

August - September 2019



## Communicator

is a publication of

### Grace Episcopal Church

555 E. Mountain View Road  
Glendora, California 91741

[www.GraceGlendora.org](http://www.GraceGlendora.org)

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#### **Sunday Services:**

**8:00 AM** Holy Eucharist ~ Rite I

**10:00 AM** Holy Eucharist ~ Rite II  
Choral Family Service

**Nursery Care** ~ Available 9:00 AM  
- 11:15 AM in St. Martha's Room.

**Sunday School** ~ 10:00 AM  
Kindergarten - Grade 5

**Youth Group** ~ Grade 6-12  
Meetings are bi-monthly in the  
upstairs Youth room. 11:30 AM - 1 PM

#### **Activities:**

**Bible Study** ~ Wednesdays at  
10:00 AM in the Fireside Room in  
Baxter Hall.

**Sounds of Grace Handbells** ~  
Rehearses Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 PM

**Grace Parish Choir** ~  
Rehearses on Thursdays 7:30-9:00 PM

**From your Rector ~ The Rev. Susan Scranton**



*Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself  
for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.*

A little more than a year ago, much of the world was mesmerized by the words of our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, as he gave the sermon at the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. Sticking to the theme of his work as Presiding Bishop, Curry's sermon proclaimed the power of love and its redemptive role to change the world. Out of that very sermon came books and programs detailing the power of love. Curry, himself, then set out to find a way to help people deepen their relationship of love with God, or as he proclaimed, "find a way to help people throw themselves into the arms of Jesus."

Meeting with a group of clergy and laity, Curry and the group discovered that the Church did not need a new program but instead should call upon the spiritual practices used for centuries. Monasteries and other houses of intentional spiritual development adopted what was known as a "Rule of Life," otherwise known as an intentional commitment to a set of practices that provide guidance, rhythm, and inspiration for living a beautiful, meaningful, and holy life. According to Curry, "*The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life* outlines a Rule for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement to help church members grow more deeply with Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, so we can bear witness to his love in and for the world."

According to Curry, *The Way of Love* was designed to be spare and spacious, flexible enough that individuals, groups, and congregations can use it in a multitude of ways. Your Stewardship Committee has created a sermon series and program entitled "Walking the Way of Love," using the seven practices of **Turn – Learn – Pray – Worship – Bless – Go – Rest** to highlight our 2020 Stewardship Campaign, reminding us that all of life, including our spiritual development, is a gift of God meant to be nurtured and shared.

Beginning on September 8 and continuing through October 20, each Sunday will feature a sermon focused on one of the seven practices that invite us deeper into a relationship with Jesus. The following Sundays will include a sermon on the spiritual discipline of generous giving, a visit from Assisting Bishop Samuel Azariah on All Saints Sunday, and a party to celebrate Ingathering Sunday on November 10.

Echoing the words of Presiding Bishop Curry, I pray that we will grow as a community following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus, whose love has the power to change our lives and that of the world.

In Christ's love, Susan +

(On the next page, please enjoy the meditation by Margo Keller on **Turn.**)

## WALKING THE WAY OF LOVE

**TURN:** Pause, listen, and choose to follow Jesus

Mark 2:14 - *As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him and Levi got up and followed him.*

Attending Sunday services on a regular basis is a practice that helps me turn to God. I always try to keep Sunday free from other activities especially if they interfere with my attending church.

My companions on this journey are and will always be my friends at Grace Church. They have taught me to strive for more. I could not have remained in California after Charles passed away if it were not for my friends at Grace. Through their loving generosity and helpfulness, I have learned to be more loving, helpful and generous to others.

Praying for others has helped me to TURN TO GOD and in return for my prayers for others, God has blessed me along with the people I am praying for.

Margo Keller



## YOUTH GROUP POOL PARTY TO KICK OFF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

**Sunday, September 15 from 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
At the Rice Home**

All young people in grade 6 through 12 and their parents are invited to our Bar-B-Q and pool party on Sunday, September 15. Join in the fun as we welcome new 6<sup>th</sup> graders into the youth group and look at plans for the new year.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, and the fixings will be provided by the church. Youth are invited to bring a dish to share. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to the church office with numbers and the dish you are going to bring no later than Thursday, September 12.

