



# Grace Notes

The Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Morganton, NC • A Community of Christ the Servant

December 2016

## Preparing For Joy



Dear friends, Advent is my favorite liturgical season: the music, the colors, the candles, the shape of the liturgy, I love it all! I love the theology of Advent, too: hopeful

expectation, waiting, longing. But if I'm being honest, I have to admit that I struggle with it. I understand what I'm *supposed* to do during Advent—prepare my heart and mind for the coming of Christmas—but I have a hard time actually *doing* it.

For one thing, look at the calendar! We're less than a month from Christmas! There are presents to purchase and wrap (although I am convinced that God made gift bags for a reason), there are parties to attend, and there are cards to send! We've got our fair share of events going on here at the church, too! Molly and the Children's Committee have been preparing for our Advent Party (December 1), the

*(Continued on page 8)*

*Wreaths appeared on the church's door Sunday, November 27, letting worshippers know Advent is here.*

## Classically Cool Christmas

The Lenoir Saxophone Ensemble returns to Grace Church for what's becoming a Christmas tradition

Back by popular demand, the Lenoir Saxophone Ensemble takes a stroll down Christmas memory lane with a special performance at Grace Church on Sunday, December 18 at 5:00 p. m., in the church. This Classically Cool Christmas Concert features instantly recognizable tunes of the season. The show promises to keep your toes tapping and



your Christmas fires burning bright. Proceeds from the performance will benefit the Backpack Ministry at Grace, helping to feed families at Mountain Crest School.

The performance is suitable for all ages and donations large or small are requested. A reception immediately after the performance will be held in the Parish hall.

Founded in 1992, Lenoir Sax has performed jazz and classical chamber music for diverse audiences throughout the Southeastern United States and has traveled as far as Austria, where they represented the United States at the KaiserFest in Bad Ischl. Members of Lenoir Sax include: Robert George, soprano and alto sax; Jenny Lanier, alto sax; Patrick Young, tenor sax; and Michael Myers, baritone sax.

Performances of the group's music can be heard on public radio stations including WETS, WNCW, and WDAV in the US and in Scotland through NPR cultural exchange programming. Dave Carter, presenter of the StudioOne program on WETS-FM, said of the group, "talented individuals, each and every one. Nail me to the wall!"

*(Continued on page 4)*

### HOW TO FIND US

Grace Episcopal Church  
303 South King Street, Morganton, NC  
828-437-1133 • Fax 828-437-2572  
www.gracechurchmorganton.org

 Find us on Facebook  Find us on YouTube

# Christmas Cheer

For many years, parishioners at Grace Church have assisted Christmas Cheer of Burke County by shopping for and staffing the teenagers' booth at the annual distribution at the Burke County Fairgrounds. The dates are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 13, 14 and 15,



booth at the annual distribution at the Burke County Fairgrounds. The dates are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 13, 14 and 15,

with two shifts each day, morning and afternoon. Lunch is provided.

If you can help, please sign up for a time on the list in the rear window of the church. (This is easy work. You smile, be welcoming, and give away gifts!)

Christmas Cheer is Morganton's oldest community charity and has been providing toys and gifts for needy children for some 87 years; last year, Christmas Cheer provided for 831 families and 2,041 children.

You may also make a monetary donation by sending a check to Christmas Cheer, P.O. Box 3745, Morganton, N.C. 28680. If you have questions, please call Gene Willard at 828-413-0040.

## Notable Notes

**VESTRY ELECTIONS** were held Sunday, November 20 at a Parish Meeting and brunch following a combined service at 9:30. Elected to fill out a two-year term, and taking office immediately, was Ed Mikusa. Elected to full three-year terms were Mary Ann Antley, Daniel Deal and Dana Haynes. They will begin on the Vestry at the first of the year. Congratulations, and thanks to all who participated in the election.

\*

**HISTORIC BURKE TOUR** Grace Episcopal Church's sanctuary will be a stop on Historic Burke's Holiday Tour of Homes this year. On Saturday, December 10, at 1-5:00 p. m., our church will open its doors to the community, displaying our beloved church in all of its Christmas beauty!

\*

**POINSETTIAS** are now available for the Christmas services, to honor or memorialize loved ones. You may place an order in the office, or at church on Sunday morning. The cost is once again \$12.

