

A Grace Note from the Rector
October 24, 2024

Dear Ones,

The warmth and color of October signals the beginning of Stewardship season. For the next four weeks, you will hear from four parishioners about their relationship and commitment to Grace Church and its common life and mission. Today's **Stewardship Moment** is from **Teresa Curtis**.

Six years ago, my husband Don and I were living in Indianapolis. At that time, we were trying to downsize to a smaller house, but decided to build a home in Yorktown which would allow me to be closer to my grandchildren. One downside was having to move away from a church we were very active in.

I consulted Google and found that there was only one church in Muncie that we felt we needed to look at – Grace Episcopal. Our first visit was the midweek service, and we knew we'd found our new home. I remember meeting so many wonderful people like Karen Sullivan, Mike Ashley, and Pam Sebura. At the time (December 2019) Grace had no priest, and Robert Abner led the services. Soon after, Father Paul was called to Grace. Then Covid hit, and everything had to change about the way we gathered. We had to learn how to navigate Zoom, but it didn't help us to meet our new community. In time, Covid's grip lessened, and the church opened again. Unfortunately, health problems meant that Don had to continue to attend via Zoom.

I told my friends that I only wanted to be someone who sat in the back row in my new church. Each week. I had been heavily involved at Nativity, but I wanted a change. But, during last year's Stewardship campaign, I indicated on the form that I would be interested in being a greeter here. I had also listed that I might consider being a part of the Vestry.

Happily, I am now in both of those positions. I am no longer one who just sits in the back. I will soon be a Daughter of the King in addition to working with Mary Mordue on the Stewardship campaign. Over the next couple of weeks, you will be receiving information on Stewardship at Grace.

I hope that you will consider pledging if you haven't before or increasing your previous pledges if possible. Please also think about your Time and Talent Survey and try and challenge yourself to a new activity. In this time of transition, all your help will be very welcome. ~*Teresa*

A screening of **"Stranger at the Gate"** takes place **tonight @7:00** | Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie | 4800 W Bradford Drive

There will be a **Human Library** event on Saturday, **October 26 from 1-4pm** at Community of Hope (enter on W. Washington near McKinley). For more information, check out the flyers in the Parish Hall or <https://humanlibrary.org/the-human-library-in-muncie/>

GATHERING GRACE NEWS

On Sunday, we prepared and served 120 meals of Chicken, Rice & Broccoli Casserole, with salad and chocolate cake. A big thank you to all the helping hands! Please bring **Halloween candy** for our Gathering Grace guests this Sunday.

CELEBRATION BLESSINGS

This **Sunday will be the final** service that birthday/anniversary/travel blessings will be offered. If you have a celebration in November, you will be invited up after the Prayers of the People.

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.

A BETTER WAY ~ OCTOBER NEEDS

Shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, toothpaste, hair brushes, combs and body wash. As of June 30th (the end of ABW's fiscal year), 140 adults and 90 children resided at the facility and 310 non-residents have received services. Thank you for your ongoing support!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jo Ann Beckley (October 27)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Sandra & Eric Kelly (October 26, 1996)

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.

Since it is autumn, I thought a bit of Shakespeare might fit the bill.

Sonnet 73

That time of year thou mayst in me behold
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare ruin'd choirs where late the sweet birds sang.
In me thou seest the twilight of such day
As after sunset fadeth in the west,
Which by and by black night doth take away,
Death's second self, that seals up all in rest.
In me thou seest the glowing of such fire
That on the ashes of his youth doth lie,
As the death-bed whereon it must expire,
Consum'd by that which it was nourished by.

This thou perceiv'st which makes thy love more strong,
To love that well which thou must leave ere long.

God bless you in this time of change,



The Rev. Dr. Paul Jacobson, *Rector*

765-326-0353

rectorgracemuncie2@gmail.com