

GRACE TO YOU

the Quarterly Newsletter of
Grace Episcopal Church

Summer 2016



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GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF OCALA
510 S.E. Broadway Street
Ocala, Florida 34471



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www.graceocala.org

Cover Photo- Nate and Patti Gilman's 60th wedding anniversary with their family members

Pastoral Care at Grace Church, Part Two

By Don Hires, Pastoral Care Coordinator

In the last issue of the Grace Newsletter we looked at some of the ways Grace Church reaches out into the community with pastoral care. Some of these outreaches include, but are by no means limited to, Hospice of Marion County with our Transitions luncheons for caregivers, and bereavement workshops. We also provide a pastoral presence in all of our area hospitals. In this issue we want to look at the varied ways we provide pastoral care to ourselves as members of Grace Church.

One of the more obvious ways is our hospital ministry. Anytime one of us is admitted into the hospital, a member of the pastoral care team will visit for prayer and/or communion. For whatever the reason you are admitted, we want to be there in prayer for you and your family, but we need to know you are there. Don't rely on the hospital staff to call us. Either you, or have a family member or friend, call to let us know when and where you will be admitted. Even if you are going to the hospital for a test or procedure that's only going to take a few hours, and you have to be there early in the morning, I want to know. One of us from the Pastoral Care Team will meet

you there at that time for prayer. Some of you already know what I look like at six o'clock in the morning. The point is we want to be there for you and your family. "Are any among you sick? (You) should call (the elders of) the church and have them pray over (you)." James 5:14

Another way in which the church stays connected with you is through our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thanks to Martha Jane Singletary and a group of dedicated and talented knitters, we are able to provide this prayerful ministry. Now I know that the word "shawl" conjures up visions of Whistler's mother sitting in a rocking chair with a shawl wrapped around her shoulders and a stern look on her face. This is not what our Prayer Shawl Ministry is about. We also have lap robes, and the stern look is optional. Along with the shawls and lap robes are the baby blankets, which are knitted with love and tenderness. As you know, we have a special Sunday when every one of them gets draped over the altar rail, and we all pray over them as we kneel to receive communion. It's an incredible feeling to literally wrap yourself or your newborn in the healing prayers of the people we know and love.

There is also another group of dedicated people



WHEN YOU NEED US WE ARE HERE

Church Office: 622-7881

Fr. Jonathan French: 286-4392

Don Hires home: 502-2860

cell: 867-9991

Deacon Mary Delancey: 286-8933

who bring communion to us when we are unable to attend church. The Eucharistic Visitors are specially trained individuals who participate in this sacred ministry. Since January we have taken communion to Grace members 59 times. I have been on the giving and receiving end of this pastoral ministry, and it's an awesome experience. There are no distractions, no one moving around, no noise, just you, the Eucharistic Visitor, and the presence of Christ. Anytime you are unable to attend church and want to receive communion, please let us know. Someone will be assigned to you for as long as needed. This is just another way in which we are "God's people caring for God's people."

Another caring ministry is the sending of cards and notes. We have all received or sent them: birthday, get well, sympathy, anniversary, thinking of you, missing you in church, and so on. Cards and notes are like prayers...they are personal, and you can never get enough of them. Not long ago I sent a card to a parishioner who had been in the hospital. About a week later I received a telephone call from her to thank me for the card. It wasn't necessary, but she wanted me to know how much it meant to her that we cared enough to let her know.

One ministry that we are going to greatly expand at Grace this year and next year is bereavement care and support. We are going to create programs, services, mailings, and whatever else it takes to help us heal from our losses. I am a firm believer in the words of the English poet, John Donne: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind." Over the past several years we have been diminished by a number of deaths, and some of them, even though they may have occurred a couple years ago, are still fresh in our minds and hearts. Healing is not easy. It's hard work, and it takes time, effort, patience, and allowing others to be there for us. Again, it comes down to "We are God's people caring for God's people."

I also want us to take a look at how we are caring for those of you who are caregivers to loved ones. It's not easy, I know. You may be a caregiver to your spouse, a parent, a child, a sibling,

a grandparent, even a friend. What can we do to help you? How can we be a support? Some of you I know, because I've been there with you. But, there are others we may not know about. So, if you are a caregiver to anyone, please let me know. We want to be there to support you.

