

A Grace Note from the Rector
February 22, 2024

Dear Ones,

I received a note from Fr. Steve Giovangelo to thank you all for making him feel welcome at Grace this past Sunday. Let me add my thanks to his for being the warm and welcoming community that you are. Here are some of the things that are happening at Grace...

Mozie Williams' memorial service will be here at Grace on **Saturday, March 2 at 11am**. The Daughters of the King will host a reception in the Parish Hall after the Eucharist.

PARISH CLEANUP DAY

Come one and all on **Saturday, March 9** to do a deep cleaning of the Nave and Parish Hall in preparation for Bishop Jennifer's visit and Easter. People of all heights are needed; cleaning supplies will be provided.

Whatever time you can offer **between 9 and 3** will do wonders to make Grace a brighter and more comfortable place. **Beverages and snacks** will be provided to tempt you to come, as well as more substantial food around lunch time.

March 10 **The Fourth Sunday in Lent**
Bishop Jennifer's Visitation

Wednesdays @ Noon ~ Holy Eucharist in the Prayer Room

Midweek Ecumenical Lenten Gatherings

Study Book: *The Love That is God: An Invitation to Christian Faith*
by Frederick Bauerschmidt

6:00pm light dinner

7:00pm program

February 28: Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church

March 6: Grace Episcopal Church

March 13: Hazelwood Christian Church

March 20: First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE TIME CONVERSATION

At the Annual Meeting last month, we began a conversation on the possibility of moving the Sunday Eucharist to 10am. As a result of that discussion, we decided to do another Kinetic Mapping exercise. So, on Sunday, there will be a newsprint sheet in the Cloister for you to indicate your preference. The map will remain up for two weeks, and I will report the results back to you. It will look something like this...

9:30	10:00	No Preference

Here are some guidelines. (1) Each person in a household should indicate their preference. (2) Please indicate **your** preference, not what you think other people might want. If either time is ok with you, then please indicate "no preference." (3) This data gathering is advisory in nature. The Vestry will use the information to advise me in making a decision. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Connie Turner, Katherine Mitchell, or me.

Many thanks for participating in this important conversation.

GATHERING GRACE

11 volunteers served 117 chicken dinners last Sunday at Gathering Grace. Next up is chili mac, cornbread and cake. Come join us.

A BETTER WAY ~ FEBRUARY NEEDS

New or Gently Used items needed - pillow cases, twin sheets, twin blankets, wash cloths and bath towels. The need is great! An update on what is happening at A Better Way will be in next week's Grace Notes along with their March needs.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

Food Pantry: Canned fruit, meats, and soup, crackers, cereal, pasta & pasta sauce, mac & cheese.

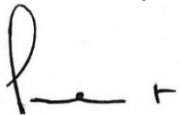
Personal Care Items: Bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, lg/med diapers, towels, washcloths, blankets.

Here is a poem I have found helpful for entering into Jesus' journey to the Cross. It is Madeleine L'Engle's poem "For Lent, 1966." Madeleine L'Engle (1918-2007) was a twentieth century American novelist and poet, best known for *A Wrinkle in Time*.

It is my Lent to break my Lent,
To eat when I would fast,
To know when slender strength is spent,
Take shelter from the blast
When I would run with wind and rain,
To sleep when I would watch.
It is my Lent to smile at pain
But not ignore its touch.

It is my Lent to listen well
When I would be alone,
To talk when I would rather dwell
In silence, turn from none
Who call on me, to try to see
That what is truly meant
Is not my choice. If Christ's I'd be
It's thus I'll keep my Lent.

God bless you in your Lenten journey,



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