\*

**THE MEETING PLACE** was the recipient of two recent fund-raisers at Grace Church. A free concert by Miguel Pico in the church on October 30, at which donations were welcomed, netted \$687 for this service to the homeless. The Morganton

Ministerial Association Community Thanksgiving Service, held at Grace this year, received a collection of \$526, also for the Meeting Place. Certainly a generous response from the community for a deserving cause.

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**THE BRCA ANGEL TREE** gifts must be returned to the church by December 11, wrapped,

*(Continued on page 5)*

### MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM GIFTS

#### *Thank You!*

Thanks to everyone who made gifts to Grace Church during November. We appreciate each one, large or small, and will use your gifts wisely. If we have inadvertently left your name off this list, or misspelled it, please accept our apology and let us know, so we can make the correction in a future newsletter.

DONOR(S)	IN MEMORY OF	DESIGNATED FOR
Roy & Joan Summerfield	Sandra Baker	Endowment Fund
William & Nancy Burns	Sandra Baker	Endowment Fund
Laura Smith	Sandra Baker	Memorial Fund
ECW	Sandra Baker	Memorial Fund
ECW		Towel Ministry
ECW		Youth Ministry
Jane Johnson	Hank Hart	Memorial Fund
Mary Ann Antley	Sandra Baker	Memorial Fund
Joseph & Catherine Popp		Labyrinth

#### BACKPACK MINISTRY DONATIONS

Mike & Kay Jenkins  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Morgan

First Baptist Church, Hord SS Class

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Morganton, North Carolina

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES  
October 17, 2016

**Members Present** Father Marshall Jolly, Jo Curtis, Judy Buchly – Senior Warden, Holly Camp, Mark Poteat, Meredith McSwain (by Phone)

**Members Absent** Dale Call, Junior Warden, Caroline Avery, John Jokinen, Jane Neal

**Also Present** Norma DeFago – Treasurer, Clerk

**Handouts** September 2016 Minutes, September 2016 Financial Statements, Letter of Resignation – Jo Curtis

- Marshall Jolly, Rector, opened the vestry meeting at 5:04 p.m.
- Judy Buchly presented the devotional – an Irish Blessing – God answers all prayers.
- A motion was made by Judy Buchly to accept the September 2016 minutes as presented. Holly Camp seconded. Motion passed. (Meredith McSwain by phone).
- The Treasurer presented the Financial Statements. Mark Poteat made a motion to accept the Financials as presented. Jo Curtis seconded. Motion passed. (Meredith McSwain by phone).

**Rector's Report**

- The services on November 13th will both be Morning Prayer. Vera Salter will lead the 8:30 service and Pat Phelps will lead the 10:30 service.
- The Rector discussed tentative plans for his continuing education for the coming year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Stewardship** 53 pledges have been received as of October 17, 2016, totaling \$169,000. Letters have been sent out to parishioners who have not pledged at this time. Vestry members will begin a calling campaign in November.
- **Vestry Nominations** The following individuals have expressed an interest in being candidates for Vestry elections: Dana Haynes,



"Gold... Frankincense... Myrrh... why wouldn't wise men bring diapers?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com  
©Ron Morgan  
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**REPORT FROM THE TREASURER**

As of October 31, our pledged offerings are \$178,429.30, which is 87% of the budgeted amount. The plate offerings as of October 31 are \$16,941.63, which is 90.5% of the budgeted amount. Our total expenses as of October 31 are \$282,656.39, which is 87.5% of the total budgeted expense amount. The October percentage should be 83.3%. Please remember we need your pledges in as soon as possible so that we can prepare a budget for next year.

Mary Ann Antley, Ed Mikusa, Daniel Deal, Pat Phelps, Jean Berry, Jane So-hovich.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Jo Curtis** Because of ongoing health concerns, Jo Curtis has resigned from her Vestry position. The Vestry expressed their appreciation for her service and offered prayers for her wellbeing.
- After Holy Eucharist in the Chapel the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- 95th Convention of the Diocese of WNC, November 11-13 at Kanuga
- Vestry Elections – Sunday, November 20th following combined 9:30 a.m. worship
- Next Vestry meeting – November 21, 2016 - Monday 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma DeFago  
Vestry Clerk

## Backpack Ministry Update

The last two packing dates for 2016 are December 1 at 3:30 p.m. and December 15 at 5:30 p.m.; please join us at one or both of these packing dates. Also, on December 18, the wonderful saxophone quartet from Lenoir again will perform at Grace and the offering collected will go to the Backpack Ministry.