If you are homebound and having communion brought to you by one of our Eucharistic Visitors, we would like to hear your thoughts on how



Grace Church can be brought to you. What else can we do to keep you a vital part of our worshiping community? You are a pillar of Grace, and were faithful in worship and support of the church. Now we want to know how we can be there for you, because had you not been that faithful member, Grace would not be what it is today.

This is by no means a definitive list of all the pastoral care ministries at Grace. It's been said time and time again, "Grace is a caring church." God has called us into a community and in communion with Him, and it's in this context that we care for one another.

The Grace Pastoral Care Team consists of Father Jonathan French, Deacon Mary Delancey, Deacon Chester Trow, and me. If you would like to be part of this caring ministry, let Fr. Jonathan or me know about your interest. Father Jonathan can be contacted through the church office, and I can be reached at 502-2860 (Cell), 867-9991 (Home) or donhires2@gmail.com.

GOD'S PEOPLE CARING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE...

It is the mission of Grace Episcopal Church to make Jesus known, worshiped, and obeyed. It is in the knowing, worshiping, and obeying Him that we are called to care for and pastor one another in all aspects of our communal life in Christ. It is in our relationship with Him and with each other that we become God's people caring for God's people.

COMING events

JUNE 5

Summer Service
Times beginning
today 8am and 10am.

JUNE 5

Instructed Eucharist

JUNE 18

First Worship Service
at this location in
1905

JULY 4

Independence Day,
Office Closed

JULY 31

Send-Off for Deacon
Chester, Coffee Hour

AUG 11

ECW Out to Lunch

SEPT 5

Labor Day,
Office Closed

SEPT 11

Back to Church
Sunday



For more information about upcoming events, check out our website at www.graceocala.org.

KNOW YOUR VESTRY

compiled by Martha Anne Williamson



Vestry Members, Left to Right:

Front Row Karen Kudia, Pae Barbarie, Andy Rose, Linda Harrison.

Back Row Fr. Jonathan, Ted Schatt, Michael Owen, Frank Blasucci, Drick Heitman (church treasurer), Joe Bryant

Karen Kudia

I have lived in this area for about 16 years. I am a retired midwife and have worked, traveled, studied, and volunteered in Africa, Appalachia, Navajo Nation, south Texas, Habitat for Humanity and Jubilee in Georgia, Heifer Project, Zambia Africa doing health care, and lastly El Hogar with Grace Church mission in 2012. I live on 11 acres with cows, chickens, dogs, and a cat. I enjoy reading, traveling, farm life and stage plays. My involvement with Grace has included, among other things, Chalice ministry, prayer team, animal therapy ministry and annual animal blessing. Unfortunately lately I have been limited due to hearing impairment from Meniere's disease. I see being a vestry member as a covenant trust, a call. It is working together with other vestry members and Grace members as we see to discern God's vision and direction.

Patience (Pae) Barberie

I have been attending Grace for over 30 years, having become Episcopalian 10 years before moving to Ocala. I was attending the church closest to my home, but it was much smaller than I was used to, so in scouting Grace it seemed just right. I'll say now that the Lord led me! I filled out a "time and treasure" card every year, hoping to contribute to the church family and finally I was contacted by the Alter Guild. How wonderful it would be to have more volunteers now that I direct it! As for the vestry, I was recruited but enjoy it and think we should all contribute to Grace family wherever we can. My sons have married and are raising young Roman Catholics with their brides, Godly men and good fathers.



Greg Harrell with wife Stephanie and children Walker and Shealy Grace

Greg Harrell

I have attended Grace since my wife Stephanie and I returned to Ocala in 2008. Stephanie grew up attending Grace with her family, Jeff and Julie Shealy and sister Samantha. We were married at Grace in 2002 even though living in Miami at the time. We have enjoyed introducing our children Walker, 7 and Shealy, 5, to Grace and both were baptized here. We have always felt welcomed here. I have enjoyed serving on the vestry for the past six years as it keeps me in tune with the life of our church.

