

A Grace Note from the Rector
February 29, 2024

Dear Ones,

Happy Leap Day! It'll be another four years before we have another February 29th. In the meantime, there's a lot going on here at Grace.

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

DESK MOVING – MARCH 3

We need some help moving a disused wooden desk to the curb this Sunday after church. There will be a furniture dolly to help, but 3-4 willing folks will make the job go quickly. Please let Connie Turner know if you can help. And, thank you in advance!

PARISH CLEANUP DAY – MARCH 9

Come one, come all on **Saturday the 9th** between 9-3 for 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. **Beverages and snacks** will be provided to tempt you to come, as well as more substantial food around lunch time.

Bishop Jennifer's Visitation – MARCH 10

On that day, any undesignated offerings go to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund for support of emergencies and non-budgeted ministries that arise in the course of the year. **If you would like to** contribute to that fund, please indicate "Bishop's Discretionary Fund" on your check.

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

March 6: Grace Episcopal Church

March 13: Hazelwood Christian Church

March 20: First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE TIME PREFERENCES

The kinetic map will stay up for one more week. If you have not yet indicated your preference, please do so this weekend.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Carolyn Shobe (March 2)

Malikah McMillan (March 4)

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 BETTER WAY ~ MARCH NEEDS

Bed pillows (Walmart has prices as low as \$5), pillow cases, hair brushes, body lotion and disposable razors. A Better Way's main location has been at or above capacity since last summer (26 to 31 individuals). Half of this number are children. At the current time there are 12 families in transitional apartments. A Better Way has also been working on finding housing for families that were displaced when the Muncie Inn closed recently.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

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

GATHERING GRACE

Gathering Grace served 106 community members last Sunday. Clothing was also distributed. Next Sunday, we will provide Chicken Pot Pie, salad, and cupcakes. Volunteers are welcome anytime between noon and 3:45.


On February 22, Jo Ann Beckley, Reed Akolgo, Mary Mordue, Mark Mordue, and Connie Turner **distributed food for Second Harvest** at United Day Care on Adams Street. 46 households (75 children and 69 adults) benefitted from the food donations. If you would like to volunteer on the **fourth Thursday** of the month from 2:30-5, please see Connie.

All this activity around food reminds me that we are fed so that we might feed others. Here's a sonnet by Malcolm Guite that speaks deeply of our experience of God's boundless hospitality at the communion rail, as well as in the Parish Hall at coffee hour and Gathering Grace.

The Church's Banquet

Not some strict modicum, exact allowance,
Precise prescription, rigid regimen,
But beauty and gratuitous abundance,
Capacious grace, beyond comparison.
Not something hasty, always snatched alone;
Junkets of junk food, fuelling our dis-ease,
Not little snacklets eaten on the run,
But peace and plenty, taken at our ease.
Not to be worked for, not another task,
But love that's lavished on us, full and free,
Course after course of hospitality,
And rich wine flowing from an unstopped flask.
He paid the price before we reached the inn,
And all He asks of us is to begin.

God bless you in your Lenten journey,



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