# The Reflection Pool

This fall marks my fourth Turkey Day Race at Grace Episcopal Church, as well as my fourth stewardship campaign. There are many similarities between the two, as well as some profound differences.

First, the similarities.

1. Both the race and the campaign are predictable. They come around every year.
2. Everyone involved in both events participates to the best of their ability, which is all you can ask for.
3. Both running and stewardship benefit from a slogan or a phrase to stir up the blood and get participants psyched! This year for stewardship it's Plenty Good Room. I won't tell you - yet- my one for running.
4. Both events have a finish line. The finish line for stewardship moves around a little bit, but that's okay.
5. In the end, everyone involved is (hopefully) satisfied, knowing that you did your best, not only as an individual, but also for your team. It is perfectly fine to think of Grace as a team!

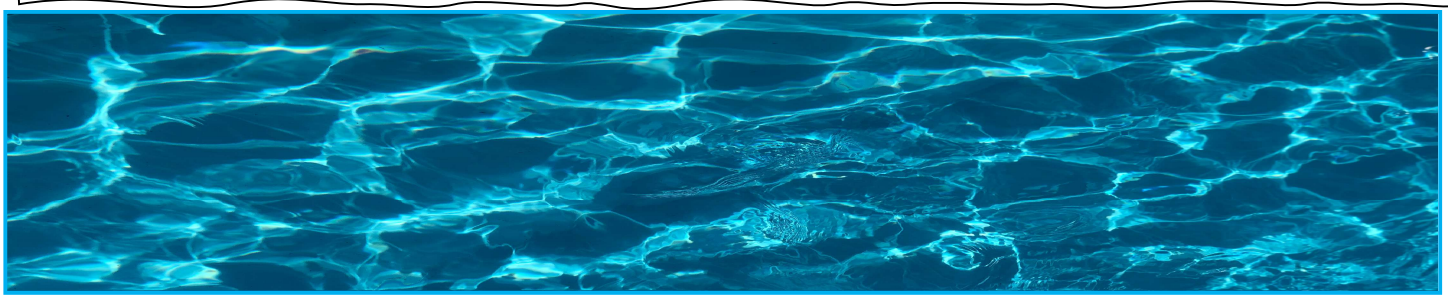
Now for the differences:

1. Running is weather dependent. Stewardship is not.
2. Running a really good race hurts! We do not want our stewardship campaign to hurt anyone.
3. The results of a running race are there for all to see. They match up your number with a time and publish it online. Your stewardship contributions are (mostly) anonymous, and we are forever grateful!
4. Running benefits fitness. Your contributions to Grace benefit so much more! There is food, clothing, pastoral care, and living out God's love in our community. We can even come up with a few new things if (and when) we set our minds to it!
5. In stewardship youth does not give anyone an advantage. We are all on a level playing field.

So, let's bring it on home and make our pledges to honor God and the God we see in each other!

Peace, Fr. Joe

P.S. Footwear is optional



# October Vestry Minutes

●Lease agreements for use of space- Lease letter will be sent out soon to organizations using our facility. Fees were decided for each organization.

●Stewardship- 30 letters were hand delivered on Sunday and 34 more were mailed. They can be returned by mail or put in the collection plate.

●Church cleaning- There are multiple local services available and at least 3 will be contacted for estimates.

●Snow plow bid was accepted with NE Landscape Association.

●We have envelopes already for 2027. Vestry discussed and agreed that envelopes are needed.

We need to recruit an "on call" person to unlock the church and be present for inspections/etc.

November meeting- New date will be November 19,2026

# Upcoming Events

**Grace Sunday and All Saints Day** will be on November 1st.

**Harvest Brunch** will be on November 8th after the service.

**CPR class**- Stacey W. will lead a CPR classes on November 15th after the service. Spaces have all been filled.

**Turkey Trot** is on Thanksgiving Day at 9 a.m.

# OUTREACH

We will be collecting the following items on 10/25, 11/1 & 11/8 for Bee Full Pantry.

Instant Potatoes, Pumpkin Pie Filling, Canned Cranberry Sauce, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Pumpkin Quick Bread, Canned Green Beans, French Fried Onions and Stuffing Mix.

# Parish Directories

If you have not picked up your parish directory, please reach out to the office to arrange picking it up.
If you are not in the directory and would like to be included in a future update, please let the C.C. know

# WANTED!

## VESTRY MEMBERS

**ARE YOU CALLED TO LEAD?**

The work of the vestry has two faces: leadership and management. Management includes such tasks as: budgeting, establishing and enforcing policies and procedures, establishing action plans, maintaining property. Leadership includes such tasks as articulating and communicating the vision for the future of the parish, generating enthusiasm and "buy-in" from the congregation, and as needed, taking personal responsibility for ensuring ad hoc or permanent committees carry out their assigned work.

