

A Grace Note from the Rector
October 10, 2024

Dear Ones,

Tonight at 7pm, Cindy Shelhart will present a program of music for Double-Strung Harp. The performance is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

Just last week, I asked your prayers for the victims of Hurricane Helene. Again, this week, the people of Florida are bracing for the onslaught of **Hurricane Milton**, which made landfall last night. If you feel called to contribute to the relief effort, I encourage you to donate through the Hurricane Relief Fund of Episcopal Relief and Development.

https://support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief/?ID=WS24-DRR_240930DPAHR0100&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=fy24hurricanehelene&utm_source=WS24-DRR_240930DPAHR0100

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope and peace with whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided. For your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. **Amen.**

(Adapted from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, page 765.)

OOPS, THERE GOES ANOTHER RUBBER TREE PLANT...

You may think I'm making an odd reference to Frank Sinatra's version of "High Hopes", but you will notice that the luxuriant rubber tree in the vestibule has gotten a haircut. If you've always wanted a rubber tree in your home, **cuttings** are available in a plastic tub just outside the main door. Drop by anytime – first come, first served!

SCREENING OF "STRANGER AT THE GATE"

Thursday October 24 @7:00
Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie
4800 W Bradford Drive

For more information: <https://www.strangeratthegate.com/press>

GATHERING GRACE NEWS

Thanks to everyone who helped on Sunday to prepare and serve **100 meals** of ham, potatoes and green beans, along with cornbread and apple handpies.

Halloween is just a few weeks away! Please donate some **Halloween candy** for our Gathering Grace guests. The candy will be included as a treat with meals on Oct. 27. You may leave candy at the usual table in the parish hall.

Our **cookie stock** for Gathering Grace is running low. When we run out of our baked/prepared dessert for the day, we turn to cookies. If you will consider donating a package or two of cookies for us to use in those times, we will greatly appreciate it!

SPEAKING OF FOOD...

Dave and Sara Ring, owners of the **Downtown Farm Stand** (Main and Mulberry), have **re-opened their deli**. They will be serving local and organic food on Thursdays from 11:30am - 2:00pm to eat

in or carry out. You can follow them on Facebook or subscribe to their newsletter on their website (downtownfarmstand.com) to make sure they are actually open and what they are serving. Spread the word!

ATTENDER SURVEY

If you haven't yet completed the Attender Survey, it's **not too late**. Please go to the link listed on the flyer attached to this email. Help religious communities around the country to get a better understanding of the life and health of religious communities since the pandemic.

A BETTER WAY ~ OCTOBER NEEDS

Shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, toothpaste, hairbrushes, combs and body wash. Hygiene products are always needed. October is Domestic Violence Month.

A BETTER WAY ~ DONATION CENTER

If you would like to donate items beyond what we collect on a monthly basis, check out the bulletin board in parish hall. A flyer is available for you to take.

VOTE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

If you want to think about what it might mean to vote your values, check out this tool kit, courtesy of the Diocese of Indianapolis: <https://indydio.org/election-toolkit/> Also, mark your calendars to join Bishop Jennifer online for a Pre-Election Prayer Service on November 3 at 7:00 p.m. ET.

There are no birthdays or anniversaries on my calendar this week, so I thought we could celebrate Fall with a poem by Robert Louis Stevenson called *Autumn Fires*. (I'll admit that I miss the smell of smoke this time of year.)

In the other gardens
And all up in the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!
Pleasant summer over,
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.
Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!

God bless you in these days of change,



The Rev. Dr. Paul Jacobson, *Rector*

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