On September 24 we were blessed with a huge inventory of food that was collected at Ingles at Carbon City. Thanks to all who donated their time before and on the day of the event. With our packing 120 bags twice a month and putting close to 10 pounds of food in the packs, we soon used up the food. Shoppers from Grace and First Baptist continue to shop at Second Harvest Food Bank in Hickory, but this fall the inventory there has been extremely low due to food being shared with people in the eastern part of NC who were im-

pacted by the hurricane. Fortunately, we do have some money in the bank, and this fall for most of the packs we have shopped locally to supplement the amount of food available to put in packs. Listed below are items most needed:

Bags of rice or dried beans (1 lb size); peanut butter; pastas/mac n/cheese, pasta sauces; canned—fruits, vegetables, soups (15-18.5 oz sizes); canned meats; breakfast items—cereal, oatmeal, cereal bars. Items in glass cannot be used.

In addition to the backpacks of food, recent items that have been donated to the non-food pantry at Mountain Crest have included school supplies, clothes detergent, gift cards (for the purchase of tennis shoes) and tennis shoes donated from church members.

Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry to the children and their families at Mountain Crest Elementary School.

## A Blessed New Walkway

On November 20th, following the 10:30 service, our new walkways to the Memorial Garden and the Labyrinth were blessed. Begun back in the summer, the sidewalks have only recently



been completed. As the parishioners huddled together for warmth, Father Marshall sprinkled the walkways with Holy Water and prayed over both new stone paths. Now that they have come to completion, the sidewalks offer better accessibility to the grounds of Grace Church.



## An Artistic Advent

This year's Advent Dinner & Discussion series features our own Mark Poteat, professor of art at Western Piedmont Community College! Mark will offer an enlightening series on the relationship between art and Christianity. On December 21, Mark will also lead in a guided tour of our church, discussing the artistic features. A simple potluck dinner is at 5:30 p. m., the presentation at 6:00, and ending with Compline at 6:45.

*(Continued from page 1, Lenoir Sax...)*

“Christmas... Classically Cool” is the title of one of five recording projects released by the group. This holiday album features twenty-one tracks of Christmas tunes. For their December 18th performance at Grace Church, the group will play selections from this album complemented by several new pieces they have prepared just for this holiday season.

More info on Lenoir Sax can be found on their website: <http://www.lenoirsax.org/>

For more information about the concert, call the office at 437-1133, or visit the Church's website: <http://www.gracechurchmorganton.org/>

## Children's & Youth Activities

### Gearing Up For Spring



The past few months in children's ministry have been great! Starting the school year off with a blessing of the backpacks, an awesome kickoff party featuring the return of the bouncy house, many family nights, a season of Sunday School, and lastly

a great Advent and tree-decorating party and our first-in-a-long-time Christmas Play!

If you have not already, please pick up an advent devotional in the narthex or the brochure shelf in the office and take this opportunity to grow closer to God! We have the adult

devotional *From Heaven Above* (one per family please); devotionals for Middle and High School youth, *Advent See-See*; and *Let's Go See the Savior* for kids ages 1-11.

Our spring semester in children and youth ministries is filled with Christian education, service, and loads of fun. Some new and notable entries on the CYM Calendar include: monthly opportunities for Middle and High School youth to volunteer at J. Iverson Riddle during their worship services; serving two soup kitchen meals; middle and high school youth nights at Calvary Lutheran; a diocesan ski trip and Spring Conference; and a labyrinth walk! The official calendar is available on the CYM bulletin board located in the office as well as on the church website. *Molly Franklin*

### An Advent Party

Join us Thursday, December 1st 5:30-7:30 p. m. for an Advent party! We will be decorating the Christmas tree, making advent wreaths, and ornaments. There will also be a dinner reception. RSVP via Grace's Facebook page or contact Molly Franklin. A \$5 donation is recommended to help cover the cost of food.



### Room For Christmas

By Mark Burrows

A Christmas Musical  
Presented by the GK Choir  
Date: December 4, 2016  
Where: Grace Episcopal  
Church's Parish Hall  
Time: 4:00 PM



Admission: One toy for our toy drive  
Reception to follow.

(Continued from page 2)

with the child's name on the presents.

