

A Grace Note from the Rector  
November 2, 2023

Dear Ones,

The coming week brings with it two important events. **Daylight Saving Time ends** at 2am on Sunday, November 5. Set your clocks back, or you'll be early for church! On Sunday, we will observe **All Saints' Sunday**, remember before God parishioners who have died in the past year, and give thanks to God for the Daughters of the King.

Next Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> is **Election Day**. First of all, **please vote**, praying for our deeply divided world. May we come together for the common good; doing what God has called us to do – to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God.

This week's Stewardship Moment is from **Cecil Bohanon**.

I'm Cecil Bohanon. I have taught economics at Ball State since 1980. My wife and I, Barbara Alvarez have been part of Grace Episcopal Church since 2007. We love the Christian fellowship, education and worship we experience at Grace. We have both had the great privilege of participating and serving in the life of our parish, specifically with hospitality, religious education and lay Eucharist ministry. Grace is a place where we grow in our faith through service, worship and education.

Our parish does not do the Lord's work without the financial commitment of our members. Many years ago, I recall a non-profit seminar suggesting that churches with fewer than 200 pledging households would be extinct by the year 2000. Nearly a quarter of a century later it is good to know that the prophecy was flat out wrong! But it was wrong because it did not account for the power of Holy Spirit to inspire and empower much smaller groups to the service of the Kingdom. Part of that, of course, includes the generous financial commitments of its supporters. So let me humbly suggest we all think about our parish budget and prayerfully reflect on our pledge! Thanks be to God!

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

The Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark will resume on November 7. A simple supper in the Parish Hall at 6:30 is followed by Bible Study at 7pm.

#### **GATHERING GRACE & A BETTER WAY – WINTER PROTECTION**

For the month of November gloves, hats and scarves will be collected to help prepare Gathering Grace guests and A Better Way clients for winter. The socks you donated in October for A Better Way totaled 92 pairs and have already been delivered. They were overjoyed to receive them. Thank You!

#### **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!**

**Susan Atherton** (November 5)

**Beulah Baker** (November 5)

**Phill Wills** (November 5)

**Helen Beach** (November 6)

*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.*

**ADVENT ORGAN RECITAL**

On Thursday, December 7 at 7pm, I will be offering a program of organ music for the Nativity Season. Reception to follow. Mark your calendars and invite your friends now.

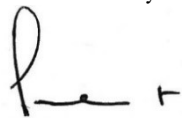
The beginning of November is always a profound period of memories mixed with hopes of what lies beyond. Spread out over three days, Hallowe'en, All Saints' Day, and All Souls' Day, these observances call us to reflect on the symbiotic relationship of life and death. The Church's calendar allows us to observe All Saints' Day not only on November 1, but also on the Sunday following, which we will this weekend. It's a festal day, the liturgical color is white, the music will be joyful, we will renew our Baptismal Covenant, and we will observe the anniversary of The Daughters of the King.

There will also be room for solemnity at the Eucharist when we will lift up to God the names of three women whom, as the Prayer Book says, "we love but see no longer," and have had deep connections to Grace over the years. Their names are Betty DeVoe (long-time pillar of the parish), Margaret Barnard (long-ago member of the parish), and Gloria Richards (Mark Mordue's mother.)

I invite you to keep them, and all those you love but see no longer in your prayers on this All Souls' Day.

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer; grant us, with all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's passion and glorious resurrection that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

God bless you in these days,



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