

Grace Episcopal Church
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Grace Notes

Volume VII, Issue 3
 March 2024

It is the Mission of Grace Episcopal Church to bring glory to God, build the spirituality of our people and bring Christ to our community.

Grace Notes is the monthly newsletter for Grace Episcopal Church in Spring Hill. If you would like to contribute an article or comment, please reach out to a member of the Grace Notes committee: Peggy Roberts, Carol Martinez, and LaRue Schmelzer.

Services & Continuing Events

Sun.	10 AM	Holy Eucharist
	10 AM	Children's Church
Sun.	10 AM	Facebook Live Service
Tues. & Fri.	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
Wed.	10:00 AM	Daughters of The King (monthly)
Wed.	Noon	Holy Eucharist
	11:30 – 3:00 PM	Fr. Joe, Office Hrs.
Wed.	5:30 PM	Lenten Series & Dinner (Feb. 21, Wed., - Mar. 20, Wed.)
Thur.	9:00 AM	Crochet Club
Thur.	9:00 AM	Men's Breakfast, Grecian Restaurant

Events and Dates of Notes

Here are just some of the dates to note on the church calendar. Information on activities and programs at Grace will be sent to you via email and Facebook.

March 13 5:30 PM	Lenten Series & Dinner
March 10	Fourth Sunday in Lent
Mar. 13 10:00 AM	Daughters of the King
Mar. 19	St. Joseph
March 20 5:30 PM	Lenten Series & Dinner
March 21 6:00 PM	Mission Council Meeting
Mar. 24 10:00 AM	Palm Sunday
Mar. 28 6:00 PM	Maundy Thursday
Mar. 29 3:00 PM	Good Friday
Mar. 30 10:00 AM	Holy Saturday Liturgy
Mar. 31 10:00 AM	Easter Sunday
April 7 10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Easter
April 9 3:00 PM	Inquirers Class
April 14 10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Easter
April 21 10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25	St. Mark the Evangelist
April 28 10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday of Easter

Vicar's Vagaries

Holy Week and Easter

We will begin our celebration of **Palm Sunday** on March 24 with the palm liturgy outside the parish hall in the parking lot. We will process into the church while singing one of our most ancient hymns, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," as Deanie will keep both rhythm and pitch by playing a handbell borrowed from the Baptist church up the street. In place of the regular gospel reading, we will have a dramatic reading of the Passion According to Mark and then celebrate the first Eucharist in Holy Week.

We will not have a Wednesday noon Eucharist.

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On **Maundy Thursday**, March 28, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for the Eucharist, followed by the stripping of the altar. At this service, we remember when Christ celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples and told them to "Do this in remembrance of me." See First Corinthians 11:23-26, which is the oldest extant version of the words of Jesus himself at that last gathering on the night before he was crucified.

At 3:00 p.m. on **Good Friday**, March 29, we will gather for the solemn liturgy of Good Friday, with the liturgy of the word, the dramatic reading of the Passion According to John, a sermon, the Solemn Collects of Good Friday, and the Veneration of the Cross. There is no celebration of the Eucharist on Good Friday. After the service, we will have hot cross buns in the parish hall.

On **Holy Saturday morning** at 10:00 a.m., the Daughters of the King will lead the liturgy of the word for that day.

On **Easter Day**, March 31, we will gather to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord at 10:00 a.m. We will celebrate Easter Season through **Pentecost**, which will be Sunday, May 19 this year. **Ascension Day** will be Thursday, May 9.

Fr. Joe

Lenten Series on *Surprised by Hope*

Our Lenten series on N. T. Wright's *Surprised by Hope* will continue through Wednesday night, March 20. We gather to begin Evening Prayer in the church at 5:30 p.m. Then we have a light supper at 6:00. The class begins at 6:30. We will continue watching weekly the videos in which Bishop Wright himself briefly introduces each section of his book. You may find those anytime you like on YouTube if you have a computer and wi-fi.

Father Joe

Return of the "Alleluias"

During the 40 days of Lent, there are some changes that occur on the music we sing. The most noticeable thing is the absence of the word "Alleluia." The removal of this word from our service of worship

emphasizes the penitential nature of this time. We acknowledge our sins and practice repentance, so that we may once again join the choir of angels singing praise to God.

Years ago, I worked in a Lutheran church, and on the first Sunday in Lent the children filled up a bucket with slips of paper with the word Alleluia written on it. The bucket was then buried out in the little garden outside of the sanctuary. Early on Easter morning after the sunrise service the bucket was dug up, and the Alleluias were released! We took immense joy in singing all the hymns with Alleluias, and even shouting the word with unrestrained joy!

I look forward to Easter Sunday, singing the hymns which contain the word Alleluia, as well as speaking it in the Liturgy!

Deanie Moore, Music Director



W E L C O M E

All Visitors of Grace Church

Easter Lillies

As we are now observing the season of Lent, we look forward to Easter morning when we celebrate the Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. We do that with song and praises and decorating our church with the glorious Easter lilies. What do these flowers represent? They represent "purity, hope, rebirth, and new beginnings. They are associated with the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who was free from sin." And due to his suffering and dying on the cross we who believe in Him are forgiven of our sins. God sacrificed his only Son for our sins. Astounding!

Each year the Altar Guild requests donations given to the Easter Lily Fund and more especially for those who wish to donate in memory of a relative, friend, a birthday, a magnificent event such as the birth of a

baby or a wedding anniversary and many other remembrances. If anyone wishes to donate, this may be done by a check placed in the offering plate. (Please indicate that this donation is for the Easter Lily Fund on a check). Also, cash or a check may be given in person to a member of the Altar Guild, or it may be sent via mail to: Linda Colmore. And if there is a specific remembrance, please write that out. A better method for the event or person to be remembered is to send the info by email to Karyl Chastain Beal at karylofcolumbia@cs.com by a week before Easter so that she can place those requests in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Thank you in advance for your donations,

Linda Colmore, Altar Guild Chair

*As per the internet: Easter lilies are **white flowers that symbolize purity, hope, rebirth, and new beginnings.** (See article at the University of Nevada, Reno at <https://extension.unr.edu/>.) They are associated with the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter lilies are also a symbol of the Virgin Mary. Easter lilies appear in religious paintings of the Annunciation, where the Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she has been chosen to be the mother of Jesus.*

2024 Grace Church Pancake Supper

The 2024 edition of the Grace Church pancake supper on Tues., Feb. 13, was a giant success.

It all began at 4:30 pm with an army of volunteer helpers gathering in Faith Hall to begin cooking and arranging the dining area. Lizz Klammer provided Mardi Gras-themed decorations and lots of beads for each table, thanks Lizz.!

Meanwhile, the kitchen was transformed into an IHOP facility. Sam Isbell began cooking the donated sausage patties, Jerry Schmelzer cooked the bacon, Bill Rieger prepped the pancake batter and Bennie Bradberry was the pancake griddle king! James Dallas donated several varieties of syrup and two king cakes. Steve Bolen donated the bacon, and many people brought many pounds of butter. We will be donating much butter to The Well! There was some vegetarian sausage available and sugar-free

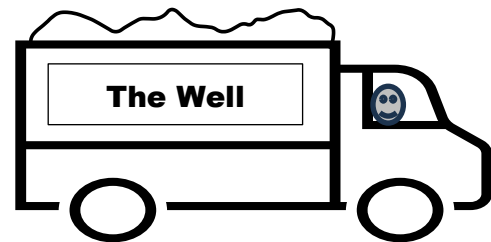
syrup. Milk, sweet tea, coffee and orange juice were also donated.

Father Joe blessed the food and all our endeavors, so at 6:00 pm we began serving. What a great evening! Watching the youngsters and adults alike enjoy pancakes was special.

Carol Martinez, Sr. Warden, reported attendance of about 50. Donations at the door approached \$400. We are truly blessed to have many hands to make work of cleanup. Thanks to Richard and Peggy Roberts, David Thomas, Chuck Cochran, Chuck Warnick, LaRue Schmelzer and all the wonderful people of Grace who made our evening of fellowship so much fun.

Yours in Christ,

Jerry Schmelzer, LEM



**Feb. Grace Food Donations:
163.5 lbs.**

Charles Cochran

Charles was born in Arkansas and raised in Oregon. He grew up attending an Assembly of God church, but then he married Jo Anne, a Baptist. At some point, around 1972, while checking out various churches in Texarkana, they stumbled upon the Episcopal Church. Jo Anne was impressed that the priest would drink a beer with her, so they attended the Episcopal Church from that point on.

Charles and Jo Anne were married for 28 years. They had two children, their daughter, Carrie, and son, Robert. Charles worked for Coca Cola for 28 years. They lived in Oregon, Arkansas, and Texas.

Jo Anne passed away unexpectedly on November 21, 1997, while they lived in Texas; she was buried at the columbarium in Saint James Episcopal Church in Texarkana, Texas. Charles had served on the

vestry there, where he was honored to be a member of the committee to select a new bishop.

In 2017, Charles moved to Tennessee to live with his daughter, son-in-law, and three sons. He started attending Grace Episcopal Church in May of 2017. Before long, he was eating breakfast on Thursday mornings with the men of the church at the Old School Café.

According to him, it was not long before John Harvey ‘roped’ him into becoming part of the Mission Council. After saying no several times, he finally said okay because . . . “Somebody’s gotta do it.”

Now, he enjoys watching his grandsons play baseball, and he enjoys chauffeuring them around, especially the youngest one. He also spends a lot of time tending to the yard, the flower garden or whatever.

Charles also enjoys attending Grace and being involved. He is the Community Outreach chair. One of the projects he coordinates is collecting food donations every month for The Well, a food pantry for Spring Hill and the surrounding area. Additionally, each Christmas, the church sponsors families to provide additional support for them during the holidays, and so he tends to that.

As to what motivates Charles, he recalls how his family was given commodities when he was growing up in Oregon: flour, sugar, cheese, etc. At Christmas, they would be given shoes, clothes, and other gifts, so he remembers the help and support his family received and feels humbled to be able to give to others now.

Charles’s final statement: “At Grace, I love all the people. It is a great church, and it is a great family church.”

This is an additional article in an occasional series introducing us to the people who are members of the Grace Episcopal Church family.

If you would like to be featured or have a recommendation on who should be featured, please reach out to Carol Martinez.

Karyl Chastain Beal

Jan. 2024 Treasury Report

Total Jan. Revenues:	\$9,408.00
Total Jan. Expenses:	\$9,293.24

First Horizon Checking balance:	\$4,611.13
First Horizon Savings balance:	\$46,984.48

* All Treasury reports will be posted in their entirety in Faith Hall for future information.

David Thomas, Treasurer

Clergy and Staff

The R. Rev. Dr. John C. Bauerschmidt, Bishop
The Rev. Joseph N. Davis, Vicar
Deanie Moore, Dir. of Music
Susan Browning, Financial Administrator

The Mission Council

Carol Martinez, Sr. Warden
Bill Rieger, Jr. Warden
David Thomas, Treas.
James Dallas, Christian Ed. & Children’s Ministry
Charles Cochran, Community Outreach
Peggy Roberts, Communications
Jessica Farmer, Congregational Life

You may contribute to Grace Church at this link or by using the QR code below.

<https://graceepiscopalspringhill.org/#giving>,

