



GRACE NOTES

APRIL 2024



THE REFLECTING POOL

A few years ago on a day near the end of March or the very beginning of April I had a chance conversation with a neighbor of mine. Here in Central New York the earliest days of Spring are marked by mostly bare ground, a lot of mud, and vegetation that is not yet in bloom. My neighbor and I agreed that it can be "an ugly time of year". That is for two reasons. First, there is not a lot of vibrant color. We see a lot of gray, brown, and faded green. Lawns are still matted down and there is frequently snow-plow damage along our roads. Second, and more disturbingly, there is a lot of trash revealed by the melting snow. Some of it is incidental, blown by the wind out of people's driveways on garbage day or out of the back of passing garbage trucks. Sadly, much of it is deliberate. We see everything from food wrappers (and uneaten food) all the way up to tires and furniture littering our roads and waterways. Ugly indeed.

In Genesis we are called upon to work and take care of the Earth. As stewards of the Earth we are obligated to conserve and renew it whenever possible. Indeed there are some cultures in the world who have learned to live in harmony with nature. Others, however, are slower to catch on to the need for healthy resource management and conservation. As a result, much environmental damage has been done and there are millions of tons of discarded plastic in every nook and cranny of our ecosystem. As is the case with every large problem we have to start small and lead by example whenever possible. It is springtime, and we are people of the resurrection! As the land awakens we can do our part to beautify and sustain it. On April 14th after the service we will have a

Grace pickup day for our church property and the surrounding area. Garbage bags will be provided. We are checking on the proper protocols for safety. Everything from Oswego St. over to the school grounds and up and down our section of Oswego St. is fair game. We can even make this a quarterly event! In Jeremiah 2:7 God says, "And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination." The created world is one of our God given blessings. We are stewards of both our faith and the planet upon which we live. In the BCP there are marvelous prayers for the natural order on pgs 827 and 828. Prayer 41 on page 827 is simple and elegant.

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on Earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them. And that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Let's make Jerimiah (and God!) proud.

Fr. Joe



ANNUAL COOK OFF RESULTS ARE IN!

More than 20 people attended, sampled, and judged this year's delights. Besides the winners, other entries included Guinness stew, Guinness dip with pretzels, Irish mashed potatoes, chocolate covered strawberries, soda bread cookies, and Guinness brownies. These other goodies were made by Jeannie LaMere, Joy Pople, and Dan and Carla Wiemers. Thanks to all for participating and thank you to Jeannie LaMere for arranging the prizes.

Erin go Bragh

3rd place was awarded to Ashley McNamara– Colcannon

2nd place went to Ann Makowiec– Soda bread

1st place Grand Prize to Sue Allen– Potato Soup

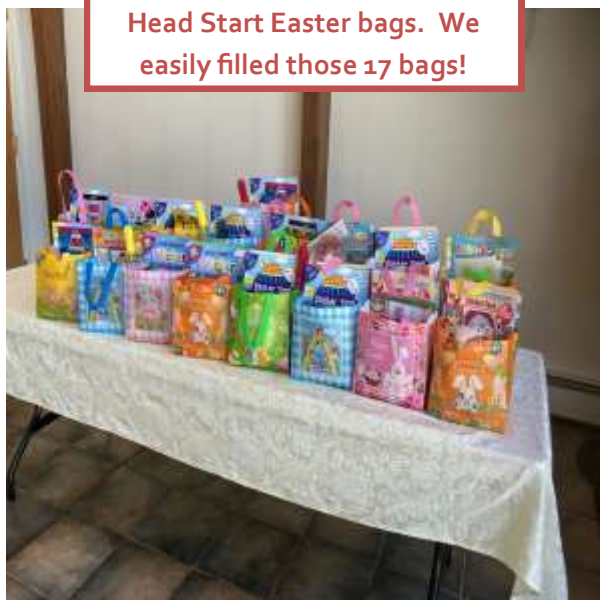


MARCH VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- We are exploring ways to either upgrade or replace our church kitchen stove due to potential safety concerns.
- Emma Wolf will resume our summer church lawn care.
- **We are searching for 2 candidates and an alternate for the '24 Diocesan Convention. If interested, contact Fr Joe or a vestry member.**
- We are renewing our membership in the Baldwinsville Chamber of Commerce.

OUTREACH

Thank you to all who donated the many wonderful items for the Head Start Easter bags. We easily filled those 17 bags!



Thank you eggs from the kids in Head Start. You can check them out on the Bulletin Board in the church entrance.



TIME TO SPRUCE THINGS UP!



EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

On April 14th we will be participating in an Earth Day clean up to pick up trash around the church and Neighborhood after the service.

CHURCH CLEAN UP

Our annual outdoor pruning, weeding and mulching will be on May 5th, following the service.



Bring your garden gloves & any tools you feel would be helpful.

HELP WANTED:

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.

Also needed are volunteers to run our livestream at the worship services. No particular technical skill is needed,. Training and resources will be provided.

The counters and altar guild would love some help too!

We also need someone to help with our annual audits.

Please reach out if you feel you could help out in any of these areas. Thanks!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Phill Sterling on being inducted into the Baldwinsville Community Hall of Fame for the Visual and Performing arts on Wednesday, April 17th. More information can be found on the poster in the Welcome area or by clicking [here](#).

WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 A.M. Alternating Holy Eucharist
Rite 1 & 2

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

ALLEN'S SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS

TUES 5:00—6:00 ISH WED 6:00PM -?
office@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org



The 57th Annual Chicken BBQ



will be held on June 1st

There is another planning meeting on April 14th after the Sunday service. More information and sign ups coming soon!

HAPPY EASTER AND BAPTISM!



The new fire from the
Easter Vigil.



Easter flowers, they smelled and
looked wonderful!



Welcome into the household of God
Noah and Owen, baptized on Easter.



Grace Church Commemorative Brick Order Form

Each year Grace celebrates our Commemorative Brick Dedication in September, usually on the Sunday nearest September 11. 4" x 8" bricks are engraved with a name or message, and installed around our flag pole. There are **3 lines with a maximum of 14 characters per line, including spaces and symbols**. On Brick Sunday the bricks are dedicated in a short ceremony following the service. Because of the lead time needed for this process, the date for submitting brick orders is July 22nd. The donation for each brick is \$50/brick. You may use the form below, and pay by check made to Grace Church, or through the green GIVE button on our Home Page. Please note your donation as "Brick". Below enter each line exactly as it should appear. Note that contents are subject to the approval of the vestry. Questions? Please contact the parish office.

Note that you must fill out a separate order form for each brick ordered.

I wish for my Commemorative Brick to Read:

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Please complete the following in the event we need to contact you with questions on your order.

Name:

Best Contact Info:
