Grace Notes

Reporting from the Campuses of St. Paul's on the Hill and Trinity

Volume 2 Number 11

December 2022



As a child, I remember the impatience I felt as we moved from Thanksgiving into the pre-Christmas season. Those weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas loomed large. It felt like it was a year. Of course, as I grew into adulthood and time evened out, I realized what a short time four weeks is. Funny how time and our perception of it is relative. As I now know this season of Advent to be a period of waiting and I realize the value of the waiting time. But there comes a time when waiting is not enough; it's time for action. I believe this is that time.

It is time for Grace to wait patiently for the Christ child to be born at Christmas and it's time for us to act. We can and must wait patiently for a priest who will come to lead us and we can get busy and get to the work that God is already calling us to. Feeding the hungry, giving shelter to the homeless, helping the women who are escaping domestic violence. Yes, some of you are involved in these things–and there is so much more to be done.

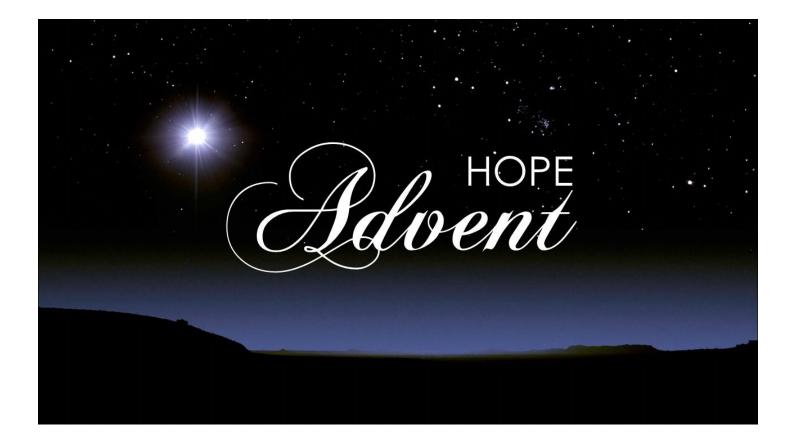
We are called to take a page from John the Baptist's book. We need to be a voice crying out in the wilderness. John preaches about repentance. Yes, we have much to repent for. I am proud of the work that Grace undertook to look at our collective complicity with slavery. It's a start and a wonderful model as the church, but there's more work to be done, personally and corporately.

And now I want to share a word of hope. Yesterday, at the electing convention of the diocese, the Rev. Matt Heyd was elected on the fourth ballot. As he addressed the convention, the word he gave us—and the word I want to share with you—is <u>renewal</u>. I think that's also a prophetic word for us at Grace Church. I know we're all eager for a priest to lead us, but the work is ours to do. We can renew our commitment to this church and get busy. Whoever comes one day to be our priest will see that we are committed to the work we have to do because that person will find us already engaged in God's holy work. Please pray with me.

God of hope and love, bless this congregation gathered here and scattered afar. Help us each to discover what holy work you have for us to do. Help us to be repentant where we need to and give us your vision for renewal in our church that will guide us into our next steps. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

See you in church!

Deacon Dorothée



OUR UPCOMING SERVICES

| December 4 | 10:30 AM | Morning Prayer (St. Paul's Campus) | Advent 2 |
|-------------|--------------------|--|---------------|
| December 11 | 10:30 AM | Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus) | Advent 3 |
| December 18 | 10:30 AM | Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus) | Advent 4 |
| December 24 | 5:00 PM 8:00 PM | Family Service (St. Paul's Campus) First Mass of Christmas (Trinity Campus) | Christmas Eve |
| December 25 | 10:30 AM | Landmark Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus) | Christmas Day |

All Sunday services are live streamed to our Grace Facebook page and our YouTube channel. And you can also find them there after the service is over. The links are:

Grace's Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/graceossining/</u> YouTube Channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJIIxWU8Z_ucCKEGA</u>

GRACE'S THANKSGIVING DINNER

It was a lovely event, as you might imagine. How could it fail to be, given the culinary abilities of our congregation and the joy of being together! Even the fact that the kitchen lights decided not to perform did not deter us, thanks to the Monroes and their table lamps!



Let the Festivities Begin!



We Persevere!



We Gather Together...

Musical Director/ Conducted by Carol Arrucci

50 VOCALISTS PERFORM A COLLECTION OF SONGS TO WARM YOUR HEART and MAKE YOU SMILE

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Friday, December 9 @ 7:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church of Ossining 34 So. Highland Avenue, Ossining

TICKETS:

westchesterwomenschorus.org/tickets \$20 General Admission \$15 Seniors and Students Gr. 1-12

> WestchesterWomensChorus.org or 914-402-4250

PRESENTED BY: **MUSIC SCHOOL** the cortlandt school of performing arts

Major Sponsor: Croton Auto Park



BLUE CHRISTMAS: A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REST

This season, while often filled with joy, also brings up other emotions and it can feel as though there is no space or place for them among the bright lights and celebrations. In recognition of this, St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Mamaroneck will offer "Blue Christmas: A Service of Comfort and Rest" on Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 PM. If you are grieving, suffering from depression or anxiety, feeling blue for any reason, or simply need some quiet amidst the sometimes unbearable noise of the times, please join us for prayers, readings, instrumental music and quiet contemplation. Despite the word "Christmas" in the title, it is a service for people of all walks of life.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The search committee would like to give the congregation and update on our activity. The committee has been extremely busy the last few months! Fortunately, we have met with a strong candidate who we believe would be a perfect fit for Grace Church. The search committee and vestry have both interviewed the candidate. They also participated in a wonderful evening prayer service led by the candidate. The search committee is now in the process of checking the



candidate's references. Once his references have been checked, the committee will be passing the candidates full application along to the vestry for its consideration. The committee is hopeful that we will be formally announcing the name of the new priest before the end of the year!