**Vestry members should be able to make the following commitments:**

·Vestry meetings (1x per month, plus occasional additional meetings as needed);
·Vestry retreat (annual);
·Regular attendance at worship services
·Support congregational events: coffee hours, meals, fundraisers, adult education 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.

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO ANY VESTRY MEMBER FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

# Pet Blessing and Trick or Treat

Pets were blessed, there was much sniffing, dogs frolicked and no cats were harmed. Then later in October A LOT of candy was handed out at the Trick or Treating in Baldwinsville. All are truly welcomed!


















# A Thoughtful Way to Fulfill Your Annual Pledge

*Qualified Charitable Distributions from an IRA*

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As we consider how best to support the ministry and mission of our parish, I wanted to share a giving option that may be especially helpful for parishioners who are age 70½ or older: a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). A QCD can be a tax-efficient way to fulfill some or all of your annual parish pledge while supporting the work of our church.

**How does a QCD work?**
If you are eligible, you can ask your IRA custodian to send a distribution directly from your IRA to our parish. When the transfer meets IRS requirements, the amount may be excluded from your taxable income. This can be useful whether or not you itemize deductions. A QCD is generally not claimed again as a charitable deduction.

**Important details to keep in mind**
• You must be at least age 70½ on the date of the distribution.
• The gift generally must be transferred directly by the IRA trustee or custodian to an eligible charitable organization; a check payable to you does not qualify.
• Not every type of retirement account or every payment qualifies, and special rules apply. Confirm eligibility and current limits with your tax adviser or IRA custodian.
• Let the parish office know that the transfer is intended for your annual pledge, so it can be properly identified and credited.

**Why consider this approach?**
For some parishioners, a QCD can support the parish while reducing the amount of income included on a federal tax return. Your circumstances will determine whether it is beneficial, so please seek advice from a qualified tax professional before making a transfer.

> **A simple next step:** Contact your IRA custodian and ask about making a Qualified Charitable Distribution to our parish. Before initiating the gift, confirm the parish's correct legal name, mailing or transfer instructions, and any details needed to ensure your pledge is credited.

I hope this information is helpful as you prayerfully consider your annual giving. Thank you for the many ways you sustain our parish community and its ministry.

With gratitude,

A Fellow Parishioner

*This article is for general educational purposes only and is not tax, legal, or financial advice. Tax rules and limits can change; consult a qualified professional about your individual circumstances.*



## ATTENTION Cookie Bakers!

Grace Church will again be playing host to the Baldwinsville Community Band Holiday Concert on Wednesday, December 16. Cookie boxes/trays will be available for purchase before the concert starting at 5:30-7pm and then following the concert @ 8pm.

We would appreciate it if all of our families would bake their favorite festive Christmas cookies, fudge or other treats to be sold at the sale. If you could provide 4-6 dozen of your favorites, it would be most helpful in making our sale a success.

**Mark your calendars with these IMPORTANT DATES!**

*Dec 5 - 10am-12pm come help us flood your sugar & gingerbread cut-out cookies for decorating

*Dec 6 - 10:30am-12:30pm come help with the final decorating of cut-out cookies

*Dec 6 - 12:30-1:30pm clean-up and freezer wrapping decorated cookies

*Dec 8 - 5:30pm men's bake night. A light meal will be provided. Come help make the renowned turtles, rum balls and more.

*Dec 13,15 - Cookie Drop off @ church

*Dec 15 - Packaging cookies for sale

*Dec 16 - Annual Baldwinsville Community Band Holiday Concert and Grace Cookie Sale We're including 2 of our tested recipes for you if you don't have a favorite for sugar or gingerbread cookies. Remember, ALL festive cookies are NEEDED, not just cut-outs! If you are doing cut-outs that WE will be decorating, please limit it to circles, trees, gingerbread men and star shapes.

Sign-Up sheets will soon be available in the Welcome Area for needed volunteers and more information. We appreciate any and all help with this fund raiser!

