

A Grace Note from the Rector
April 25, 2024

Dear Ones,

This past Monday was **Earth Day**. First held on April 22, 1970, it is an annual event to demonstrate support for environmental protection. Thus, it is very appropriate that the Muncie City Council presented **Fr. Charles Mason** with the *City of Muncie Citizenship Award* for April 2024. Hooray and congratulations, Fr. Mason! By the way, check out **Charlie's tree** on Grace's lawn as it comes into spring leaf beautifully.

GARDENING MASTER CLASS WITH NATIVITY'S MASTER GARDENERS

Do you want to take your gardening skills to the next level? From **9am – 1pm on April 27**, Church of the Nativity will host a day of educational gardening events designed to help you beautify your home and landscape, covering the joyful and practical aspects of gardening. Light refreshments will be provided. To cover the cost of this knowledge, a donation of \$30 per family unit is requested.

For more information, email nativity@nativity-indy.org

LANDSCAPING NEEDS

If you have any unwanted yard equipment, please consider donating it to Grace. Rakes, shovels, a cart, clippers, etc. would be helpful with landscaping. If you need anything picked up, please contact Connie at 765-730-4256. Thank you!

MORE CHANCES TO LEARN

Last week, I mentioned an exhibit at the Indiana Historical Society called **RESIST!** The exhibit seeks to help visitors understand key questions and realities around the Ku Klux Klan's (KKK) rise to power in Indiana by looking at one pivotal event from 1924 in South Bend and its surrounding context. Here's a video intro to the exhibition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2blUQBASIjU>

I am hoping a group of us might go together, and **Mary Mordue** has graciously volunteered to coordinate that. If you're interested, reach out to Mary at mlmordue@gmail.com.

More locally, if you're interested in learning about and patronizing **local, Black-owned businesses**, there is now a link to the Muncie-Delaware County Black Chamber of Commerce on the Grace Parish website.

You can also find it here: <https://www.mdcblackchamber.org/>

PRIDE IS AROUND THE CORNER

Indy Pride is Saturday, June 8! I will be in Minnesota that weekend, but I encourage anyone who is interested in helping the Episcopal Church's public presence to do so. It's a wonderful experience. Here is a link for lots of information about demonstrating God's embracing love.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/2024-Pride.html?soid=1113914586377&aid=1qMgJEyXctA>

YARN & YARNS

Join the needleworkers in the Parish Library from 10-Noon on Wednesdays **May 8 and 22.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jim Jeffery (April 25)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GATHERING GRACE

Gathering Grace served **100+ meals on Sunday.** If you would like to volunteer, please come anytime from noon to four. Stay as long as you like.

A BETTER WAY ~ APRIL NEEDS

Deodorant, shampoo, body wash, journals, and ballpoint pens. A Better Way is a multi-service organization providing emergency shelter and services for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault and their children.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

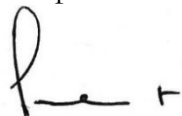
Personal Care Items: Bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, lg/med diapers, towels, washcloths, blankets. **Food Pantry:** Canned fruit, meats, and soup, crackers, cereal, pasta & sauce, mac & cheese.

In this week of Earth Day, here's a prayer from the *Book of Occasional Services 2022* (p. 285).

God, maker of marvels, you weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship; your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships in the complex world that you have made.

Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone,
and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe;
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who topples the dividing walls
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. Amen.

Keep on feasting! Alleluia, Alleluia!



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