\*

**COME THOU LONG EXPECTED**, a short Advent retreat, will be held December 9, 10:00 a. m. - 3:00 p. m., at Valle Crucis Conference Center's Johnson Hall. Led by Katerina Whitley, the course will focus on the theme of *waiting*, through writings, poetry, the prophets and the birth narratives. The cost is \$40, which includes lunch. To register, call (828) 963-4453, or go to: [www.vccconferences.org/programs](http://www.vccconferences.org/programs)

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**BOOK FAIR** will happen at the Riddle Center December 5-9, at the Gym. Times are: Monday, 12:00 -6:00 p. m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:00 a. m. - 6 p. m.; Thursday, 7:00 a. m. - 5:00 p. m.; and Friday, 8:00 a. m. - 2:00 p. m. Family Night is Thursday, 5:00 - 7:30 p. m., when there will be a visit from Clifford the Big Red Dog, giveaways, hot chocolate, and games. For more information, contact Alicia at 433-2640. All proceeds will go to literacy activities at the Riddle Center.

# *Shalom, Salaam, Peace Be With You*

## A miraculous interfaith picnic

By Cal Samra, Editor, *The Joyful Noiseletter*

It is not often that one is privileged to witness a miracle, but after a Jewish friend invited me to an interfaith picnic in Portage, Michigan, miraculous was the only way I could describe the gathering.

More than 300 people and their children flocked to this extraordinary picnic at Prairieview Park on Sunday, August 28: Reformed and Orthodox Jews, Sunni and Shiite Muslims, Unitarians, and Christians of various faith traditions; several families of Syrian and Congo refugees; conservatives and liberals; white, black, and brown children of all faith traditions playing happily together.

Everyone brought a dish to pass. The tables were filled with exquisite Mediterranean and Middle Eastern foods from many countries, as well as traditional American fare.

God had smiled on a bright, sunny August day, and the atmosphere was congenial. Everyone was smiling, chatting and having fun - far from the torments and chaos of the Old Country.

Before the feast, Rabbi Matthew Zerwekh of Temple B'nai Israel, a Reformed Judaism congregation in Kalamazoo, welcomed the picnickers with "Shalom, salaam, peace be with you." He noted that "Abraham (Ibrahim) is the father of all Jews, Christians, and Muslims."

He said that both he and Imam Hafiz Naumann of the Kalamazoo Islamic Center had recently welcomed baby daughters into their families, adding that "good food and children can bring people together."

Imam Naumann said that he Prophet Muhammad "repeatedly told his followers to respect the people of other faiths 'the people of the Book.'"

Later, the imam mentioned that in Islam's early years, Muhammad urged some of his Muslim followers who were being persecuted and

killed by pagan Arabs in Mecca, to flee to Ethiopia, where Orthodox Christians gave them Sanctuary and Protected them.

Rev. Barry Petrucci, pastor of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church in Portage, recalled that Jesus instructed his followers to love God, and your neighbor as yourself.

Rev. Rachel Lonberg, pastor of Kalamazoo's People's Church, a Unitarian Church, said that her church welcomes everybody, whatever their beliefs about God.

Rabbi Zerwekh later explained that the idea for the interfaith picnic developed out of meetings with Gulnar Husain, a female member of the Kalamazoo Islamic Center; Rabbi Jeremy Szczepansky of Kalamazoo's Congregation of Moses, an Orthodox synagogue; the Unitarian Pastor Lonberg, and the Methodist Pastor Petrucci.

"We wanted to focus on similarities between the Abrahamic faiths," Rev. Petrucci said.

The five congregations also agreed to sponsor and help resettle six Syrian refugee families and one refugee family from the Congo in the Kalamazoo community.

Rabbi Zerwekh said that "our biggest challenge" was to recommend foods for the picnic that did not conflict with the dietary restrictions of the various faiths. *Kosher* in the Jewish tradition and *halal* in the Muslim tradition forbid the eating of pork products. "So we decided on a vegetarian menu for the picnic," he said.

The large turnout for the picnic "shows there is a desire for unity, and we're hoping that this is the beginning of more opportunities for unity in the Kalamazoo community," Rabbi Zerwekh said.

After the picnic, a Christian woman commented: "It's amazing how much can be accomplished when there are no politicians around."