Joseph (Joe) Bryant

This is my third year on the Grace vestry and I have learned many things about church operations during my tenure. Getting to know the other vestry members and what they bring to this group has been wonderful. My wife, Suzanne, recently retired from the school system, and our son Chris is an attorney here in Ocala. Our younger son Joshua passed away in 2006. Suzanne and I were married at Grace when Father Remy was Rector and started attending shortly after Father Jonathan became Rector. We were drawn to Grace by the

church spirit, sermons, and a desire to be more involved. Father Jonathan asked if I would be interested in serving on the vestry. I had no idea what that would entail, but felt that if God led him to ask me then God wanted me to do this. I have been thankful for the opportunity to assist with the business needs of the church.

Linda Harrison

My husband and I retired to Ocala in 2010. It took a few years of searching but found Grace in 2012. I was raised Episcopalian and later converted to the Catholic faith before returning to the Episcopal faith. I am so happy to be home again! My Christian faith has been and continues to be a journey. I am drawn more and more to be active in that faith both in the church and in the community.

Andy Rose

I have been a member of Grace for about 4 years. I transferred from St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Inverness where I attended 25 years. While there I served as chairman of pastoral care and the vestry. I am an army veteran, having served in the 1st Infantry Division. I have a BSA and MSA from the University of Florida. I spent 15 years in agricultural research with Libby McNeal and 21 years as County Extension Director, and area specialist for UF. I am so very thankful for my time at Grace, for I feel that I have been brought closer to my savior here.

Michael Owen

My wife Andrea and I started attending Grace around Christmas of 2013. Our previous church lost its pastor and disbanded. We chose to visit Grace because of our relationship with Father Johnathan (a friend of our previous pastor) and Josh Head, the music director at Grace. We have three children, Jackson (8), Elsie (4) and Clara (2). All have been baptized at Grace. Andrea and I were both raised in Ocala and our parents and siblings all call Ocala home. Over the past two years we have grown to truly love Grace and the Grace family.



Jeff Shealy (right) ushers with his son-in-law Erik Rauba (left)

Jeff Shealy

My wife Julie and I were looking for a church home, having very little success. We were friends with a couple who attended Grace and when they discovered our predicament, invited us to Grace with them. That was all it took - one visit! The church family welcomed us and our prayers were answered. That was over 30 years ago. I was approached by Father Jonathan for prospective vestry membership and knew my time to serve my Heavenly Father and the church community that had welcomed us so long ago had come. Julie has also served on the vestry, as have our son-in-laws Greg and Erik.

Frank Blasucci

I moved to Ocala about 15 years ago from New Jersey, after working in construction in New York City for 45 years. My children still live up north and my wife Jackie and I visit occasionally. My one daughter comes down to Disney each year with the high school band. I really never knew what going to church was all about until I stepped into Grace church. As I have said more than once, it felt like I had been here my whole life. The main reason for my serving on the vestry for the second time was a feeling that

I had one Sunday after the service, which was pretty strange. On the way home I told Jackie I was going to call Father Jonathan and ask if I could join the vestry. In a strange coincidence, he needed another candidate to fill the roster. I can honestly say I am so proud to be a member of the vestry again, and only hope to do my job to the best of my ability. In retrospect, if it had not been for God putting Jackie and me together 8 wonderful years ago, I have no idea where I would be right now!

Ted Schatt

I was born in Ocala in 1974, my parents Jamie and Becky having moved here before I was born. I have a sister, Havens Schatt, who rides horses professionally. Havens and I attended Grace School a long time ago. I graduated from Forest High and the University of Florida with a Juris Doctorate and certificate in Environmental Law and Land Use in 1999. After graduating from law school my wife Betsy and I moved to Ocala. Our first child, Carter, was born in 2003 and our second, Garrett, in 2006. In 2012 Betsy and I went to China and adopted our third child Kathryn (Ryn or Rynnie) which was a total leap of faith and we are grateful for God's plan. When we returned to Ocala after graduation we attended First Presbyterian Church, where I had grown up. Betsy was raised Episcopalian in Orlando, but gave Presbyterians a chance. After a while we were looking for a new church home and Greg Harrell invited us to come to Grace. When we showed up, the sanctuary was beautiful and there were some friendly faces we already knew. Father Jonathan gave one of his impressive sermons, and a few weeks later he invited me to lunch. We discussed our backgrounds, my views on religion, and he answered questions I had. That lunch started me on a spiritual path that has been more rewarding than I could have imagined. What has surprised me about our time as members of Grace is the relationships we have established and folks we would not have gotten to know. I love history and that element of Grace, however, Grace church is not a special place solely because of its past. It is special because of the people devoted to making it a great place to worship God.



