



GRACE NOTES — October 2023

WELCOME TO GRACE EPISCOPAL BALDWINSVILLE
JOIN US & WORSHIP WITH US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM

REFLECTION POOL, BY FATHER JOE HANNAH

We are in the midst of our stewardship campaign, my first as your rector. Most of my experience in this area revolved around contacting the friends and alumni of LeMoyne swimming to provide the resources we needed for extra equipment, travel, or improvements to the infrastructure. The college did not provide everything. Our church, however, is very different in mission and character. An athletic team is, for the most part, limited in scope to working hard and competing well in their sport. Yes, they are often involved in some form of community service, but that is not the prime directive. The church, however, exists to serve!

The visible parts of our church center around our worship services and both our “inreach” and “outreach” ministries. We live in a community which, like many others, is filled with people who are experiencing varying levels of need. There is no shortage of service opportunities to help meet this need, and it depends almost entirely on the resources we have available to do our work as the Body of Christ on earth. One good analogy that I wish was my idea is that the visible church is much like the visible portion of a fruit bearing tree. The trunk, leaves, and branches of a tree provide food (fruit), shelter (leaves and branches) and a foundation (trunk) for all who come into contact with it. The sturdier the trunk and the larger the canopy the more of God’s creatures the tree can serve!

What folks don’t see is the root system. The root system often extends just as far and wide underground as the canopy does above. It is the root system that draws nourishment from the soil to keep the tree growing and healthy. Grace Episcopal Church is “rooted” in Baldwinsville, N.Y.. Grace depends on the generous support of the members and friends who both visibly engage in our various ministries and who also (quietly) provide the “nourishment” we need to continue in those ministries. I have a growing optimism that we can even expand our presence in this town! Everyone I have met is both capable and committed to serve.

We all know that a generous supply of mineral laced groundwater is awesome for a tree but a church requires a more practical form of generosity. To the greatest extent possible, we will strive to not waste a penny and that every effort will be made to make Grace a thriving, faithful, house of worship. Any number of biblical quotes are appropriate here, but I like the following in tandem; “Love your neighbor as yourself” and “Feed my sheep”. Peace, Fr. Joe

SEPTEMBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

September Vestry Meeting Highlights

- Father Joe has been making pastoral care visits to parishioners.
- The stewardship program is in progress; Grace Sunday will be Oct 29th.
- We are phasing out the use of our post office box. Request is now to use our address: 110 Oswego St.
- We had a productive discussion on our worship service format, continuing with the alternating Rite I and Rite II.
- We collected money from parishioners for Maria's farewell purse (as she leaves her post as our communications coordinator).



HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 9:00 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.



GIVE



Thank you to those who continue to support the church by bringing or mailing in your offerings. For those who prefer online giving there's a 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 for special efforts like Thanksgiving Meals.

ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE: GRACE SUNDAY OCTOBER 29

I am so pleased this year to talk about the theme of our annual stewardship campaign, Rooted in Abundance. I am particularly excited about it because it describes the graceful state of our church community, and how we share our gifts so lovingly with each other.

Our giving tradition at Grace Episcopal Church has always been focused on how we share all our gifts. A church needs new ideas, people to lead, individuals who know how to solve problems, and volunteers to keep our ministries focused. We usually talk about this in a three-fold way: Time, talent and treasure. If any one of these areas is missing from our community, we are diminished.

Each of us has a gift. For some it is cooking and baking, others might have beautiful singing voices, we praise those who have an administrative gift of balancing books or counting the collection, we admire those who offer hospitality, who serve at the altar, who keep the buildings and grounds kept up. Whatever your ministries are, we couldn't be who we are without you.

In this year of being in leadership ministry with you, I have witnessed the ways in which you get things done, are willing to try new things and have persevered through a challenging year. BBQ's, dinners, church clean ups, both inside and outside, Sunday service, livestreaming church services, building maintenance, pastoral care, it all happens so wonderfully because you are each deeply connected to each other through your roots of faith and service.

I thank you this year for the ways you have shared your gifts with Grace. Please consider pledging your time, talent and treasure for the upcoming year so we can continue the good work at Grace Episcopal Church.

In gratitude,

Allen Wolf

Senior Warden



OCTOBER OUTREACH HUMANE CNY

This month we are collecting needed items for HumaneCNY.

Items from their wish list include:

Purina One Sensitive Skin & Stomach Dry cat food

Pate style Wet cat food

Purina One Pro Plan Dry & Wet dog food

Laundry detergent, bleach, dish and hand soap

Paper towels and toilet paper

30 gallon or larger trash bags

Flat sheets, comforters and towels

Postage stamps

Please NO cat litter, as they currently have a surplus.

