

The Means of Grace

The Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church

"Your very lives are a letter that anyone can read by just looking at you. Christ himself wrote it—not with ink, but with God's living Spirit; not chisled into stone, but carved into human lives—and we publish it."

2 Corinthians 3:2-3



May 2010

Sundays

8:00 am HE Rite I
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am HE Rite II
11:30 am Coffee Time

Dear friends,

Imagine you are on a long journey. Family, friends, acquaintances and even strangers have joined the expedition. You have some idea of the mysterious destination, but no real sense of quite how long you'll take to get there, or what you'll encounter along the way. You anticipate the ultimate arrival with patient eagerness, but also hope the journey will be long and fruitful.

As you struggle to remain focused on both the destination, and on what the journey itself has to teach, what else would you do to pass the time? Hopefully, you might get to know your fellow travelers. Introductions, conversations, anecdotes – the sharing of stories – might define the journey and set its pace.

In a very real sense, the members of this congregation are already on such a journey, a pilgrimage of indeterminate length, often passing through uncertain waters. Grace Church is our vessel, and we are at once both its passengers and crew.

As we embark on the Parish Pilgrimage that will occur simultaneously with Jack and Ben's travels this summer, be on the lookout for opportunities for you to share your story. You'll be invited to one of a series of casual social dinners designed to allow us to introduce - or in some cases, reintroduce ourselves - to one another. Put simply, we think this summer is a great time for us to visit and get to know one another better. Your story of Grace Church might be a long one, tied to its rich history, or you might be just starting on the first chapter, but if you are reading this, you are a part of the Pilgrimage.

One might start a conversation by asking, "What does Grace Church mean to you?" The answers to that question may have common themes, but would be as varied as our fingerprints. One could also learn something by asking, "What do you mean to Grace Church?" Be certain, whether your family has been a part of Grace for decades or if you have attended a service only once, you mean something to Grace Church. Our Church is more than the holy ground upon which a building is built with brick and stained glass; it is also the sum total of its members. Its fabric is a tapestry woven from the stories of our lives. This summer, please accept an invitation to gather and share some of your stories. By doing so, you'll be helping to continue to build Grace Church.

Nathan Cox
Sabbatical Committee

NEWCOMERS



Please welcome Norma Legere and her son, Kevin to Grace Church. Norma and her husband, Leo, are from Maine but have lived in Maryland for about twenty years before coming to Anderson. The Legere's moved into their new home in Piedmont last June. Norma is a retired Registered Nurse and enjoys reading. Kevin graduated from Frostberg State College in Maryland majoring in Education and is now working in Information Technology for the Anderson Independent Mail. Kevin was born in Alaska and has five siblings: one in North Carolina, one in Greer, and three in Maryland. Both Norma and Kevin have become welcomed members of the Grace Church choir.



Please welcome Justin and Leah Durham to Grace Church. Leah grew up in Charleston, SC and earned an undergraduate degree in Music Education from Furman University and a Masters degree in Choral Conducting from LSU. Justin is from Oklahoma but moved to Kentucky by high school age. Justin earned undergraduate and Masters degrees in Music Education from Murray State in Kentucky and a PHD in Choral Conducting from LSU. Justin is the Director of Choral Activities at Clemson and Leah teaches Elementary Music at Townville and Mt. Lebanon schools. Justin and Leah were married last July and live in their new home in Pendleton where they enjoy yard work, spicy cooking, and traveling. They have become members of Grace Church and have both joined the choir.

Tip of the Verge !

Barbara Scott, Verger

The Hymnal 1982

The next time you pick up *The Hymnal 1982* (hereinafter referred to as the Hymnal) from the rack in your pew, take note (no pun intended) that the music is an integral part of our worship in the Episcopal Church. The Hymnal sets to music some of the readings and prayers that are included in both Rite I and Rite II Liturgies in our church.

We usually first make use of the Hymnal in Rite II at the beginning Procession. This hymn, and all others used throughout the service, are selected based on the Revised Common Lectionary and are befitting of the scripture readings and prayers assigned for a given Sunday in the church calendar. Really – we don't just pull these off the list of our favorites – or yours, for that matter. There are guidelines. The music is selected by collaboration between the priest and the choir. There are usually three main hymns during our regular church service – the beginning Procession, the Gospel hymn, and the retiring Procession. Congregational hymns are also used during the Communion (as listed in the bulletin) along with the occasional Communion anthem performed by the choir or a soloist.

Then, there is the Service Music, i.e., the *Gloria* (Song of Praise) S-280, the *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy) S-130, and the *Fraction Anthem* (Jesus, Lamb of God) S-164, etc. All this "Service Music" is located in the Hymnal in a separate section before the numbered hymns and is selected as appropriate to the church season. The "S" before a hymn number in the bulletin stands for "Service" music and indicates that the music is found in the Service Music section of the Hymnal.

Many of you read music, and it is quite useful to turn to the S-numbered pages in the Hymnal and read the music as you sing the words to these special musical offerings. It is one of the ways we all make a joyful noise unto the Lord! It is an important part of our worship.

