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Scott Remenschneider— 283-7725
Bill Rocker — 403-1862
Matt Schmidt — 772-0797
Jill Smalldon —994-9725
David Stubbs— 546-8845
Paul Trap — 396-6492
Diane Wiersma— 403-0051
Doug Zylstra— 616-953-6087
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Wayne Hougland, Bishop
Jennifer Adams, Rector
Dennis Remenschneider,
Pastoral Support
Steve Jenkins, Director of Music
Debbie Coyle, Director of
Children's & Youth Ministries
Thom Samuelson, Sexton
Gail Westerhof, Secretary
Mary Battaglia, Financial Secretary
Melynda Storm-Rushlau,
Financial Secretary

Rise Up, Grace! Praying, Planning, and Pledging

In the gospels one of the ways in which Jesus brought hurting people back to life and health was with the invitation to “Rise up!” While Grace is in no way a hurting congregation, we are being given the opportunity to approach our pledging and our planning in new ways. There are vital mission and ministries alive among us and potential yet untapped. It's time to stretch in sustainable ways and begin to walk forward together anew.

Our Stewardship Commission and Vestry are rising up and they're inviting the entire congregation to rise up too.

This year we move into the pledge drive with a three-year projected budget in place to support the mission and ministries of Grace. Leadership is looking faithfully forward with courage and with hope. There's too much to include here. Know that full stewardship materials are available in the Church Commons and individual mailings will go out this week containing information and pledge cards. The goals are high but absolutely within our reach. If everyone leaps even just a little, we'll make it. Here's a small glimpse of where we're headed:

We have worked the cost of the Parish House into our operating expenses. We plan to use the Parish House and combine current staff positions to support the addition of a second full-time clergy person (a “Curate”), a step which all of the current staff are fully behind. We will continue to meet our Diocesan Apportionment, support our growing Feeding America ministry, better serve our Young Families Network (of over 40 young families), pastorally serve this broadly intergenerational congregation, and explore the possibilities of reaching out to, inviting in, and learning from the Hispanic communities of Holland.

And that's just a little of what's ahead. So, help us rise. Pledge to Grace. Stretch and grow with us. It's time.

Peace,

Jen

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Education & Formation

Sunday Forum

9:15-10:15am in the Forum Room

Oct 27/Nov 3 All Saints Intergenerational: Traditions of Remembrance

We will learn about the spiritual practice of remembrance by exploring traditions from Mexico, Native America, and Asia. How do these traditions resemble our own? How are they different? What does our own remembering look like as we learn from others and celebrate the feasts of All Saints and All Faithful Departed? Come ask and learn as we practice remembering together. Open to all ages. Led by Elizabeth Brubaker.

November 10 Rise Up, Grace!

What's a Curate? What are we doing with the Parish House? Have you noticed all of the young families coming to Grace? The Stewardship Commission talks about the mission and ministries of Grace, the 2014 Pledge Drive, and the three year projected budget. Bring your ideas and your questions as we discuss the exciting vision and important next steps for our congregation.

November 17 Dr. James Brownson, Professor of New Testament Studies

at Western Theological Seminary on his book Bible, Gender, Sexuality

Dr Brownson will be with us to discuss his recent book and particularly, his thoughts on the ways in which we can move forward through the ongoing debates taking place within and among Christian denominations.

November 24-December 15

Embracing a Life of Meaning:

Kathleen Norris on Discovering What Matters

Kathleen Norris is an award-winning poet, writer and author of four New York Times bestsellers. She also happens to be an Episcopalian. "Her work is intimate and historical, rich in poetry and meditations, brimming with exasperation and reverence, deeply grounded in both nature and spirit, sometimes funny and often provocative." In this series she will guide us (via DVD) through conversations on what matters, topics like belief, the Bible, community, place and ourselves, created in the image of God. Join us for this series that will carry us through the season of Advent.

