

A Grace Note from the Rector
August 1, 2024

Dear Ones,

Last week, Katherine Mitchell and I were at Waycross for our second year of the College for Congregational Development. We both passed the feared “Models Exam” and are eager to bring more of what we learned to share with you, so stay tuned. Many thanks again to the **Rev. Dave Byrum** for preaching last Sunday.



Here we are in our small group at Waycross, all smiles.

GOD CONTINUES TO BE AT WORK AMONG US

*But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine ...
You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you. (Isaiah 43:1, 4a)*

I want to share with you the news that Jamie-Sue Ferrell is as of now, and moving forward, using the first name Joseph (preferred name Joey) with the pronouns he, him, and his. I anticipate that the Grace Parish family will be supportive and respectful during this transition. Joey will need all of our prayers, friendship, and support through the challenges that this transition will present. To mark this important time, a Rite of Renaming will occur during the service on a Sunday in September.

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AUGUST SCHEDULE

I will be on vacation in Rome from August 8-22. On August 11, Fr. Steve Giovangelo will be here to preside and preach. On August 18, Steve Holdzkom will preach, and Mike Ashley will preside at the Liturgy of the Word. We are fortunate to have such friends.

Mark your calendars! From **August 25** onward, the **Sunday Service will begin at 10am.**

GATHERING GRACE

This past Sunday, we served 124 meals of a Mediterranean beef-lentil stew, along with cherry pie for dessert. Thanks to all the volunteers who made that possible!

BRAVER ANGELS

Next Tuesday, August 6, at 3pm EDT, The Episcopal Parish Network is offering a webinar called: **Braver Angels: Providing Resources to Deal with Polarization as We Approach the November Election and Beyond.** If you're curious about how we, as Christians, can live into our call to be "repairers of the breach," in these divided times, this is the webinar for you.

Here is the link for more information and registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iXSbPRaOQsy0H004RPLhQA?mc_cid=ab46ed35f5#/registration

A BETTER WAY ~ AUGUST NEEDS

Hair brushes, hair ties, baby wipes, adult shoe laces, light bulbs and bath towels. A BIG thank you for donating all the outdoor activity items in June and July. Your contributions kept the children busy during their time off from school.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Janice Wood {Carolyn Shobe's sister} (August 5)

Brychan Livingstone (August 7)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

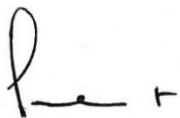
Malvia & Gordon Miller (August 5, 1962)

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.

A DAY TO REMEMBER

50 years ago, on July 29, 1974, the feast day of Mary & Martha of Bethany, eleven women were ordained as priests in the Episcopal Church at Philadelphia's Church of the Advocate. Known as the **Philadelphia Eleven**, their names are **Merrill Bittner, Alla Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Marie Moorefield, Jeannette Piccard, Betty Bone Schiess, Katrina Swanson, and Nancy Wittig.** This act of ecclesiastical civil disobedience, together with others, such as the Washington Four, (all these ordinations were originally considered to be "irregular"), prodded the Episcopal Church to approve women's ordination to the priesthood and episcopacy at the 1976 General Convention.

God bless you in these days!



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