

A Grace Note from the Rector

March 14, 2024

Dear Ones,

Greetings from Waycross. The weather has been unexpectedly sunny and warm. I also get to enjoy time away with my colleagues. Thanks to those who helped get Grace shipshape for Bishop Jennifer's visit and Easter: Mike Ashley, Jo Ann Beckley, Teresa Curtis, Jamie-Sue Ferrell, Jane Greene, Mark Mordue, and Mary Mordue. While cleaning the Parish Office, I came across a **Mac mini**, still sealed in its factory wrapping. If you can give this piece of computer hardware a **good home**, please reach out to me. On Wednesday afternoon, a small group of us will gather at the former St. Stephen's, Elwood to secularize the building, which has been sold to the town. Please continue to keep the folks of St. Stephen's in your prayers.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Even if you've not been yet, please join us for the final gathering
on March 20 at First Presbyterian Church.

Soup supper at 6 | Program at 7

Yarn & Yarns

All interested needleworkers are invited to gather on **Wednesday the 20th** in the Parish Library.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

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| March 24 | Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday (<i>begin in the Parish Hall</i>)
Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist (9:30am) <i>Live/Zoom</i> |
| March 26 | Tuesday of Holy Week
Morning Prayer (9am) <i>Online</i> |
| March 27 | Wednesday of Holy Week
Holy Eucharist (Noon) <i>In person only</i> |
| March 28 | Maundy Thursday
Morning Prayer (9am) <i>Online</i>
Holy Eucharist & Foot Washing (7pm) <i>Live/Zoom</i> |
| March 29 | Good Friday
Stations of the Cross (Noon) <i>In person only</i>
<i>The Church will be open for prayer until 3pm</i>
The Proper Liturgy of Good Friday (7pm) <i>Live/Zoom</i> |
| March 30 | Holy Saturday
Morning Prayer (9am) <i>Online</i>
The Proper Liturgy of Holy Saturday (Noon) <i>In person only</i>
The Great Vigil of Easter (8pm) <i>In person only</i> |
| March 31 | Easter Day
Holy Eucharist (9:30am) <i>Live/Zoom</i> |

EASTER FLOWERS

We will be decorating the altar with lilies and other spring flowers for Easter, and will include a list of donors and memorials in an Easter service bulletin insert. Donors are not buying an actual plant, but are making a donation to the Altar Flower Fund "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one(s). The recommended donation is \$20 per family, but all memorials will be printed in the bulletin, no matter what. One memorial can include more than one person. Sign up on the sheet posted in the Parish Hall or email information to Mark Mordue at markmordue@gmail.com.

A BETTER WAY ~ MARCH NEEDS

New bed pillows (Walmart has prices as low as \$5), pillow cases, hair brushes, body lotion, body wash and disposable razors. Thank you for your continued support!

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Eric Kelly (March 16)

Marc Sullivan (March 17)

Keira Livingston (March 20)

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.

GATHERING GRACE

Gathering Grace served **97 meals** last Sunday. The meal this week will be Arroz con Pollo, salad and dessert. Please consider donating **candy and/or cookies** for **Easter** Sunday. Donations can be placed in the cheery bunny buckets by the Gathering Grace kitchen.

Good News! We were notified this week that our application to the East Central Neighborhood Association's American Rescue Plan Grant subcommittee has been approved, and that Grace Church has been **awarded \$1,750 to support our outreach and community meal efforts**. The funds are from American Rescue Plan monies that the City of Muncie allocated to the Neighborhood.

In last Sunday's lesson from the Book of Numbers (21:4-9) we heard about the bronze snake that Moses made to heal the people from snakebite. Coincidentally, perhaps, this coming Sunday we remember St. Patrick, who was known for driving the snakes out of Ireland. Here's a sonnet by Malcolm Guite that helps us say. *Erin go brách!*

Patrick

Six years a slave, and then you slipped the yoke,
Till Christ recalled you, through your captors cries!
Patrick, you had the courage to turn back,
With open love to your old enemies,
Serving them now in Christ, not in their chains,
Bringing the freedom He gave you to share.
You heard the voice of Ireland, in your veins
Her passion and compassion burned like fire.

Now you rejoice amidst the three-in-one,
Refreshed in love and blessing all you knew,
Look back on us and bless us, Ireland's son,
And plant the staff of prayer in all we do:
A gospel seed that flowers in belief,
A greening glory, coming into leaf.

God bless you in your Lenten journey,



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