Sunday Forum continued

December 22 Intergeneration Christmas Gift Wrap

We'll gather in the Forum Room to wrap presents for our Community Housing Partnership Families. Look for the Star Tree in the Commons during Advent. Each star will have a gift listed that is a "wish" of one of our CHP family members. We'll wrap all that we receive and deliver the gifts to the families on Christmas Eve.



Grace Flicks—November 13

Second Wednesdays at 5:30 in the Forum Room

(a.k.a. "The Return of Movie Night" or "Movie Night: The Sequel")

This month, we tip our hat to comedy with the Woody Allen classic, *Broadway Danny Rose*. You certainly won't mistake it for a "Hallmark" Thanksgiving movie, but this 1984 film, both hilarious and touching, *does* feature the Macy's Parade and a Thanksgiving Dinner right out of the Gospels.

Join us on second Wednesday nights for drinks and snacks at 5:30, movie and pizza at 6:00 and conversation to follow. Bring a snack and a drink to share.

ST. MARY'S GUILD

St. Mary's will meet on Monday, November 11, at 7:15 PM in the Forum Room. The speaker will be Graces's own Clay Stauffer, who will give a presentation on the natural history of bees/beekeeping. He will address the importance of bees to agriculture followed by a discussion of honey and even a little honey tasting!! Please mark your calendar and come and enjoy the fun. Hostesses are Cathy deVelder and Sandy Young.



NEW FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Stewardship pledge drive kicked off on October 27th, which brings to mind all of the amazing ways that Grace abounds here! The generosity of giving time, talent, and treasure is felt a great deal within the Children's and Youth Ministries program at Grace. I wanted to take a moment to share our appreciation for the many ways you have supported Children's and Youth Ministries (CYM) during the year.

We have been blessed with incredible talent in our CYM leadership. Thank you to Suzy Bullinger and Ashley Fosatti for taking the lead in Growing into Worship and to the multiple "2nd adults" who have given their time to help our little ones grow into worship here at Grace. Thank you to Linda Elder, Lynn Stubbs, and Jen and Jesse Klug for your work with our Primary Class. Thank you to Ketzi Zylstra, Robbie Schorle, Greta Shires, and Ivy Keen for your work with our Intermediate class. Thank you to Ivy Keen, Karen Boer, David Stubbs, David Cunningham, Connor Stubbs, Chuck Huttar, Phil Harrington, Thom Daubenspeck, and Jeanne Petit for your leadership in the "Growing in Faith: This Episcopal Life" class. Thank you to Matt and Cherie Schmidt, Kristie Phillips, and Howard Huyser for your leadership with our youth groups. Thank you to our Nursery staff: Megan Lohman, Kalli Crandell, Kathryn Lee, and Rachel Hofman for your consistent care of our littlest ones. Also, a big thank you to all of you who have volunteered many, many hours during the Tulip Time Marketplaats Food Court fundraiser which is our main fundraiser to support pilgrimage and youth mission programs here at Grace.

We have been blessed by the generosity of spirit in your continued support of our kids and our programming. Whether it has been through volunteering directly, helping out behind the scenes, providing a meal or a ride for activities, or just cheering us on along the way. Knowing that you all have kept Children's and Youth Ministries in your prayers and in your hearts helps us. Your encouragement has meant that several of our youth feel welcomed to serve as LEM's (Lay Eucharistic Ministers), Stephen Ministers, and members of Grace Commissions. You have also supported their lives outside of Grace by recognizing their achievements and celebrating their activities. This has given many of our youth a more solid sense of participation in the life of the church and gives them the community needed to feel connected at Grace.

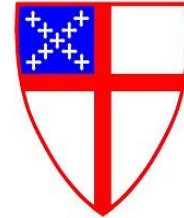
Finally, a thank you to all of you who pledge of your "treasure" to support Children's and Youth Ministries at Grace. Your pledge helps us to provide not only the curriculum and materials needed for a quality formation program on Sunday mornings, but also to staff extracurricular faith formation, service, and fellowship activities such as Youth Pilgrimage, Mission trips, the "Make a Meal" event for Community Kitchen, Tri-Youth "Rake 'n Run", and Epiphany retreat.

