

A Grace Note from the Rector  
August 31, 2023

Dear Ones,

I had a wonderful couple of weeks on the road between New Haven, CT and Madison, WI, spending time with family, close friends, and friends from long ago. And I'm happy to be back home in Muncie and at Grace. Many thanks to those who led worship while I was away, particularly Mary+, Tim, Steve, and Jamie-Sue.

Labor Day is upon us, so things are really popping. This Saturday is **Muncie Pride**, from 11-6 at Canan Commons. For the first time, Grace will have a table at the festival. Sorry about the short notice, but **WE NEED PRIDE VOLUNTEERS**. Connie Turner and I will be setting up our table and tent at 10am. Please **think about a 2-hour shift** between 11-6 to help show Grace's affirming welcome of all God's children to the Muncie community. **Please email me today** if you can help.

The Vestry has been busy while I was away. Here are some notes from the Senior Warden, Connie Turner.

- The landscaping committee request donations of **tulip bulbs**, or any other bulbs that you're willing to donate. We are planning to have a tulip bulb planting party later this fall.
- Remember that a **Memorial Fund for Betty DeVoe** has been established.
- **Gathering Grace** continues to serve 120 to 150 people every week. Due to the high cost of food, **donations are appreciated**. We can always use baloney, chips, butter, eggs, cake and/or brownie mix, salad fixings, and of course money.
- A **"Building Use" committee** is being formed with the mission to outline policies regarding renting space in the building. If this is something that interests you, please contact Connie.

#### **YARD SALE FOR GRACE VILLAGE**

Wild Card Cafe – Grace Village's Wednesday morning Grab-n-Go breakfast – is having a Yard Sale on **Saturday, September 9 from 9 to 3**. They need items to sell and some volunteers to help during the day. (Of course, some shoppers would be great, too!) Items can be dropped off between 8 and 9am at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 4401 Wheeling Avenue. Anything left at the end of the day will go to the Muncie Mission. FFI: [markie.f.oliver@gmail.com](mailto:markie.f.oliver@gmail.com).

#### **A BETTER WAY – SEPTEMBER NEEDS**

Hygiene Items – deodorant, shampoo, hair conditioner, children's toothpaste, and hair brushes. Due to the great number of individuals currently being cared for at A Better Way, their personal care closet is almost empty. A Better Way wants to thank everyone for the 75+ items (plates, bowls and cups) that you donated in August. They were delivered on Monday!

## 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.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Fr. Paul Jacobson** (September 1)  
**Dennis Livingston** (September 1)  
**Sandra Kelly** (September 2)  
**Gordon Miller** (September 5)

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

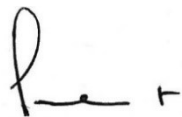
**Phyllis & Max Nottingham** (September 1, 1968)

*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.*

Labor Day signals the end of summer. Observed on the first Monday in September, it is an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers. Before it was a federal holiday, Labor Day was recognized by labor activists and individual states. After municipal ordinances were passed in 1885 and 1886, a movement developed to secure state legislation. New York was the first state to introduce a bill, but Oregon was the first to pass a law recognizing Labor Day, on February 21, 1887. During the late 1880s, seven more states passed laws creating a Labor Day holiday. By 1894, 23 more states had adopted the holiday, and on June 28, 1894, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday. Here is a Collect for Labor Day, from the Book of Common Prayer, p. 261.

*Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

God bless you in this new season,



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