



## Grace to You

Grace Episcopal Church  
The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby,  
Priest-in-Charge  
**September, 2017**

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[www.gracechurch-ricelake.org](http://www.gracechurch-ricelake.org)

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**Church circuit number: 715 434-1040**

Our vision: "Come to know and live with God at our table."

The mission of Grace Church is to have a church committed to God and our neighbors, sustained by individuals dedicated to providing spiritual opportunities to enhance the feelings of family and community

### From the ens Episcopal News Service

#### A Message to the Church from the Presiding Bishop

Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?

In this moment – when the stain of bigotry has once again covered our land, and when hope, frankly, sometimes seems far away, when we must now remember new martyrs of the way of love like young Heather Heyer – it may help to remember the deep wisdom of the martyrs who have gone before.

The year was 1967. It was a time not unlike this one in America. Then there were riots in our streets, poverty and unbridled racism in our midst, and a war far away tearing us apart at home. In that moment, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wrote a book, his last one, with a message that rings poignant today. It was titled, "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?"

One of his insights then was that a moment of crisis is always a moment of decision. It was true then and is true now. Where do we go from here? Chaos? Indifference? Avoidance? Business as usual? Or Beloved Community?

I'm a follower of Jesus of Nazareth because I believe the teachings, the Spirit, the Person, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus have shown us the way through the chaos to true community as God has intended from the beginning.

Through the way of love, he has shown us the way to be right and reconciled with the God and Creator of us all. Through his way of love, he has shown us the way to be right and reconciled with each other as children of God, and as brothers and sisters. In so doing, Jesus has shown us the way to become the Beloved Community of God. St. Paul said it this way: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself" and now he has entrusted us with "the message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

I know too well that talk of Beloved Community, which Jesus was describing when he spoke of the kingdom of God in our midst, can be dismissed as nice but naive, idealistic yet unrealistic. I know that.

But I also know this. The way of Beloved Community is our only hope. In this most recent unveiling of hatred, bigotry, and cruelty, as Neo-Nazis marched and chanted, "The Jews will not replace us," we have seen the

alternative to God's Beloved Community. And that alternative is simply unthinkable. It is nothing short of the nightmare of human self-destruction and the destruction of God's creation. And that is unthinkable, too.

We who follow Jesus have made a choice to walk a different way: the way of disciplined, intentional, passionate, compassionate, mobilized, organized love intent on creating God's Beloved Community on earth.

Maybe it is not an accident that the Bible readings for the Holy Eucharist this Sunday (Genesis 45:1-15; Isaiah 56:1,6-8; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; and Matthew 15:21-28) all point toward and bear a message of God's passionate desire and dream to create the Beloved Community in the human family and all of the creation.

This Sunday and in the days and weeks to come, as we gather in community to worship God and then move about in our homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, social circles and more, we will be faced with a choice. I ask and invite us as congregations and individuals who are together the Episcopal Church of the Jesus Movement to intentionally, purposely, and liturgically rededicate ourselves to the way of Jesus, the work of racial reconciliation, the work of healing and dismantling everything that wounds and divides us, the work of becoming God's Beloved Community. Resources that can assist us in doing this work are included with this message, including an adapted version of the Becoming Beloved Community vision that our church's key leaders shared this spring. I urge you to spend time reflecting with them individually and in your churches.

Where do we go from here? Maybe the venerable slave songs from our American past can help us. In the midst of their suffering, they used to sing ...

*Walk together children  
And don't you get weary.  
Cause there's a great camp meeting  
In the promised land.*

We will walk there ... together. We will make this soil on which we live more and more like God's own Promised Land. So God love you. God bless you. And let's all keep the faith!

**The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry**

**Presiding Bishop and Primate**

**The Episcopal Church**

## The Diocese of Eau Claire

“Where Jesus Leads”

The Diocese will be having a fall retreat. The gathering this year will be at Camp Manitou, outside of New Auburn. It begins with dinner on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, and ends after lunch on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Detailed instructions and a map will be sent to registrants by the cutoff date of Sept. 15. You can find registration forms in our Great Room.



A Haiti Project Health Clinic fund raising event will be held in Eau Claire on October 11. Organizers are in need of theme baskets or items for auction for this event. Contact Deb Lorenze at 715 579-5647 or Ellen Allison at 715 403-1030 for further information.



St. Paul's Church, Hudson, is having its "3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hometown Music Fest" on Sat., September 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a family-friendly music fest featuring seven bands from noon to 9:00 p.m. Admission is free. There will be food vendors, beer, and wine. A bouncy house for children and a silent auction are a part of this day. All proceeds will go to local charities.

## Grace Church



### Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> Organ Concert

Featured musicians will be Chris Wallace and his wife, Megan, and Barron, WI native, and one of our substitute organists, Lynn Emmons.

### Can't Make it to church??

Use our church circuit. Just dial 715 434-1040 on your land line or cell phone and you will hear the service in its entirety. Put it on speaker phone for hands-free listening. We can accommodate up to 20 callers on this line at one time.