Co Chairs: Kelly Hamilton - ckhamilton25@gmail.com
Sue Allen - skeetand sue@yahoo.com
Jeannie LaMere - jeannielamere@gmail.com



## Sugar Cookies:

1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup confectioner's sugar
1 cup unsalted butter
1 cup vegetable oil
2 lg eggs, lightly beaten
1 tsp vanilla extract
5 & ½ cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp cream of tartar
1 tsp baking soda

- Cream the sugars and butter. Add the oil, blend in eggs and vanilla. Beat well. Sift dry ingredients and add to the sugar mixture.
- Chill dough for at least 6 hrs.
- Heat oven to 350.
- Roll dough to ¼ inch thick and cut into shapes
- Bake for 8-10 minutes

## Gingerbread Cookies:

⅔ cup plus2 &½ Tbs ofunsalted butter
½ cup packed light brown sugar
2 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp cinnamon
¼ tsp ground cloves
1 & ½ tsp salt
1 lg egg
¾ cup dark molasses
3 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp baking powder

- Cream butter and sugar together. Add spices, salt, egg, and molasses and beat well. Sift flour, baking soda and baking powder, add to butter mixture.
- Chill several hours
- Heat oven to 350
- Roll dough ¼ inch thick. Cut into shapes
- Bake 8-10 minutes

## Easy Chocolate Fudge (only 3 ingredients)

2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
14 oz, can sweetened condensed milk 1 tsp vanilla extract

- Line a 9X9 inch square pan with parchment or wax paper.
- Melt the chocolate chips with condensed milk either on stove top or microwave (be careful not to heat too high) and stir
- Stir in vanilla and spread evenly in pan
- Cool fudge to room temperature or cool briefly in fridge before cutting (not too long or Chocolate will crack when cutting)
- Store in an airtight container at room temp or in fridge

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Important Info
&
How to



**Clergy**

**Rector:** Rev. Dr. Joseph Hannah / 315-935-4198 / rector@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
**Deacon:** Rev. Linda Murdock / 252-658-0273 / deacon@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

**Staff**

**Communication Coordinator:** Allen Wolf / office@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org / 315-635-3214
**Sexton** : Cathy McClain **Organist** : Phill Sterling

**Vestry**

**Wardens** : Senior Warden -- Stacey Wolf / seniorwarden@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
Junior Warden — Tina Santy / juniorwarden @GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
**Vestry Members:** Laura Moreau, Skeet Allen, Cindy Adamowsky, Nancy Fredette, Ken Souser, Adam Zaczowski
**Treasurer**: Tina Santy --Finance@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
**Clerk:** Jennie LaMere --vestryclerk@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

**Office Hours:**

**Allen's Scheduled Office Hours:** Tuesday 5-7 Wednesday 6-8 Hours may change!
**Church Address**: 110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 / Phone #: 315 635 3214
**Website**: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

## How to reach the office for Prayer Requests, Altar Flower Donations and to Publicize an Event.

- Links to on-line forms are included in the weekly email.
- There are forms in the welcome area that you can fill out and leave in the box on the sign up table.
- You can call the office at 315-635-3214 or email office@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org.

**Deadlines**

**Requests for additions to TWAG, our weekly email newsletter are due by 5PM on Tuesday.**
**Flower requests must be made at lease two weeks in advance.**

### Altar Flowers

Flowers can be donated in memory of or in celebration of. Donation cost is $40 per Sunday. You can submit flower payment by putting it in the Sunday collection plate or online at our website by clicking the green give button. Be sure to note it as flower dedication.

### Mission Statement

To be a visible sign of Christ's love, seeking and serving Christ in all persons.

### TWAG

Did you know that TWAG stands for This Week at Grace, our weekly newsletter?

### Calendar

The church calendar is on our website. Please check the calendar before scheduling an event and let the office know of any calendar changes to posted events.
Thank You!

### Bulletins

You can find the weekly bulletins on the website by clicking on the bulletin tab at the top of the page.

### Sign Ups

The sign up sheet for lectors, readers, live streamers, and hospitality hosts can be found on the small table in the welcome area.

**Website www.GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org**

Go to our website to sign up for our E-news (TWAG) at the bottom of the page. Donate or pay your pledge by clicking the green give button. Find links to our Facebook and You Tube pages at the top right hand corner of the website. View the calendar and find useful information about things at Grace. See the weekly bulletin and Grace Notes. Find out about upcoming events. Find contact information.

**Worship**

Sunday 9:00 A.M. Alternating Holy Eucharist Rite 1 & 2
Rev. Dr. Joseph Hannah
Rector@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org

Wednesday 10:00 A.M. Morning Prayer
Deacon Rev. Linda Murdock

**Office**

Allen's Scheduled Office Hours Tues 5:00—7:00 Wed 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
Please note that hours may change!
office@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org 315-635-3214