Bring swim suits, sun screen, towels, and a change of clothes and enjoy the day with your friends.

***Parents are welcome!***

## Welcome Back Sundae

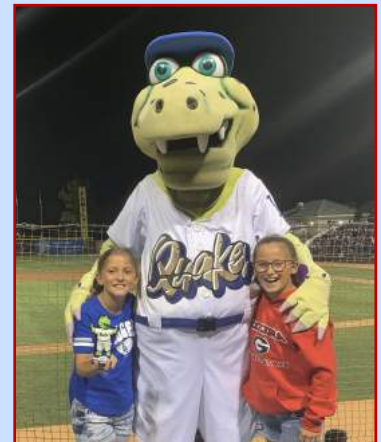


# ✠ Grace Episcopal Church Events ✠

Baptism ~ Vacation Bible School ~ Quakes Game



**VBS**



## Upcoming Events in September:

### September 8 ~ 11:15 AM

#### **Ministry Fair and Chili Cook-off**

Please join us after the 10 AM service to visit our ministries. Anyone that would like to be more involved in our parish, please visit the ministry tables. You will get a treat! It brings joy to be involved!

### Grace Ministries:

Acolytes (4th grade and above)  
Adult Education/Bible Study  
Altar Guild  
Flower Guild  
Girls Friendly Society (GFS)  
Handbell Choirs (3rd grade and above)  
Hospitality  
Lay Eucharistic Ministers  
Lectors  
Parish Choir  
Sunday School  
Outreach Ministries  
Ushers  
Youth Group

There will also be a **Chili Cook-off**. Bring your best chili to share and see who wins an award or bring a side dish to share!

### September 11 ~ 9:15 AM - 10 AM:

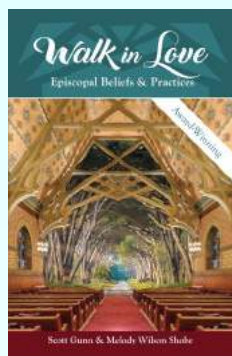
#### **Grace Chair Yoga Classes**

Please join us as we have "free" chair yoga classes every Wednesday in Baxter Hall. Enjoy a class for stretching and meditation with Karleen Killen.

***Everyone is Welcome!!***

### September 11 ~ 10 AM: **Bible Study**

All are invited to attend Bible Study every Wednesday in the Fireside room. This session will study and discuss the book "Walk in Love" that examines Episcopal practices and beliefs. This class will also be a confirmation preparation class for those who would like to be confirmed by Bishop Azariah in May.



## *African Team Ministries to offer an Alternative Christmas on September 15 after the 10 AM service.*

On Sunday, September 15, African Team Ministries will be selling East African craft goods, jewelry, and soapstone in Baxter Hall following the 10:00 AM service. Consider this an opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping or just an excuse for you to purchase beautiful wood crafts, jewelry, and soapstone for yourself.

African Team Ministries often present their goods at our own Diocesan Convention. This organization is a Christian ministry working as an intermediary between African and American churches. With help from Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Anglican denominations, they provide funding for orphan and refugee relief missions and evangelism in East Africa.

### Current ministries include:

- The care, health, & education of orphans
- Provision of jobs for unemployed woman as they make crafts, and are thereby enabled to care for their children & parents
- Resources for projects of refugee relief, health education, clergy & lay education, and building repairs as they occur.
- Family-sized drip irrigation systems which provide a controlled release of water for maize (a staple food) using only 5 buckets of water daily
- And most recently by sending a 40' container with 250,000 meals to Kenya, after the worst drought in 60 years caused a severe food crisis and left more than 3 million Kenyans facing malnutrition & starvation.



# Blessing of the Animals

~ October 6, 2019 - 10 AM ~

Bring your beloved animals to be blessed this year at our annual Blessing of the Animals and modified service of Morning Prayer at the Finkbiner Park at 10 AM.