Jeremiah Hetzel

My wife Heather and I have been at Grace about 5 years. We had visited almost every church in Ocala seeking a church home, and after visiting Grace, were convinced this was the one. My parents Brad and Susie are also members of the church. I have two older brothers, Josh and Jared. Heather and I have three children, Molly (6), Joseph (4), and Claire (5+ months). I was born in Ohio and moved to Florida when I was four. I graduated from Belleview High in 1999, and then from Florida State University in 2004 and currently run a 70 acre blueberry farm in Lochloosa, Florida. Father Jonathan asked me to join the vestry and I agreed. It is really a lot of fun and gives me a vision of where the church is now and where we would like it to go.

Jeremiah Hetzel and his wife Heather

SUMMER CAMPS FOR CHILDREN

Camp Wingmann is the site for the Summer Church Camp program for the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida. The Camp is located on forty-two picturesque acres, wrapping around Trout Lake. The buildings are mostly rustic cypress nestled among statuesque live oaks. Our camper/staff ratio is quite low and safety is always emphasized. Campers enjoy many activities such as all kinds of sports, silly games, arts and crafts, and swimming or kayaking in beautiful Trout Lake. In addition, there is also a ropes course to challenge the campers middle school and older. The cabins and the Lodge are air conditioned and have comfortable bunk beds. In the dining hall, the kids are treated to the best camp food anywhere! It is wholesome, delicious and with plenty of seconds for growing bodies. For more information go to <http://www.campwingmann.org/Summertimeinfo.html>

Camp Kanuga is a traditional summer camp affiliated with the Episcopal Church and located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. We offer youth summer camp for boys & girls from 7-17 years old. All of our programs are designed to build independence and self-confidence in youth while teaching the importance of respect towards each other and the world around them. As a result, campers form lifelong friendships, experience new adventures and explore their faith in a welcoming Christian community. For more information go to <http://www.kanuga.org/camps-and-outdoor-education/camp-kanuga>

Meet the Grabes

by David Rubin

If you attended either of this year's Easter Services, you must remember the joyful music of the hand bells as we celebrated Jesus' glorious resurrection. Perhaps you wondered about the source of these bells, not heard at Grace for almost a decade. They were provided and played by Jonathan and Wendy Grabe, a couple who first attended Grace back in the days of Fr. Bob Smith, and who have returned to their church home here. As a regular feature of Grace to You, the parish newsletter, we highlight one of Grace's families, and in this issue, let's get to better know the Grabes's.

Wendy was born and grew up in Kalamazoo, MI. Brought up in the Church of God (Anderson, Indiana), she attended college at Anderson University, a school affiliated with that denomination.

Jonathan was born in Staten Island, NY. In 1977, after graduating from high school, he worked as a crewman on a Florida-bound boat and ended up in Bradenton where his brother-in-law was Rector at Christ Episcopal Church.

In December, 1982, Jonathan had a transformational encounter with God, and became a follower of Jesus. He was baptized on Christmas Eve at St Luke's Episcopal Church, and prayed that he would meet a Christian girl that he could marry. One week later, on New Year's Day, he visited a friend to tell him about his new faith. It was there, that he met Wendy, who was visiting her sister. Jonathan invited Wendy to attend church with him the next morning. They spent a wonderful day together.

Knowing in his heart that God had answered his prayer, Jonathan proposed, and (against all odds) Wendy said yes.

Six months later, Wendy and Jonathan were married. In July, they will be celebrating 33 years together. They have 5 children: Christina, who has also given them 3 grandchildren; Alyson, employed as a Police Detective; Eric, a Professional Baseball player drafted by the Chicago White Sox; Stephen, and Joel.

Working in the Financial Services industry since 1989, Jonathan is currently a Financial Advisor specializing in the management of retirement plans, and employee benefits. Wendy is a Portfolio Manager for a Private Mortgage Lender and Real Estate Broker.

Jonathan's business brought him to Ocala for the first time in 1988. When enquiring about local Episcopal churches, Grace was recommended. Jonathan and Wendy, and their growing family were warmly welcomed, and they knew God had brought them to Grace. They quickly became active members, attending Bible study, Mom's group, serving in, and leading, music and youth ministries. They found at Grace a loving, Spirit-filled, church family, and a place where they could deepen their faith.