### Nursery Care Provided

Beginning Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, adult care will be provided for your infants and toddlers during the Sunday service. Parents may choose to stay with their child in the nursery room, or return to the Sanctuary and participate in worship. Parents will use their discretion in deciding how long they can be separated from the child. And the nursery attendant would like to bring children back to their parents and be able to partake in Holy Communion.

## Prayer Chain

Requests may be

- Emailed to Mary Thompson at [marthomp45@gmail.com](mailto:marthomp45@gmail.com)
- Submitted on our website: [www.gracechurch-ricelake.org](http://www.gracechurch-ricelake.org)

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Please continue your Prayers of Thanksgiving for the successful kidney transplant for **Mark Thompson**. And add healing prayers for both **Mark and his sister, Janelle**. Both are back home in Barron.

*"Grant Your blessings upon  
All who are touched by transplant,  
Donors, recipients and families,  
Doctors and nurses,  
Clinicians and administrators,  
The vast network of professionals and  
volunteers  
Who dedicate themselves to healing.  
God of compassion,  
May this gift of life  
Become a source of consolation and  
comfort,  
Holiness and grace."*

Our prayers for continued healing go out to **Lynn Fowler** who suffered a hip injury and needed surgery after a bicycle accident in August.

## Lawn care help needed in September

Another sign-up sheet can be found in the Great Room for mowing. We had a terrific response for the month of August. Please consider this ministry, and share the labor.

## Sharing in Life's Moments

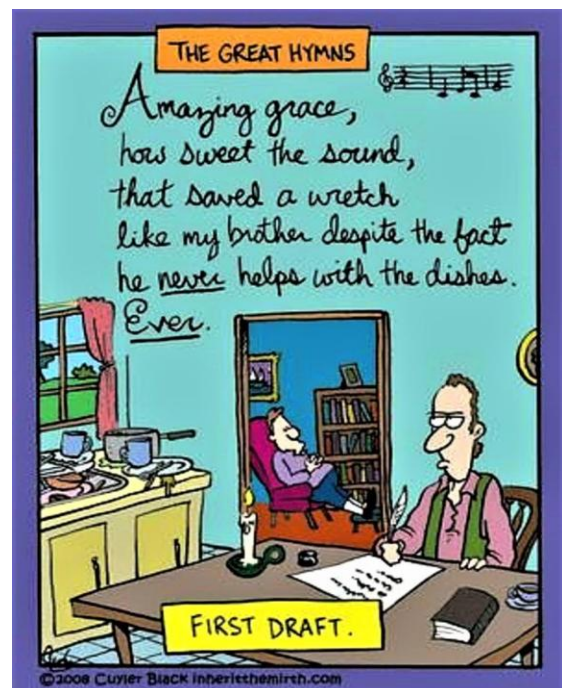


### August Birthdays

- 2 Bethany Jade Verbsky
- 4 Allison Salisbury
- 8 Heather Kirby
- 8 Stacey Johnson
- 13 Heidi Haynes
- 14 Derrick Bender
- 17 Lee Levenhagen
- 22 Elking, the child in Honduras, who we support through the Christian Children's Fund
- 26 Jane Bender
- 27 Tammy Schwartz
- 28 Cindy Hansen
- 29 Jasmine Pimentel

### August Anniversaries

- 22 Rob & Suzanne Funck
- 29 Tom & Wanda Shepard







*The Baptism of Charlotte Mae Christophersen, infant  
daughter of Michael and Sarah Christopherson  
August 6, 2017*

*Your Vestry*

Paul Chase, Sr. Warden  
Marv Thompson, Jr. Warden  
LaVonne Thompson, Clerk  
Tom Yeakley, Treasurer  
Janelle Gruetzmacher (2018)  
Suzanne Funck (2018)  
Ann Roeder (2019)  
Eileen Yeakley (2019)  
Lynn Fowler (2020)  
Steve Harback (2020)



Baptismal banner-designed and constructed by Heidi Olson. Thank you, Heidi, for your gift of time and talent !

<b>The Service</b>	<b>September 3 13 Pentecost Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>September 10 14 Pentecost Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>September 17 15 Pentecost Morning Prayer</b>	<b>September 24 16 Pentecost Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby	The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby	Paul Chase, Worship Leader	The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby
<b>Organist</b>	Heidi Olson	Heidi Olson	Heidi Olson	Heidi Olson
<b>Server</b>	Jon Olson	Paul Chase	X	Jon Olson
<b>Lector</b>	Mary Marsh	Mary Kohler	Jim Pelish	Jane Bender
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Eileen Yeakley	Bev Burnap	X	Mary Marsh
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Yeakley Mary Marsh	Tom & Eileen Yeakley	Joe & Bev Burnap	Jim & Nancy Pelish
<b>Counters</b>	Jim Pelish Mary Ellen Filkins	Joe Burnap Nancy Bender	Joe Burnap Mary Ellen Filkins	Jim Pelish Tyler Gruetzmacher
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	Cindy Hanson Mary Marsh	Steve & Jeanne Harback Ty & Janelle Gruetzmacher	Eileen Yeakley Stacey Tubbs	Nancy Pelish Greta Franti

**If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please try to find your own substitute.**

**September, 2017, Ministry Schedule**