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# Reflections From The Diocesan Convention

The 95th Convention of the Diocese of Western North Carolina was held November 11-13 at Kanuga in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Representing Grace in the clergy order were Fr. Marshall and Deacon Mike. Elected by the Vestry to represent the parish were Judy Buchly and Hannah Johnson. Matilda Kistler was also present, in her capacity as a member of the Diocesan Executive Council.

The convention, which meets annually, elected various clergy and laypersons to serve on diocesan and churchwide boards and committees (our own Fr. Marshall was elected as an alternate deputy to the 78th General Convention, which is set to meet in Austin, Texas in 2018); pass a budget; and hear reports from various diocesan ministries. This was also the first convention with our new bishop, The Right Rev. José A. McLoughlin.

Reflecting on her experience, Hannah Johnson writes, "I was very excited to serve as a delegate to the 95th Convention of the Diocese of WNC! It was such a wonderful experience packed with fellowship opportunities, workshops, and endless food. I was able to attend a workshop re-

garding the Arts and Spirituality, showcasing how utilizing art can enhance our spiritual life. Different parishes throughout our Diocese shared their experiences. It was fascinating to see how other parishes operate and how they give members ample opportunities to show their creativity and immense talent in a safe space. We were able to connect with different people throughout Western North Carolina and learn their backgrounds and stories. I was very fortunate to participate this year and I am grateful to our Vestry and Father Jolly for the opportunity to attend."



Judy Buchly added, "All I can say is 'WOW!' It was a truly awesome experience and I feel so privileged to have participated. First of all the setting was beautiful and very conducive to prayer and meditation. It was amazing to learn just what an enormous 'big business' the church is. Not to mention, of course, the fellowship, food, and fun! I appreciate the opportunity to have represented our church."

If you haven't already, be sure to subscribe to the weekly Diocesan newsletter by visiting [www.diocesewnc.org](http://www.diocesewnc.org).  
*Marshall Jolly*

*(Continued from page 6)*

Ironically, the Portage interfaith picnic took place not long after *Detroit News* columnist Neal Rubin wrote a story about Rabbi Alon Goshen-Gottstein and his plans to build a large, multi-faith center in Jerusalem called "The Center of Hope" (House of Prayer and Education).

The center of Hope, Rubin wrote, would be a place "where adherents of major faiths will pray together, study together, learn to understand one another, and bring tranquility and harmony

to our overwrought planet."

"I think God wants it," Rabbi Goshen-Gottstein said. "I think God wants religions to move from their isolation."

I have since had some e-mail correspondence with Rabbi Goshen-Gottstein and discovered that we both share an interest in humor as a bridge-building, peace-making, and healing tool.

"I absolutely adore your concept of *The Joyful Noiseletter*," he wrote. "What a wonderful way to serve."

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Katherine Breiter	12/1	Molly Hemstreet	12/12	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	
Will Johnson	12/4	Lib Carter	12/14	Robert & Vera Salter	12/3
Hank Dickens	12/7	Sarah Carter	12/15	Eugene and Sherry Willard	12/19
Chesley Bailey	12/7	Betty Harbison	12/16	Mark and Tiffany Poteat	12/19
Dana Haynes	12/9	Brad Call	12/16	Nathan & Kelly Smith	12/19
Landon Haynes	12/11	Holly Camp	12/21	Gerald and Audrey McBrayer	12/20
Harper Thayer	12/11	Ray Deal	12/23		
Hatchel Linens	12/12	Carole Fowler	12/23		

## Please Remember In Prayer...

<b>Those who have acute needs</b>	<b>Those who have long-term needs</b>	Kevin	<b>Those who are homebound</b>	Richard Jones	<b>NOTE:</b> <i>If you would like to add a name to the prayer list or know of any changes that need to be made, please call the office at 437 -1133, or email the church office: office@gracemorgantn.org</i>
John	Jean	Kate	Jeff Clark	Charles E. Kistler, IV	
Robert	Katherine	Paul	Ella Elkins	John F. Kistler, III	
Connie	Tony	Bonnie	Betty Harbison	Josh Morris	
Walt	Morris	Elaine	Helen Justus	Scott Swann	
Maria	Gerald	Nancy	Jean Rhodes	Wendy Wilcoxson	
Gerry	Debbie	George	<b>Active military personnel</b>	<b>Those who have recently died</b>	
Jane	Florence	Bryce	Josh Bridges	Evelyn Brooks	
Leah	Sherri	Tracey	Andrew Call	Ruth	
	Lark	Audrey			
	Melba	Kristie			
	Jack	Glen			
		Angela			

(Continued from page 1, Preparing...)