Jonathan is an angler, and as often as he is able, spends time fishing with family, friends,



and clients. He also enjoys singing and playing the guitar, horticulture, and watching his son play baseball. Wendy's interests include music, playing the piano, photography, and spending time with her children and grand children. She has a passion for young people and enjoys volunteering for youth ministry opportunities in the church. Wendy also owns 4 octaves of hand bells, given to her by her mother, who passed on to her a love for music. She has played in and directed handbell choirs since she was 10, and would enjoy sharing the bells with Grace, including starting a handbell choir. Anyone who is interested can contact Worship Minister Josh Head, or call Wendy at 620-5299.

Jonathan and Wendy enjoy the weekly coffee hour where they are able to meet fellow parishioners.

Now that you have learned more about the Grabes take a moment to greet them in church should the spirit move you.

GOD HAS THIS ONE: Surviving Triple Negative Breast Cancer

by Deb Bockhold

Triple Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC) is an aggressive invasive cancer that is found in 10-20 percent of breast cancers. As a group, triple negatives cause the highest recurrence rates and lowest survival rates of all the breast cancer subtypes. TNBC patients are treated with chemotherapy, surgery and in some cases radiation.

Throughout my six months of chemo treatments I had my prayer shawl with me and as I draped it around my shoulders I could feel God's arms wrapping around me. I could feel the prayers of the people that had prayed over the shawl at the altar and I could feel the prayers of the wonderful ladies as they made the shawls. This brought me great comfort and strength at a time of great fear and anxiety. The love, hugs and support of my family here at

Grace really helped to get me through some trying times. I received many emails and cards of encouragement that I will keep and treasure forever. From time to time I pull these out and read them again. The messages helped to lift my spirits and encouraged me to fight hard and to trust in God. I now wear a necklace that has a heart with a pink ribbon that says, "God has this one..."

Last October I had double mastectomy surgery and in April I will finish the reconstruction phase. I was told in October after my surgery that I am cancer free. There are no long-term drugs available to help prevent a recurrence.....we just sit back and wait and hope that it does not return. If there is a recurrence, however, it is most likely within the first five years with the average being

2.8 years. If a TNBC patient can make it 5 years without a recurrence then it is very rare that the cancer will return. There are many studies going on around the world involving TNBC that are very promising. I am currently in a clinical research study at Moffitt that will last for 36 months. I know we are close to finding a drug that will prevent it from returning and hopefully in the very near future finding a cure.

For more information on TNBC please visit their website at: tnbcfoundation.org



WITH GOD ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE.....
MATTHEW 19:26

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

by Patti Gilman

MOTTO:

I AM BUT ONE, BUT I AM ONE

I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING, BUT I CAN DO SOMETHING.

WHAT I CAN DO, I OUGHT TO DO. BY THE GRACE OF GOD I WILL DO.

Pondering the words of our motto, I think back over my years as a Daughter of the King and am reminded of the spiritual structure it has provided me. Those words have chided me on a lazy day, encouraged me when I was hesitant, put starch in my spine and feet on my prayers.

A Daughter prays, believes and acts on what God's still small voice tells her to do. He has given us an incredible creation and commands us to care for it and each other. It's all about the love of God, listening and asking his guidance.

One of our blessings is the presence of our Deacon, Mary Delancey, back from her mission in the Philippines where she volunteered with Destiny Rescue. This organization works to rescue, restore and reintegrate minors who have been sexually exploited. After a year of service she is

back at Grace, pursuing her duties as Deacon and serving us as Chaplain of our chapter. She guides us in worship and shares her depth of knowledge concerning things spiritual. We celebrate her presence in community. Her service and willing heart enriches us all.

If prayer, service and a deeper walk with Christ interests you, we would be happy to share information with you concerning the Order of the Daughters of the King. Ask any of us who wear the distinctive Greek Fleury Cross, or call our President, **Connie Holleman** at 352-362 3151.





SUMMER SERVICE TIMES

Beginning **June 5th** the Rite 1 Service will begin at 8:00am and the Rite 2 Service will begin at 10:00am.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE