



The Messenger

June 2022

Rector's Message

As we begin to move from the Great Fifty Days of Easter to Ordinary Time, or those numbered Sundays after Pentecost, Church life seems to settle a bit. The festive color of white is exchanged for green. The opening acclamation goes from that joyous “Alleluia. Christ is risen” to the usual “Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” And there is a noticeable lack of festal occasions and celebrations as we head into the summer months. Everything just seems kind of ordinary.

However, that is not why the word “ordinary” is used to describe this time in the life of the Church. Laurence Stookey explains:

The intention behind this wording is easily misunderstood by all except the few who remember what their math teachers told them about two different ways of counting: by cardinal numbers (one, two, three, four) and by ordinal numbers (first, second, third, fourth). “Ordinary Time” implies no mundaneness, as if more than half the year were dull and unexciting; it refers to the fact that in the original lectionary system the Sundays outside Advent-Christmas and Lent-Easter were simply designated by ordinal numbers.

That this time might seem rather unexciting is not necessarily a bad thing, though. Stookey points out, “The excitement of life often depends on the principle of contrast by

alternation. If every evening at dinner time you are served a great banquet of fine foods in lavish surroundings, soon none of those events seem particularly exciting . . . So, too, in church.” Theologically, though, we still celebrate the story of God’s mighty acts of salvation, Christ’s ministry in the world, and the hope of the Resurrection. We are, after all, an Easter people.

With that in mind, I would like to use the remainder of my letter to promote a small resurrection all our own in the life of Grace Church. Beginning this month, on Saturday, June 18th at 8:00 a.m., I would like to resurrect the People of Grace Breakfast at Nine East downtown, which will be a recurring event every 3rd Saturday of the month. This was an enjoyable tradition of fellowship stewarded by our own dear Keith Chesterton. Shortly after his passing, the pandemic struck and we haven’t held a breakfast together since.

I hope you are able to join me for breakfast at Nine East on June 18th at 8:00 a.m. The mood and conversation have traditionally been casual, though I will certainly entertain biblical, theological, or ecclesiastical topics. I simply ask that you allow me get at least one cup of coffee in my system first.

Blessings,
Fr. Brian

Treasurer's Report

Below is a summary of the revenue and expenses for the first 4 months of 2022.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Difference</u>	Percentage Increase(Decrease)
Total Revenue	72,443	105,911	(33,468)	(31.6%)
Expenses:				
Personnel Costs	47,448	45,090	2,358	
Buildings & Grounds	16,283	14,509	1,774	
Diocese Pledge	2,833	2,567	266	
Other	<u>4,052</u>	<u>5,071</u>	<u>(1,019)</u>	5.0%
Total Expenses	70,616	67,237	3,379	
Gain (Loss)	<u>1,827</u>	<u>38,674</u>	<u>(36,847)</u>	(95.3%)

The revenue for the first 4 months of 2022 is \$33,468 less than the first 4 months of 2021. However, the good news is that the pledge revenue for April 2022 was just \$902 less than the revenue for April 2021. I hope this is a good sign that our revenue will start to increase for the rest of the year.

If you recall I mentioned in last month's report that we had to transfer funds from our reserves to pay bills and payroll. If we had not made that transfer our checking account balance as of May 13 would have been \$13,250 overdrawn.

Our expenses for 2022 are up \$3,379 over last year. This is primarily driven by an increase in our required contribution into the rector pension fund and of course the increase in the cost of natural gas.

Our gain for 2022 (revenue over expenses) is only \$1,827 compared to gain last of \$38,674. This is driven by our lower revenue which hopefully is just a timing issue. If you have any question please contact me.

Duane Price, Treasurer 815-233-0006
daprice@yahoo.com

Grace Community

ECW News We had a great turnout for the last First Friday luncheon and look forward to seeing everyone at our next gathering: Friday, June 3rd at 11:30. Please bring your own lunch.

At the May meeting we voted to send \$500 to Episcopal Relief and Development to aid children throughout the world. This donation will be matched!

We discussed the upcoming Rummage Sale (July 8th and 9th). Please see the article in this newsletter which details the particulars. If you have questions, please contact Carol Price. She is heading up this event. Phyllis is chairing the publicity. We need your help during the sale!

Three ladies have volunteered to organize a Kitchen Shower for Grace Church! Linda Locascio, Gail Hunt, and Sue Norman are co-chairing this event. More information will be coming in a month or so.

Attention Giant Cookie Bakers: We will also be helping with the Eats and Beats Festival at the end of August.

On Sunday, June 26th, ECW will be providing the cake to celebrate Father Prall's 4th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Please come and join in the celebration!

Peace and love,

Connie B.

815-789-3181

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Building & Grounds Meeting Wednesday, June 8th at 11:00am.

Vestry Meeting Sunday, June 12th after the 9:00am service.

People of Grace Breakfast Saturday, June 18th - 8:00am at 9 East Coffee Shop.

FACC June's donation is canned carrots.

On behalf of the Altar Guild and myself, I would like to give a special thank you to Linda Locascio for taking on Grace's flower ministry. Each week, the altar flowers are offered to those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, or brought to those who are unable to be with us in church. Linda has been coordinating that ministry since the return of flowers after Lent, and we couldn't be more grateful.

Good News!! The ECW Rummage Sale is coming. Put July 8th and 9th on your calendars as the dates for this sale. It will be open from 8:00am-2:00pm on Friday and 8:00am-12:00pm on Saturday.

Thursday the 7th will be the set up day and more hands to help means quick work and great fellowship. Start putting aside anything that needs a new home. Just be sure it is clean and ready to make someone's life better. I'll send reminders but maybe you won't need them.

Thanks, Phyllis

Thoughts for Father's Day

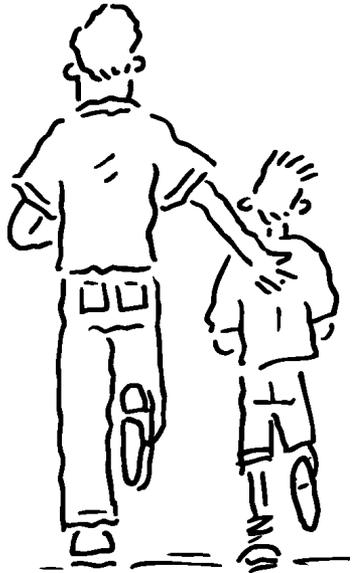
An unknown father who began to consider the example he should set for his children penned the following poem:

A careful man I ought to be;
A little fellow follows me;
I do not dare to go astray
For fear he'll go the self same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes;
Whate'er he sees me do,
 He tries —
Like me, he says, he's going to be,
The little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine,
Believes in every word of mine;
The base in me he must not see,
The little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go,
Through summer's sun and winter's snow,
I'm building for the years to be,
For a little fellow follows me.





2nd	Laura Watson	13th	Nicholas Smith
3rd	Connie Olson	18th	Mackenzie Francis
4th	Colton Terpening	20th	Ellen Prall
8th	Kathryn Terpening	22nd	Don Doak
9th	Candy Colby	23rd	Rose Dreier
10th	Eden Helm	24th	Jon Watson
11th	John Woodward	30th	John Burden
	Steve McMillen		Joseph Graham
13th	Quinn Mitchell		Jeff Francis



5th	Glenn & Laurie Gungel
8th	Duane & Carol Price
21st	Lan & Rayma Pinney
22nd	Bruce & Kathy Helm
24th	Ralph & Sue Norman

Deadline for the July "Messenger" will be June 17th.

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There is no
Holy One like
the LORD,
there is no
Rock
like our God.



1 Samuel 2:2

June Newsletter