The St Catherine's ladies will meet at the home of Libby Christeson for their annual picnic. The picnic will be held on **Monday, May 10, 2010 at Noon**. Her address is: 104 Pine Forest Drive in Anderson, and she can be reached at (864) 225-0058. Please bring the covered dish that you signed up to bring. This will be a fun day of food and fellowship, and our last meeting before the summer break. See you there!!

Special Speaker on May 23rd - Pentecost

The Rev. Lauren R. Stanley is an Appointed Missionary of The Episcopal Church serving in the Diocese of Haiti, the largest diocese in the Church. Since the January 12th earthquake, she has been serving as an assistant to Bishop Jean Zache Duracin, assigned to coordinate relief and recovery efforts among the international partners of the Diocese of Haiti, as well as with Episcopal Relief and Development. Prior to the earthquake, she assisted on the Partnership Program, worked on development issues, taught English at the Theological Seminary and assisted the Bishop.

Before moving to Haiti in August 2009, she spent four years, from 2005 to 2009, serving as the Episcopal Church's only full-time missionary in Sudan, where she taught Theology, English, Liturgics and Biblical Greek at the Renk Theological College in Renk, South Sudan. A priest of the Diocese of Virginia and a graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary (1997) she served at numerous parishes in Dioceses of Virginia and Bethlehem (Pa.), specializing in mission work both domestic and foreign before becoming a full-time missionary. She is the author of the *Short-Term Mission Handbook*, written for the Diocese of Virginia, and is a national columnist writing about God's presence in our lives. Before ordination, Stanley was a journalist for 20-plus years, as well as a Peace Corps volunteer serving in Kenya in the mid-1980s.



Special Coffee Hour—on May 23rd

Come join us for a birthday celebration coffee hour **on May 23rd**. Find the table that has the month of your birth. Share in the eating of the cake with others who have the same birthday month as you. Meet new friends or reacquaint yourself with past friends.

MEMORIALS

March 16, 2010 April 15, 2010

In Memory of *Allen J. Dye* by:
Betty Antonakos

HONORARIUMS

Received March 16, 2010 through April 15, 2010

In Honor of *Beau Langer* to the Pastoral Care Fund by:
Lily Roland Hall

In Honor of *Gill Powell* to the Pastoral Care Fund by:
Lily Roland Hall

In Honor of *Bill Ducuworth* to the Choir/Music Fund by:
Barbara Davis

If donors prefer to remain anonymous, please indicate this with your Memorial or Honorarium.

Wednesday Night Suppers

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| April 28th | Christian Formation—Catered |
| May 5th | EYC—Mexican |
| May 12th | Pastoral Care—Catered |
| May 19th | Parish Life—Catered |
| May 26th | Vestry |

Welcome Newly Baptized Members

Emily Pinckney Boulware
Molly Parker Grover
Andrew Lee Eady
Angel Hope Dutton
Adam Wayne Eady

To the parishes of St George's and Grace Church:

The Lord be with you . . . and also with you.

Once these words are spoken, we are immediately comforted by the fact that we are among friends in Christ, that we have a connection and a sense of family with these people. That's how it is in a community like Anderson. There is family among us in this community, the family of St. George's Episcopal Church and Grace Episcopal Church.

As with all families, we go through tough times. St. George's is experiencing such a time. The long term future of St. George's is in doubt. The vestry of St. George's has worked hard to come up with every possible solution to enable them to continue forward.

The Rectors, the Executive Committees and vestries of both St. George's and Grace are exploring different avenues our families could take together. The purpose of this letter is to let both congregations know that this conversation is taking place. The extent and shape of this partnership is yet to be determined. Of course, any formal agreement would need not only the approval of both vestries, but also the blessing of the Bishop and Standing Committee of our Diocese.

Any decisions will be prayerfully made so as to be mutually beneficial to both communities. The discernment will take place over a period of time, be public, and open to feedback and concerns.

Please pray for the clergy, leadership and communities of both parishes as we invite the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire.

In the name of the Father who creates, the Son who redeems and the Holy Spirit who renews, the one God in whom we are one, sharing life and ministry,

The vestries and clergy of the Episcopal parishes of St. George's and Grace Church.

Grace Word of the Month

Pentecost

Pentecost is from ancient Greek and means the fiftieth day. Pentecost is celebrated seven weeks (50 days) after Easter Sunday, hence its name. Pentecost falls on the tenth day after [Ascension Thursday](#). It is one of the prominent feasts in the Christian [liturgical year](#) and commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ. Because this event signified the beginning of the apostles' public proclamation of Jesus as the Christ, it is often called the birthday of the church. The feast is also called Whitsun, Whitsunday, Whit Sunday, or Whitsuntide, especially in the United Kingdom (and with Father Jack). The color of the day is red.

Confirmation

Any youth age 15 or older interested in being confirmed at the Bishop's visit on October 3rd should meet in the high school Sunday school classroom 9:15 am on May 2nd.

