



The Messenger *September 2018*

Rector's Corner

Beginning September 12, back by popular demand, or at least by a few interested folks, we will be resurrecting the weekly Wednesday evening service at 5:30 p.m. To get us started, we will follow the Order of Worship for the Evening with a Eucharist. We will be utilizing the version found in *Enriching Our Worship I* of the *Supplemental Liturgical Materials*. The service follows the same basic shape as found in *The Book of Common Prayer* on page 109. The only variation really will be in the language, which was a prominent point of focus in the *Enriching Our Worship* (EOW) composition.

The EOW liturgy was an attempt by the Episcopal Church to address the issue of inclusive and expansive language found to be lacking in the 1979 edition of *The Book of Common Prayer*. Written and put into trial use by the General Convention in 1997 in Philadelphia, EOW has been around for over twenty years now. And while not meeting everyone's hopes and expectations, as current prayer book revision debates have made plain, it was a step in the direction "to expand the language, images and metaphors," as Bishop Frank Griswold explains in the Preface.

Any form of liturgical revision or supplementation must undergo rigorous scrutiny by the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music. Hundreds, if not thousands, of voices weigh in from the broad spectrum of lay, academic, and ordained. Writing on behalf of the Commission in the Introduction to *Enriching Our Worship*, Phoebe Pettin-gell explains, “The task of the Church is not merely to translate, but to find the voice of prayer in the heart, spirit and mind of the people praying.” If you would like to learn more about the work of the SCLM, I invite you to check out their website:

<https://standingcommissiononliturgyandmusic.org/> Our own Bishop Lee is a member of this commission.

I look forward to spending this extra time in worship with you on Wednesday evenings. Our use of EOW will be much to its original intention, experimental. If those who attend Wednesday evening find that it is not feeding them spiritually, we can try something different, so long as it is approved by the Episcopal Church, until we “find the voice of prayer in the heart, spirit and mind of the people praying.” We will keep this service going with respect to the principle found in Matthew 18:20 and also referenced in the Prayer of St. Chrysostom: “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” If you would like to peruse the *Enriching Our Worship I* liturgy, it is available online in PDF format for free. An order of service will be available Wednesday evenings, and more can be made as attendance necessitates.

See you Wednesday, September 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Blessings,
Fr. Brian

The New Serenity Prayer by Fr. James Martin, SJ

God grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, which is pretty much everyone, since I am clearly not you, God. At least the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God, please give me the courage to change what I need to change about myself, which is frankly a lot, since, once again, I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect. It's better for me to focus on changing myself than to worry about changing other people, who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying, I cannot change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter than everyone else in the room, that no one knows what they're talking about except me, or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I am not you. Amen.

From the Treasurer ~

2018 OPERATING BUDGET Month Ending July, 2018

Giving Income:

<u>July 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan – July18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
11,912.00	12,405.19	104,978.01	86,986.05

Vanguard Endowment Income:

<u>July 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan – July 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
4,000.00	4,000.00	33,000.00	33,000.00

Total Income:

<u>July 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan – June 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
16,206.34	16,792.70	137,264.30	122,698.50

Total Building and Grounds Expense:

<u>June 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan – July18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
772.90	2,484.88	43,988.90	49,146.10

Total All Expenses Including Rector:

<u>July 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan – July 18</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
14,471.25	14,467.78	111,970.11	138,960.99

Current Assets:

<u>Checking</u>	<u>Columbarium</u>	<u>Memorials</u>	<u>Endowment</u>
69,755.30	6,571.76	29,453.16	472,353.62

Thinking About Labor Day

The Bible affirms the importance of work. Adam was put in the garden “to till and keep it.”

In the fourth commandment we are told to “Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.” then we read: “Six days you shall labor and do all your work” (Exodus 20:8-9 NRSV).

Work is important for us. It allows us to use our talent, our minds and our strength to create and bring forth the “fruits” of our labor. Work satisfies an inner need to make a positive contribution to the world. Work helps to bring satisfaction and fulfillment to us as we use our lives for good and uplifting purposes. It is a way of exercising good stewardship of the personal gifts God has given to us: our brain power, our physical strength, our special talents.

Since we have the privilege of being “workers together with God” it seem fitting that we set aside one day a year to think about the goodness and dignity of work. Therefore, let us joyfully celebrate Labor Day.



Grace Church News & Upcoming Events

Helpful information The Reclamation Center in Rockford has told us that we no longer have to reclaim alkaline batteries. They can be put in with our regular recyclables. This would include AA, AAA, C and D and any others that have Alkaline spelled out on the battery. Hearing aid batteries are not alkaline.