All of you help us to provide meaningful programming for our children and youth of all ages. It is not too late to be involved. Contact the church office or email debcoyle@gmail.com to find out more about how you can be a part of this vital ministry at Grace.

Submitted by Debbie Coyle, Director of Children's and Youth Ministries

Growing in Faith: This Episcopal Life

**Sunday Education for High School Students and Adults
9:15-10:15 in the Undercroft Youth Room**



Growing in Faith is a Christian Education program for Grace High School students and interested adults involving a four-year cycle of classes: two years are spent reading through the entirety of the Bible using the Crossways Curriculum called, “God’s Big Story” and two years are spent exploring Episcopal identity using a variety of resources primarily, “My Faith, My Life: A Guide to the Episcopal Church,” by Jennifer Gamber.

The group meets on Sundays from 9:15 – 10:15 in the Youth Room in the back of the Undercroft. The class is open to students grades 9-12 as well as any adult in the parish who would like to participate. Regular attendance is expected. Program years 2011-12 and 2012-13 were centered in the Crossways program. Fall of 2013 will begin the two year cycle focusing on Episcopal Identity. While Confirmation is not a requirement upon completion of the course, this curriculum is designed to serve as a preparation for those wishing to receive the sacrament.

This class is organized as a series of three to six week units, each with a variety of readings, videos, conversations, and reflections. This year’s units will be the list below. If you’d like more information on the content, look on the bulletin board in the Commons or talk to Jen Adams or Debbie Coyle. Sign up in the Commons to join the class!

This Episcopal Life: Year One

Spiritual Autobiography

Baptism and Confirmation

Holy Scripture and the Spiritual Practice of Devotionals

**Church History: Early Church, Middle Ages, Reformation,
American and World Church**

Faithful Living

Worship

Episcopal Life in Practice

Education & Formation / Fellowship

CALLING ALL SINGERS!

If you like to sing (and it sounds like a lot of you do on Sunday mornings!) and are at least in the 7th grade, committing to singing in the choir is a great next step. We learn and perform a lot of beautiful music in the Christian Choral repertoire. Not to mention, this kind of ministry has a tendency to deepen one's faith and experience of the Grace community. We rehearse Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 PM. Sundays there is a 45 minute pre-service rehearsal before Eucharist. Please consider joining us this year. Feel free to ask me or choir members if you have any questions.

Steve Jenkins, Music Director

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Alternate Mondays, 4:00 to 5:15 pm (a men's discussion group) — The men's study group "Beer and Bibles" meets every other Monday, for conversation, reflection, and fellowship. We are currently reading through the book of Hebrews. B-Y-O-Both. Upcoming dates are **November 4th, November 18th, December 2nd and 16th.**

THANK YOU TO OCTOBER COFFEE HOUR HOSTS!

Duanne Masselink and Jill Smalldon
Renee & Brent Krueger
Krista & Alan Babbitt
Jeanne Petit



*From Laurie VanArk
Coffee Hour Coordinator*

The Fall Sign-Up List is in the Commons – PLEASE sign up if you can take a Sunday!!

For current information, access the church
calendar on our website:

www.graceepiscopalholland.org

Click on “About us” and then “Calendar.”

Outreach

FEEDING AMERICA

On Thursday, October 10, 2013, we broke our record for the number of guests to whom we distributed food. We had over 170 families who were in need of our help. We have seen a steady growth of people who need our help to feed their families. We are now handing out 7,500 pounds of food rather than the 5,000 we have distributed in the past. Normally growth is a good thing at a church, in this case it only shows that more and more people are hungry due to job loss or underemployment.

I know that we are all busy and that our lives seem to be on the fast track, but, we need to always be aware that there are people who need our help. We need you to help us on the second Thursday of each month to distribute the food, chat with our guests, or help in the kitchen. We are working with fewer people than we have had in the past and we have positions that need to be filled. Can you help us out? If you have any questions about this outreach, please contact Mick Schorle, Director of Feeding America or Robbie Schorle at 269 543-4400. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about Feeding America.

