

September 2018



# 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



The child Jesus grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. (Luke 2:40)

Last Sunday's "Blessing of the Backpacks and Welcome Back Sundaes" was awesome! Thanks to all who came and were a part of this special service. After all of the backpacks, book bags, and assorted other bags that represented learning in some manner were blessed; we had the opportunity to uplift and celebrate learning and education before offering a blessing to each person going off to school.

Did you know that Jesus was a learner and student? The Bible tells us again and again that Jesus grew in knowledge and wisdom. First he was taught by his parents Mary and Joseph, who undoubtedly told him what the angels had said to them about the child who would become their Son. Jesus most likely received his formal education from the rabbis, under whom he memorized the Torah and prophets and learned the writings of the Mishnah. His education did not go unheeded as his brilliant Biblical exegesis confounded the scribes and Pharisees. After he finished teaching one day, *the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes* (Matthew 7:28-29).



However, at the heart of Jesus' life as a good Jew, he and his family would have known and practiced the Shema: *Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.*



*Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.* Coming from Deuteronomy and given to the Chosen People as they made ready to enter the Promised Land, it is the oldest fixed daily prayer in Judaism, recited morning and night since ancient times.



Perhaps we can learn from the example offered to us by Jesus and from God's command in Scripture, to continually apply ourselves to learning and growing, becoming more and more shaped into the people whom God created us to be.

With joy and peace, let us go into the new year of learning.

In Christ's love,  
Susan +



# TRANSFORMING GENEROSITY

## Stewardship 2019

As fall begins, and with it, the church program year, we begin thinking about the fall Stewardship Campaign for 2019. You might ask, "What is Stewardship all about?" I think that Stewardship is using the gifts God has given us to help make this world a better place for all of us. No one can be a Christian alone. We must live in community.



This year our Stewardship theme is Transforming Generosity. We at Grace Church are already transforming others' lives through our generosity and this begins with our yearly stewardship pledges. Personally, I find that pledging to Grace Church as generously as I can has also transformed my life. It has made me a happier person knowing that I can reach out and help others through my church.

During past years we have transformed many young lives in support of young people at the Shepherd's Home in Gilgal, Kenya and the Shelter Children's Home in Ngong, Kenya. Locally, we continue to help the needy through our food contributions to Shepherd's Pantry, our monthly lunches to Union Station in Pasadena, and our Christmas gift program at Hillsides. Also, each year we provide hundreds of needy people breakfast, lunch and dinner through our participation in the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition Homeless Winter Shelter. We have also transformed the physical property of our own church and do so on a regular basis, because God has entrusted us with this wonderful church called Grace Episcopal Church. With your continuous generous support there is still much more we can do as a church and in our community to reach out and transform others' lives.

We have an interesting and fun calendar of Stewardship events this year beginning with Blessing of the Animals on October 7th and going through to Ingathering Sunday on November 11th. There will be three Sundays in October when we will ask you to donate a designated item: Peanut butter and jelly, socks, and laundry detergent. These items will be donated to Shepherd's Pantry. Also during this time we will be having Get to Know You Dinner Gatherings at parishioner's homes. These dinners are fun, as well as informative, and we ask you to please plan to attend one of them. You will be receiving a Save the Dates flyer in September in plenty of time to mark your calendars for all of our special events.

I hope you will join with our Stewardship Ministry Team as we work together to transform generosity in our church, our community and our lives. When you pledge out of a deep sense of gratitude for God's generosity in your life it becomes a joy to pledge and not just a commitment.

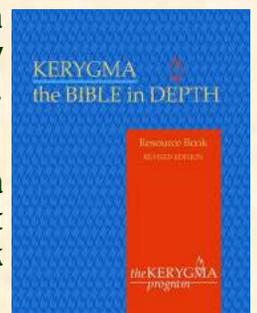
Yours in Christ,  
Margo Keller, Stewardship Ministry Team



## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 5 at 10:00 AM. Over the course of the last several years, we have enjoyed many studies on the various books of the Bible. This fall we are going to begin a Kerygma course entitled The Bible in Depth. Using a thematic approach, we will look at the Bible as a whole and explore its meanings for life today. Using ten primary themes, we will trace related stories and events through both the Old and New Testaments, covering such topics as salvation, faithfulness, leadership, wisdom, worship, hope, and life in God's world today.

Kerygma: The Bible in Depth, Resource Book, Revised Edition, sells for \$34 through Cokesbury. While you might find a used book for less through amazon.com, I have found that Cokesbury offers the best price for a new book. If you are interested in purchasing the book through a group order of the church, please speak with Rev. Susan.



## YOUR STEWARDSHIP DOLLARS AT WORK...

Over the past several months, your vestry has carefully tended to its calling to care for the physical grounds of the church. After thorough planning, investigation, and the seeking of multiple estimates, buildings and grounds projects, large and small, have come to fruition.

~ A new sign has been ordered from Montauk Sign Carving Company. Here you see the old sign and the first part of the work.



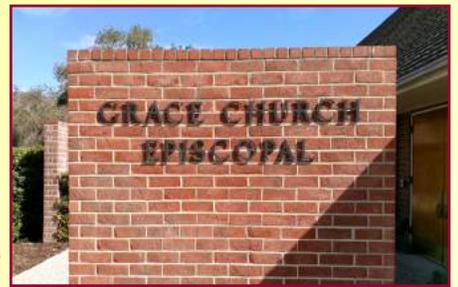
~ The rental house was built with no air-conditioning and no insulation. A couple of summers ago, we had full air-conditioning installed, and just recently we added insulation to the attic and the south and west walls. You can see the holes, through which the insulation was added. Pete Tuzzolino will be repairing and painting the wall within the next couple of weeks.

~ New parking lot bumpers were installed.

~ A new sound system will be installed in mid-September. Working with Digital Network Groups, this sound system will replace our ancient and somewhat quirky, existing system. Included will be new wireless microphones, Bluetooth, hearing aid amplifications, and the latest in sound technology.



As always, we seek to serve God's people and God's Church, making it a welcoming beacon to all who enter our doors. General upkeep and other projects loom on the horizon. And as Doug Jones, Buildings and Grounds Chair-emeritus asked me just the other day, "How did you afford this," the answer was simple and complex: We did it the old-fashioned way. We judiciously saved and prepared through the faithful stewardship of the members of Grace Episcopal Church. In Christ's love, Susan +



## YOUTH GROUP



### Welcome Back Pool Party

We welcome all young people in middle school and high school to our youth group at Grace. We enjoy fellowship, support and activities.

We will be having a pool party at the Rice residence on **September 9 from 11:30 AM - 3 PM**. Grace will host the BBQ with hamburgers and hotdogs. Please bring chips, drinks or dessert item to share. Parents are welcome!

**\*\* Please RSVP to the office with how many will be coming and what you would like to bring.**



# Grace Church at the Quakes Game!



# Vacation Bible School



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. Our next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17 at 6:30 PM.

Below is a summary of actions taken at the July and August meetings.

All reported that the Blessing of the Backpacks and Welcome Back Sundae was an overwhelming success. Bobbi, Karen, Susan, and Nancy make a great team.

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen Cleland reviewed the financial statements for June and July, including the Income and Expense sheets, Balance Sheets, Fund Balances, and Scrip income for both June and July. Karen reported that we have turned the corner with pledges and overall are no longer in a deficit pledge position. Thank you congregation. She noted that we are doing well and are on track for expenses and income. Karen also reported that faithful stewardship and prudent spending has enabled us to fund capital projects, such as the sound system and sign, through the Building Fund. Vestry accepted the 2017 Audit as prepared by Edith Noland and Tim Murphy and asked that the audit be sent to the diocese. Thanks were offered to Edie and Tim for their work.

**Buildings and Grounds – Sound System:** Vestry authorized the funding of a new sound system, signing a contract with Digital Network Groups. Installation should take place over a three or four day period in mid-September. Thanks were offered to Rick Sandona for his continuing work on this project. Rick will be available to work with the contractors throughout installation.

**Building and Grounds – Rental Property:** Vestry authorized the funding for adding insulation to the rental house. Todd Rice, chair, reported that insulation was added to the attic and to the south and west walls of the house. He also noted that the holes in the stucco through which the insulation was added, will be repaired by Pete Tuzzolino within the next couple of weeks. The renters reported that the insulation has made a big difference in cooling the house. Todd continues to work with the Boy Scouts on a possible Eagle Scout project involving the re-landscaping of the front of the rental house.

**Building and Grounds: Church property:** Todd reported that the sink hole in the parking lot was repaired and that new parking lot bumpers were installed. Proposals continue to be sought regarding the landscaping of the front steps in front of the sign.

**Vacation Bible School:** Heather Moore reported on the success of Vacation Bible School, held July 9-12. Children enjoyed learning about how God calls upon ordinary people to accomplish many things for God. They shared their joy with the congregation on Sunday, July 15 – VBS Sunday.

**Stewardship Committee:** Bobbi Patterson reported that the fall campaign will run from October 7 through November 11, and will feature dinners and luncheons in homes. The campaign will culminate on November 11 with ingathering and an all festive parish picnic.

Sunday School, the Parish Choir, the Handbell Choir, and Bible Study all resume in early September.

**Fall Events:**

September 2 - Sunday School begins

September 23 - Chili cook off and picnic

October 7 - Blessing of the Animals

November 4 - All Saints Celebration with baptisms

November 11 - Stewardship Ingathering and party

December 2 - Family Advent Evening

December 16 - Annual Christmas Concert

Adjournment and closing prayers.



Grace Episcopal Church will be having a chili cook-off on **September 23** after the 10 AM service.

All entries will judged on creativity and flavor!  
Chili may be with or without beans, with or without beef, pork, chicken, or turkey. Hot or mild!?

**Get out your family recipes ...and cook to impress!**