ECW News Our September ECW lunch and fellowship hour will be held on WEDNESDAY, September 5th, at 11:30am. (Please note there will not be a meeting on the first Friday this month.) Coffee and tea will be provided; please bring a sack lunch. We have much to discuss: the Red Door Bazaar/Luncheon - November 10th, the new Bible Study, the ECW retreat at DeKoven Center - October 26-28 and outreach opportunities. Please call or email me with any questions or concerns. Connie B.
cburden43@gmail.com 815-789-3181

Choir Practice will be starting Wednesday, September 5th. The first Sunday with the choir will be September 9th.

Rumor has it that some elves have been working in the kitchen. They cleaned out the drawer that holds the dish towels and dish cloths and tossed all the old unusable ones. This means we need some new ones and so, if you would like to donate new or “good” dish towels and dish cloths to our kitchen we would love it. Please just put them in the drawer or leave them on the counter. Thank you, thank you?

On another kitchen note, if you have left dishes in the kitchen after bringing food to an event, please pick them up.

Bible Study

“Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light to guide my path” Psalm 119:105

Everyone, yes...EVERYONE is invited to a new Bible Study which will be held twice a month at Grace. Our first gathering was Friday, August 31st at 10:00am. The next meeting will be September 21st. Father Brian will be leading us on this journey.

Church Work Day will be held on Saturday, September 22nd at 9:00am. There are several projects that need to be done so anyone who can come and help would be appreciated. More information about this work day will be coming in the weekly bulletins.

Grace Episcopal Church

10 S. Cherry Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032

Church office hours: 8:00 - 5:00pm

Tuesday through Friday

Phone: 815-232-4422 Fax: 815-235-4542

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Grace Episcopal Church WEB Site gracechurchfreeport.org

In case of an emergency please call:

Priest-in-Charge Brian Prall 815-233-1828

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From the Wardens

It is September.....already.....after an exciting summer welcoming the Prall family we are now ready to begin our new fall season. Attendance during these summer months has been very good.... averaging around 60 each week.

A new Bible Study led by Fr. Prall is scheduled to begin in September. We look forward to some interesting and stimulating sessions, so watch the bulletin and calendar for more details.

Father Prall has been invited to be part of the Highland Leadership Program for the next year. It normally meets one day a month beginning this September and ending in May of 2019. It is a program designed to build leadership skills and community awareness for professionals in the Freeport area. Debra Lischwe is one of the presenters this year and Fr. Brian is excited to begin this journey.

He also began serving on a rotating schedule leading inter-faith services at Provena St. Joseph Center. Ellen and Lucy joined him last month leading the group of residents in song. and it seems that Lucy stole the show and the residents can't wait for her to come back. What fun for everyone!

A work-day is planned by the Building and Grounds committee for later this month. There is quite a list of items that need attention both inside and out. All hands will be appreciated. Again, watch for more details.

Grace Church recently received a generous gift from the Gus Petrakis Estate. This will allow us to move forward with some much needed new landscaping for our front yard. A committee will begin working on plants and design with a landscaper and you will hear more about this as we move forward.

On Thursday afternoon, September 27 we plan to hold an informal open house at the church as an opportunity to invite all local clergy to stop by and meet Father Prall and Ellen.

Phyllis Bergagna's great grandson, Luca, will be baptized on Sunday, September 30. It is always a beautiful and joyful day when we celebrate and welcome the newly baptized into the life of Christ.

The monthly vestry minutes are posted on our website and on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

Happy September everyone...a beautiful month filled with God's goodness.

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- People are funny — they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road and the back of the church

—Unknown

- Faith and works are like the light and heat of a candle; they cannot be separated.

—Joseph Beaumont

- I believe that the only self I need to measure up to is the self my Maker meant me to be.

—Lewis B. Smedes



ECW Lunch Wednesday, September 5th at 11:30am. Bring your sack lunch; coffee and tea will be provided.

Building & Grounds Committee Tuesday, September 11th at 1:15pm in St. Stephen's Hall.

Wednesday Eucharists at 5:30pm starting September 12th.

Men Of Grace Breakfast Saturday, September 15th, 8:00am at 9 East. All people of Grace Church are welcome.

Vestry Meeting Sunday, September 16th, 10:30am.

Bible Study Friday, September 21st, 10:00am. Fr. Prall will be the leader of this group.

Church Work Day Saturday, September 22nd at 9:00am.

Open House at church for Freeport clergy to come meet Fr. Prall and Ellen, Thursday, September 27th from 1:00-3:00pm.

September



ANNIVERSARIES

6th	Cynthia Bradbury	18th	Marsha Schneider
9th	Phyllis Bergagna	20th	John Gush
	Skip Lehnhard	28th	Carol Russell
	Brian Douglas Mitchell	29th	Ruslan Bolotnik
12th	Kathy Helm	30th	Nancy Bender
13th	Sue Norman		Cathy Perkins
15th	Ashly Shore		

9th Chad & Katie Enright
23rd Stephen & Susan Lafferty

Deadline for the October "Messenger" will be September 21st.

Grace Episcopal Church
10 S. Cherry Avenue
Freeport, IL. 61032
815-232-4422



September Newsletter