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,  
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13:16)

Grace Episcopal Church has an amazing service and ministry to our beloved pets, and nowhere is this more evident than in our annual Blessing of the Animals service.

This year, in response to God's call upon us to share what we have with others – both our Blessing of the Animals, and more importantly, the Good News of God in Jesus Christ – we are taking our 10:00 AM service to Finkbiner Park.

In this popular local setting, we are hoping to bring the love of God, through the unique gifts of Grace Episcopal Church, to the larger community.

You are encouraged to bring your pets and invite your friends to this special service. In an effort to make our service easily accessible to all people, we will be offering a special version of Morning Prayer, complete with beautiful psalms and canticles that praise God for creation and for our beloved animals. At the end of the service, each animal will be blessed, and following the service, guests will be treated to Grace hospitality with food and drink for both animals and humans. In concert with our efforts to reach out to those in need, we will be taking a special offertory of dog and cat food which will be given to local shelters.

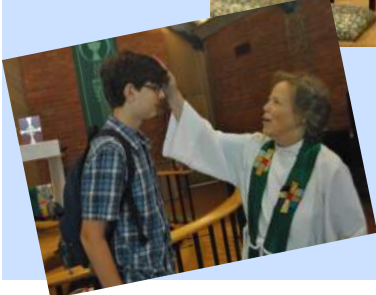
Finkbiner Park offers us a lovely outdoor setting, complete with a shaded area, cement footing, and picnic tables. In addition, we will be bringing our own chairs and Blessing of the Animals altar to the park. Able bodied parishioners are encouraged to park in the Finkbiner parking lot or simply walk over church. A special shuttle service from church will offer door to door transportation for anyone, with or without pets, concerned about walking on the park grass. Those taking the church shuttle will be able to walk from the drop-off point to the church service site in 50 steps, all of which are on concrete.

Barney is coming, and we hope all of you will come too.

Rev. Susan +

# Grace Episcopal Church Events

Blessing of the Backpacks ~ Blessing students, teachers, business men and Boy Scouts



Please remember that all parishioners are welcome to attend our Vestry Meetings. Normally we meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM. The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15 at 6:30 PM.

Heard oral reports from the Rector and Wardens

Karen Cleland, Parish Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report for July 2019, including the Income and Expense Sheet, Balance Sheet, General Ledger Fund Summary, and the Scrip Report. Karen also reported that the transfer of funds from Bank of America to America's Christian Credit Union will be completed by the end of August, with the closure of all Bank of America accounts. Finances are in good shape.

Audit 2018: Edie Noland and Tim Murphy are still working on our 2018 Audit. Results are pending and will be given to Vestry before September 1. Addendum: On August 28, via email, Vestry approved the 2018 Audit.

Upcoming Events: Blessing of the Backpacks and Welcome Back Sundae — August 25; Ministry Fair and Chili Cook-off — September 8; Blessing of the Animals at Finkbiner Park — October 6; Bishop's Visit — November 3.

Buildings and Grounds: Todd Rice gave an update on all projects. He noted that the roof on the shed needs repair. A contract proposal from Ridgeline Roofing was presented for consideration. Vestry voted to sign the contract. A new Eagle Scout project by Adam Prinki of Troop 486 to clean up the east wall was approved by Vestry.

Boy Scout Troop 486: Rev. Susan reported on deepening contact with our Boy Scout Troop. The troop will assist with the transportation and set up of chairs and other items needed for the Blessing of the Animals. They also plan to partner with Grace Church in collecting food for the Holiday Basket Program. Scout Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, February 23, 2020, and the scouts will once again host our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

Stewardship Report: Margo Keller, chair, reported that committee meetings have taken place during the summer. She also reported that Stewardship for 2020 will commence on September 8, using a program entitled "The Way of Love." Ingathering Sunday is set for Sunday, November 10, concluding with a festive party.

Newcomers and Growth: Nancy Rice reported that the Greeter's Group has begun working. Continued work includes updating the website.

Adjournment and closing prayer.