ECW has sent out invitations to their annual Christmas Banquet (also December 1), our children have been working hard to put on their Christmas Pageant (December 4), and our liturgical lives are also full! Lessons and Carols (December 11), Lenoir Sax Concert (December 18), not to mention our Advent Dinner & Discussion series (Wednesdays in Advent at 5:30), there's a *lot* going on!

Which is why I think we *need* Advent so desperately. We *need* to be reminded to prepare ourselves for the joy that is to come. If we don't we run the risk of having it wash over us without ever really sinking in, which inevitably leads to the post-holiday hangover-like depression that always seems to sneak up on us in January. The truth is that Advent is good for us. Most of us know what it's *about*, but this year, perhaps we'll find ways to put it into *practice*. One way to do that is to grab a free Advent devotional from the Narthex. There are devotionals available for all ages, and this is a great way to spend time with your family putting into prac-



*A Choral Solemn Evensong for All Faithful Departed was sung on Sunday, November 6, at 5:00 p. m., with a reception following in the Parish Hall.*

tice some of the truths that Advent teaches us.

My prayer is that we'll move from simply *knowing* Advent to actually *doing* Advent. And who knows? When we get to the *doing*, maybe we'll find a bit of that peace which passes all understanding.

Every blessing,  
The Rev. Marshall A. Jolly, Rector

## Serving During December

	December 4 Advent 2 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a. m.	December 11 Advent 3 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 p.m.	December 11 Festival of 9 Lessons & Carols 5:00 p.m.	December 18 Advent 4 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 p.m.	December 24 Christmas Eve & Can- dlelight Service 5:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	December 25 Christmas Day 10:30 a.m.
8:30 Lector Euch. Min.	Jane Sohovich Matilda Kistler	Gene Williard Sherry Williard	Judy Buchly, Daniel Deal, Samuel Evans, The Rev. Dcn. Mike Jenkins, Mary Jo Johnson, Elizabeth Jolly, The Rev. Marshall Jolly, Joan Summerfield, Paul Wesley	Mary Jo Johnson Bruce Randall Nancy Miller (1st) Mike McQuaid (2nd) Peggy Vitolo Joan Summerfield (Dec. 21)	Colleen Bennett (1st) Bruce Randall (2nd) Jean Berry Paul Wesley (1st) Elizabeth Jolly (2nd) Peggy Vitolo	Eric Breiter
10:30 Lector Euch. Min.	Holly Camp (1st) Mark Miller (2nd) Eric Breiter	Pat Phelps (1st) Matilda Kistler (2nd) Jean Berry				
Wed. Lay Reader	Vera Salter (Dec. 7)	Gerry Lee (Dec. 14)				Vera Salter (Dec. 28)
Ushers 8:30 am	Gresham Orrison Henry Sain	Gresham Orrison Henry Sain	Mark Poteat Harper Thayer	Gresham Orrison Henry Sain Ann Morgan Hugh Morgan	David Ferguson Harper Thayer Wayne Martin Chris Stephens	
10:30 am	Wayne Martin Chris Stephens	David Ferguson Don Olsen	Harper Thayer			Harper Thayer
Acolytes	Thomas Crosby, Il- Crucifer Jonathon Smith, Sawyer Breiter- Torches	Nefitai Ramirez- Crucifer Bennett McSwain- Gos- pel	Hardy Gragg- Crucifer Abby Lee- Crucifer	Norma DeFago - Crucifer Jonathon Smith - Gospel	Ella Evans-Crucifer; Bennett McSwain, Sam- uel Evans- Torches George Cary, Thomas Crosby, Il- Crucifers	Sawyer Breiter
Altar Guild - Sun. Replenish - Sun.	Matilda Kistler, Gerry Lee Laura Smith	Huntie Jokinen, Judy Buchly, JoAnn Wells		Sherry Willard, Jo Curtis, Debbie Hutchins		
Altar Guild - Wed.	Vera Salter (Dec. 7)	Gerry Lee (Dec. 14)		Joan Summerfield (Dec. 21)		Vera Salter (Dec. 28)
Altar Flowers	Advent Greenery	Greenery - Vitolo	Greenery	Greenery - Taylor	Salter	
Greeter	Mark Poteat	Susan Noggle		Sam Avery		
Coffee Hour Hosts	Norma DeFago Jeanne Lewis	Diane Getiner Jacques Getiner		Jan Neal Emily Poteet		
Vestry Duty Open/ Close	John Jokinen/Holly Camp	/Holly Camp		Caroline Avery/Holy Camp		

Please take a few minutes to note on your calendar the days you're scheduled to serve. If you're unable to serve on your scheduled day, please arrange a substitute and let the office know who will be filling in for you.

## GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Website: [www.gracechurchmorganton.org](http://www.gracechurchmorganton.org)



*Miquel Pico performed a concert at Grace Church on October 10, raising \$687 for the Meeting Place Homeless Ministry*

## PARISH CALENDAR - DECEMBER

- **Thursday, December 1**  
11 am - Pat Melton Book (Lib.)  
3:30 pm - Backpacks Filled (P. Hall)  
5:30 pm - Advent/St. Nicholas Party (P. Hall)  
6:30 pm - ECW Christmas Party (Community House)
- **Saturday, December 3**  
3 pm - LGBT Burke Board Meeting
- **Sunday, December 4-**  
8:30 am - Early Eucharist, Rite 1 (Ch.)  
9:30 am - Adult Forum (Lib.)  
10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 (Ch.)  
11:30 am - Coffee Hour (P. Hall)  
4 pm - Children's Christmas Play  
8 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (P. Hall)
- **Tuesday, December 6**  
3:30 pm - Staff Meeting (Rector's Office)  
4 pm - Going Deeper (Chapel)  
8 pm - AA Meeting (P. Hall)
- **Wednesday, December 7**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist w/ Healing (Chapel)  
5 pm - Children's Committee meeting (Lib.)
- 5:30 pm - Advent Dinner/Program (P. Hall)  
5:30 pm - GK Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)  
6:30 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
- **Thursday, December 8**  
11 am - Pat Melton Book (Lib.)
- **Saturday, December 10**  
1 - 5 pm - Historic Burke Open House
- **Sunday, December 11**  
8:30 am - Early Eucharist, Rite 1 (Ch.)  
9:30 am - Adult Forum (Lib.)  
10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 (Ch.)  
11:30 am - Coffee Hour (P. Hall)  
5 pm - Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols (Ch.)  
8 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (P. Hall)
- **Monday, December 12**  
6:30 pm - Labyrinth Walk
- **Tuesday, December 13**  
9 am - Project Flower Christmas Party (P. Hall)  
4 pm - Going Deeper (Chapel)  
8 pm - AA Meeting (P. Hall)
- **Wednesday, December 14**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist w/ Healing (Chapel)  
5:30 pm - Advent Dinner (P. Hall)
- 5:30 pm - GK Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)  
6:30 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
- **Thursday, December 15**  
11 am - Pat Melton Book (Lib.)  
5:30 pm - Backpacks Filled (P. Hall)
- **Sunday, December 18**  
8:30 am - Early Eucharist, Rite 1 (Ch.)  
9:30 am - Adult Forum (Lib.)  
10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 (Ch.)  
11:30 am - Coffee Hour (P. Hall)  
5 pm - Lenoir Sax Concert (Church)  
8 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (P. Hall)
- **Monday, December 19**  
5 pm - Vestry Meeting (P. Hall)
- **Tuesday, December 20**  
4 pm - Going Deeper (Chapel)  
8 pm - AA Meeting (P. Hall)
- **Wednesday, December 21**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist w/ Healing (Chapel)  
5:30 pm - Advent Dinner (P. Hall)  
5:30 pm - GK Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)  
6:30 pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
- **Thursday, December 22**  
11 am - Pat Melton Book (Lib.)
- **Friday, December 23**  
Office Closed
- **Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve**  
5 pm - Festival Eucharist (Church)  
10 pm - Musical Prelude (Church)  
10:30 pm - Festival Candlelit Eucharist (Church)
- **Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day**  
10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 (Ch.)  
8 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (P. Hall)
- **Monday, December 26**  
Office Closed
- **Tuesday, December 27**  
5:30 pm - Green Team Meeting (Lib.)  
8 pm - AA Meeting (P. Hall)
- **Wednesday, December 28**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist w/ Healing (Chapel)
- **Thursday, December 29**  
11 am - Pat Melton Book (Lib.)