Monetary donations to HumaneCNY (via their website) are always appreciated due to their ever-increasing animal medical expenses. The money always goes directly to medical care for their animals. For more information, contact Sue Purdy.

GLIMPSES OF SEPTEMBER OUTREACH

Grace Church Baldwinsville assisted with the meal service shift at the Samaritan Center on Sunday, September 24th during which 201 meals were served. Parishioners who helped were Nancy Fredette, Joy Pople, Laura Moreau and Sue Purdy, along with a friend Denise Ballou from St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The Samaritan Center staff greatly appreciated our many donations to their Basic Needs Items Closet. Thank you!



The Summons

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.

Copyright © 1987, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. agent



Peace,
love,
gratitude
& blessings,

Maria Jackson ☩

TRICK OR TREAT AT GRACE

On Saturday, October 21 the GBCC is sponsoring a Halloween trick or treat event from 2-4 PM in the downtown area along Route 31. We are not located "downtown" but fear not, we have reserved space at the B'ville public library, so Grace will be in the midst of things! We will give the children little treat bags filled with the "good stuff", along with a cookie cutter and a card with information about Grace on one side and a child-friendly cookie recipe on the other. My neighbor is even building a scarecrow ready to be stuffed with hay for the event. We'll bring it to church to put on display at the end of the day. A generous lady named Missy Shipman is donating the cookie cutters and cards and we will need a handful of volunteers to fill bags and/or be present that Saturday. More details will emerge after the Outreach meeting October 12. Let's connect with as many folks as we can! Fr. Joe

EMAIL INFO

Fr. Joe

rector@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org

Sr. Warden: Allen Wolf

seniorwarden@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org

Jr. Warden: Brad Pettit

juniorwarden@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org

FYI

While we are searching for a new communications coordinator, many tasks are being completed by volunteers. Things might be a little delayed, might look a little different, or might have to be put aside. If you are interested in helping out with any of the tasks, like next months Grace Notes for instance, please contact us. If you know of someone that would make a good communications coordinator, please pass the information on to them. Thanks, Allen W.



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

Are you in need of Safe Church Training/Renewal? Plan on attending Saturday October 14th from 9am-1pm with lunch being served at St. James Church—24 Lake Street in Pulaski. Pre-Register by leaving a message on the answering machine at 315.298.2106. Please leave your full name, parish and your phone number; then notify Fr. Joe and Sue Purdy via email of your reservation.

WEATHER POLICY

Our office will be closed when Baldwinsville schools are closed due to weather. Weekend closures will be announced via email, posting on our website, Facebook page, and on local media.

From the Garden of Grace... SOWING, PLANTING, GROWING & COMMUNITY



Joy Pople is a mentor for Belinda, a young woman with developmental disabilities. Belinda has been helping Joy care for the Garden of Grace and harvest produce to share with the community. Here are veggies we harvested September 18th for Head Start and a photo she took that same day at Beaver Lake, where we savor the peace and beauty of nature.



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS – TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!

Parish Life is hosting Trivia Night on October 28 starting at 6pm

Please eat dinner before you come...
you'll need energy to keep up with your teammates.

Prizes will be awarded to winning teams.

Join us and invite your friends too!

Fun will be had by all!

Snacks will be served following the game.

Sign up on sheet in the Welcome Area!



ALTAR GUILD



We are looking for new members and all are welcome to learn more about this ministry.

Contact Susan Allen for more information.

MORE INFO....

- ◇ The 155th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York occurs online on October 21st. The Rev. Joe Hannah will be attending along with Nancy, Barb and Ashley as delegates from Grace Church Baldwinsville.



- ◇ If you are interested in joining the Advent Book Study, please contact Fr. Joe Hannah via email with your interest. Fr. Joe will release the title of the study soon!



Want the latest news? We send *This Week at Grace*, 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

- ⇒ October 9th Office closed due to Holiday
- ⇒ October 10th: Parish Life & Parish Work Night 7 P.M.
- ⇒ October 12th: Outreach Meeting 3 P.M.
- ⇒ October 16th: November Grace Notes submissions due via email
- ⇒ October 18th: Finance Meeting 7 P.M.
- ⇒ October 21st : Diocesan Convention & **GBCC Trick or Treat? - remove if not**
- ⇒ October 25th: Vestry Meeting 7 P.M.
- ⇒ October 28th: Trivia Night 6 P.M.
- ⇒ October 29th: Grace Sunday