The Sending Forth Service for our graduating senior will be **May 16th at 10:30.**

May 23rd will be the last day of Sunday School.

Any suggestions for adult classes, please forward to Lyn Merchant, lmerchant864@bellsouth.net or 864.225.8011.

Interested in CONFIRMATION or CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

Or in learning more about Christianity? Then this class is for you: Episcopal Christianity. We will be meeting Sunday mornings at 9:15 starting August 22nd through September 26th. Depending on class size we will meet either in the Rector's office or the parlor. Bishop Waldo will have his first Episcopal visitation with us on Sunday October 3rd. If you have already taken this class and would like to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church call the parish office to let us know.

2010 Diocesan Leadership Days

www.edusc.org/Leadership

June 5th, 9-4

All Saints, Clinton SC

The Commission on Congregations and the bishop-elects invite you to gather with other like-sized congregations. This will be a time for worship, sharing your congregational story, listening to the stories of other faith communities, participating in interest groups around common topics, and entering into dialogue with our new Bishop about the ministry we all share in the diocese of Upper South Carolina.

Each congregation will be given 10-15 minutes to tell its story in whatever format works for your community. We are you, what makes you unique, how are you known in your wider community? Come share your greatest challenges and growing edges and inspire others with your greatest strengths and joys.

All clergy, elected lay leadership (wardens, vestry, and delegates) and lay staff are encouraged to attend one of these events. Each congregation will be expected to RSVP the total of participants. A \$5 per person fee will be requested to assist with the cost of meals.

Thoughts from the Rector:

Hey all,

Just some thoughts as I'm heading off on sabbatical.

- 1) First- thanks for letting me be your priest for the past six years, the best years of my life so far, and for the opportunities that this sabbatical brings for me, my family and the parish.
- 2) Give Julie Bates, our Senior Warden, lots of love and support and prayers, be quick to offer her a hand.
- 3) I know that many are curious about the conversation with St. George's and what this means for Grace, including myself. But as of now it is a very open ended inquiry. Be patient, curious and prayerful as we discern the urgings of God's Spirit together.
- 4) Please stay active and involved, take part in the parish pilgrimage gatherings. Don't be afraid to rearrange some furniture in my absence, just don't clean up my office, I know where everything is, give or take.
- 5) And last but not least- did I mention giving Julie Bates lots of love and support and prayers and a quick hand to help?

Via con Dios,

Father Jack



Father Jack and son Ben will be pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago. The whole congregation is invited-well, not exactly, not to Spain...but somewhere. Watch for your invitation....

Farewell and Godspeed to the Lucas Family

Dr Luke and Reeves Lucas will be moving with their three children to Sumter, SC at the end of Luke's Family Practice residency. They will be missed and we wish them well in this new phase of their lives.

MILESTONES & MEMORIALS

Deaths: Clarence Smith, father of Lynn Brown.

Birthdays for April 21—May 22

April

25th Earle Rice, Susan Hardaway
 26th Burns Knobel
 28th Terry Hines, Valerie Peterson
 30th Ken Rowland

May

5th Hugh Osburn, Ellie Cooper
 8th Catherine Cutting
 10th Mark Rettinger
 11th Gloria Edwards
 13th Kenneth Cheek, Dona Stone
 14th Kristi Payne
 16th Kim Crenshaw
 19th Barbara Davis
 20th Baillie Brown
 21st Kathryn Heeny
 22nd Lisa Bodenheimer

Prayers

Pray for healing and comfort

Doni Rhinehart
 Julie Kent
 Stuart M. Barnes-cancer
 John Bostater
 Karlann Bostater -chronic leukemia
 Tippy Anderson-cancer
 John Josey
 Leif Jacobsen-bone marrow cancer
 Barb Flagel
 Rebecca Veeck-health issues
 Jennifer Gaffney-health issues
 Glenn Jacobus -bone cancer
 David Rutledge
 Baillie Brown-health issues
 Ginger Cox-cancer

Requested by

Hugh Osburn
 Kathy Bostater
 Kathy Bostater
 Melissa Langford

 Greta Jacobsen

 Ellie Cooper
 Ellie Cooper
 Martha Gregory
 Anne Radnor
 Baillie Brown
 Baillie Brown

Expectant Families: Nathan & Amy Cox, Carey & Erin Hughes.



Congratulations Graduates!!!!
 Samantha Colman -T.L. Hanna High School
 Matthew Devine—College of Charleston

**The Parish Office will be closed
 Monday, May 31st Memorial Day.**

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Monthly Stewardship Report for March

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| Budget for 2010 | \$ 315,516 |
| Needed Monthly | \$ 26,293 |
| Received March | \$ 21,455 |
| Received through March (including prepaids) | \$ 74,064 |
| Needed through March | \$ 78,879 |
| Diocese Assessment for 2010 | \$ 48,501 |
| Assessment Paid through March | \$ 12,125 |