Robbie Schorle
Chair of Outreach



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Every weekday and on Sundays too, the **Community Kitchen** serves lunch to about 200 hungry people out of the commons area at Western Seminary.

Volunteers are needed at the to help serve and clean up from **11:15am to 1:30pm** every Monday through Friday. Grace Church is committed to providing **three or four helpers each Wednesday**. Join our "regulars" who help on Wednesdays. See the sign-up sheet in the Commons. For more information contact Jim at 566-6785.

WARMTH DRIVE

With the weather starting to cool down, Grace will again collect coats, mittens, hats, gloves, sweaters, blankets, etc., anything that can keep people warm. Collections will be accepted during the month of November for Community Action House and can be placed in the labeled drawers in the Commons.



VOLUNTEER NOW FOR THE GREAT THANKSGIVING BANQUET

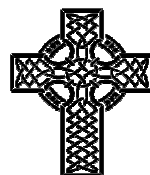
Wednesday, November 27 at 6 PM at the Hope College DeVos Fieldhouse. Positions available: turkey cookers (11/25,26), bring a dessert, dessert cutting and decorating (AM), usher, table host, care box distribution, clean-up. Please supply names, phone & email address. Contact Martha at Holland Rescue Mission (616-928-3407 or marthaw@hollandrescue.org)



Prayer List as of October 28, 2013

†††††

PRAYER REQUESTED FOR: Norm Walker, Pat Danly, Nancy Chamness, Sally Gunn, Sophie, Connie, Fran, Cheri & family, Vern, the Hampson & Keegin families, the Butterfield family, Kim & Nouri, the Drew family, Xenia & family, Kent Ott, Mar'Cia & family, Phil & Kathy, Carol & Woody Merriman, the Barkel family, Elaine, Daniel, the McConkey family, Kathy, Emily & family, Laura Ferster, Grace Herta, Arkie Pierson, Amanda, Vivian Weston, for the people of Northern Africa, the Middle East and other places of war and unrest; for the unemployed or under-employed, for the women and men of the Armed Forces, especially Pierre Warner, Chuck, Warwick, Zachary, Carrie, Sam, and other loved ones of our parish family; for an end to the conflict in Congo, for all victims of disasters worldwide, natural and manmade; for those in our time who face persecution for their faith and for their persecutors, Judy, Dawn & family, Roger De Cook, Alex, Brian & Thom, Larry & Ruben, Ybarra & Torgerson families, Todd Billings & family, Sharon Henderson (mother of Sharie Phillips), Viv Cook & family, Bill Ketchum, Peter Homan, Gisela Strand, Patricia Arnold, Mary Schimmel (sister of Cathy deVelder), Chuck Matrosic, Debbie (sister of Mary Matrosic), Devin, Robert McConkey, Gerald, Ray Ybarra, Jim & Jane, Ralph Suchor, Irene Bartlett, Steve, Jenny, Dale Labbe Sr., Allie Verburg & family, Michael Borst, Jodi, Sandy, Donna, Amy, Diane, Adam, Shannon, Gail Davison, Stafford, Bruce Browning (brother of Jean Adams), George Julius, Dave Masselink, Aaron Miller, Betty Sova, Gloria Stegenga, Betty & Jerry, John Keegin, Jackie Van Duren, Lisa Leland, Ben Roper, Jim Roper.



Stewardship / Birthdays

For the seasoned citizens among us, did you know that you can reduce your Michigan State income taxes for 2013 by making a charitable gift from your IRA to Grace Church? As part of the tax legislation enacted earlier this year, individuals who are 70 1/2 or older can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000 from their IRA to qualifying charities free from income tax. As you may know, contributions to charities are not typically deductible for State of Michigan income tax. A contribution made from an IRA distribution is an exception, at least for 2013, and may reduce your Michigan tax liability while supporting Grace. Additionally, a charitable IRA gift qualifies for your 2013 required minimum distribution, permitting you to lower your income and taxes this year while supporting your favorite charitable organizations.

