left in the downstairs freezer at Grace.**



#### Items Requested for each Basket

- 20 lb turkey
- Bag of stuffing
- 1 can cranberry sauce
- Bag of potatoes
- 2 jars turkey gravy
- 1 family size frozen pumpkin or other pie
- \$20 gift card to a local supermarket

**Thanks for your generosity!**

John 13:35 NIV

*"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,  
if you love one another."*

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**



**Grace Episcopal Church  
P.O. Box 6, 110 Oswego Street  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027 - 0006**