3 Samantha Talley
4 Morley Byxbe
6 Dawn Van Ark
10 Andrew Linn
 Kyle Shinabarger
 Braden Scharlow
14 Robert Borgman
 Mary Huisman
15 Zachary Smalldon
 Ava Clark-Adler
 Owen Clark-Adler
17 Mark Servinsky
18 Donna Rieckmann
20 Eskill Corneliusen
 Alex Foster
 Steven Hansen
21 Brianna Jones
 Maxine Shetterly
22 Jennifer Adams
 Deborah Craioveanu
 Katherine Slee
23 Tom Finkbiner



25 Chris Broersma
 Greta Finkbiner
26 Mac Kenzie Coyle
 Hannah Schmidt
27 Mary Remenschneider
 Claudia Scharlow
28 Peter Keegin
30 Virginia Knoop
 Miki Methric

11 Stephanie & Edward Soto
18 Peggy & Stafford Keegin
23 Sally & Eskill Corneliusen
28 Phyllis & Jerry Roper
30 Jean & John Adams

*November
Birthdays
and
Anniversaries*

DECEMBER NEWLETTER DEADLINE: Wednesday, November 20, 2013
Times New Roman, 12pt requested. Send to gechurch@sbcglobal.net

Rise up, leaders of Grace!

From the Vestry Nominating Committee

Grace is a lively, growing parish of about four hundred and fifty active members and many vibrant ministries. We welcome several new individuals and families a year and celebrate that this growing rests on a solid foundation provided by generations of Grace Church.

We are currently inviting recommendations for leadership in our parish, specifically for Vestry. Vestry is made up of twelve elected lay members who work collaboratively with the Rector in areas of oversight, finance, planning and program. Vestry members bring different experiences and skills to the prayerful decision-making and reflection on the many dimensions of parish life. We encourage you to consider who might be called to serve in this capacity as a lay leader in our parish.

Vestry meets once a month and each member also serves on a commission of the parish, tending to one particular area of parish ministry. No single vestry member has all of the skills and qualities that sustain this body, but together, vestry members form a leadership team that:

- Maintains a Christian vision and basic understanding of how the Episcopal Church works.
- Represents the diversity in the ages, backgrounds, and perspectives present among members of our parish.
- Commits to open and honest processing of parish realities and issues.
- Discerns together, serving commissions, communicating with the parish and supporting one another.
- Is willing to grow in their understanding of the faith and what it means to be a vibrant Episcopal Church today.

Specific areas that will need support as of 2014 include Christian Education, Evangelism and Communication, Outreach, and Stewardship, although every area of parish life is served.

We will be accepting recommendations (names) until **Sunday, November 17**. Our task as a Nominating Committee is to present a slate of four people to the parish by Sunday, December 16. Once the slate of four is announced, nominations will be open for three weeks and will close on January 5th in accordance with the by-laws of the parish. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2014.

If you have someone to recommend or would like to be considered yourself, let the Nominating Committee know! We look forward to talking with everyone who is put forward.

Nominating Committee Members:

Sue Bullinger	suzybullinger@gmail.com	616-286-3238
Prescott Slee	pwslee73@gmail.com	616-403-0399
Paul Trap	paultrap41@gmail.com	616-396-6492
Doug Zylstra	doug.r.zylstra@gmail.com	616-953-6087
Rev. Jen Adams	rev.jenadams@yahoo.com	616-396-7459

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Please help us go GREEN! Contact us at gechurch@sbcglobal.net if you are able to view the newsletter online at www.graceepiscopalholland.org/newsletter.

Our Mission Statement:

Grace is a dynamic community of faith grounded in Episcopal tradition, welcoming all, and serving Christ through worship, spiritual growth, and compassionate care for one another, the community and God's world.