Grace Ossining Search Committee

Barbara Bethea <u>barbarita3753@gmail.com</u> Jo McGrath <u>mcgrathinator@gmail.com</u> Cecilia Quintero <u>cquintero1506@gmail.com</u> Melanie Rowe <u>mcr49r@aol.com</u> Richard Shaw <u>rssshaw@gmail.com</u> Ed Shultz <u>eshultz5@gmail.com</u>



VESTRY UPDATE

Christmas is coming! There's plenty to do...and be involved with Grace and the Ossining Community.

- Wreaths were delivered on Thursday, December 1st, and are ready for pickup. Thanks for your holiday spirit!
- Grace's Kitchen Angels served our Loaves & Fish guests on Saturday, December 3rd.
- The Vestry met with a priest candidate and finalizing reference checks. Prayerful thanks for our Search Committee. Keep your prayers coming
- Thanksgiving Potluck and Trivia was a delicious success. Thanks to our Kitchen Angels for preparing and setting up and to Cecilia and Dennis for trivia. Looking forward to next year!
- Advent Devotionals are available in the Narthex at both campuses
- Did you miss last month's Lectionary Study with Deacon Dorothee? Set aside time for the next session, which will be on January 8th.
- The Old Mill Singers Holiday Concerts on Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3, at 8:00 PM at our Highland Avenue Campus were well attended and beautiful. And we got the piano turned for them for a win-win!

Wardens: Tam Hernández (2023) <u>tam.hernandez9@gmail.com</u> Darryl Moy (2024) <u>darryl.moy@gmail.com</u>

Vestry Members:

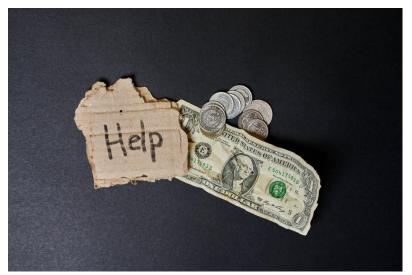
Mark Monroe (2023), Clerk <u>markmonroe55@msn.com</u> Kate Pendzuk (2023), Treasurer <u>treasurergraceossining@gmail.com</u> Kellie Ishmael (2024) <u>kellieishmael@gmail.com</u> Milton Kerr (2024) <u>mkdj46@yahoo.com</u> Maribeth Osgood (2025) <u>mosgood@optonline.net</u> Ed Shultz (2025) <u>eshultz5@gmail.com</u>



This busy year is drawing to a close and now we prepare for Christmas. In Advent, we prepare our hearts for Christmas by simplifying church decorations, singing Advent hymns, and hearing stories of John the Baptist and the angel's annunciation to Mary. During Advent, we hold back a little.

But before we know it...Advent will end and our Christmas feast will begin. All will be invited to help green the Trinity nave after the service on December 11th. Then, poinsettias, greens, wreaths and bows will deck the halls. But the altar poinsettias cost \$475 this year. The wreaths for both our campuses cost \$240. There will be additional greens such as swags for the ends of the pews, sconces, and the altar steps. As usual, we will have a tree in the Bethlehem chapel downtown. So, we ask you this year to consider giving a special donation to support this transformation. And if you would like to have someone remembered or honored, please send in their names with your donation before December 22nd and they will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletin.

GRACE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!



As Deacon Dorothée mentioned at Sunday's service, it is critical for our budgeting purposes to know what assets we have to work with. (This is most important as we are calling a new priest, who will certainly wish to know the financial state of the church.) Pledge cards are available at each campus and will be mailed to you if you prefer. We entreat you to return your completed pledge cards or send an email stating your intent for this year as soon as possible. If

you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Kate Pendzuk, at <u>treasurergraceossining@gmail.com</u> (For those of you who make your payments by credit card or bank withdrawal, this is still an option–and most welcome!)

Lessons & Parols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 4PM All Saints' Episcopal Church 201 Scarborough Road BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

Justin Tokke CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST The Rev. Kevin Veitinger RECTOR

estival of

line

All are welcome! Free admission. Reception to follow in Parish Hall. For more info: (914) 941-6955 jtokke@allsaintsbriarcliff.org

DOUGLAS ARTHUR MCGRATH November 28, 1949–November 28, 2022



Douglas Arthur McGrath, 73, a lifelong resident of Ossining, NY, passed away on November, 28, 2022. A man of great character and integrity, he taught us all how to live by his example.

Doug was born on November 28, 1949 to the late Elaine and Thomas P. McGrath in Tarrytown, NY. A devoted family man, Doug was most happy surrounded by his family and friends in his hometown, Ossining. Doug is survived by his wife of 49 years, Jo Ann, their three children; Derek (Beth), Brooke (George) Antonopoulos, and Gregg (Kim); his four grandchildren Sean, Bella, Yianni, and Vivie; and his furry friends, Gizmo and Frankie. He is also survived by his brother, George and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He is predeceased by his brother, Larry.

Doug graduated from Ossining High School ('67), New York Institute of Technology ('71), and earned an MBA at Manhattan College. From a very young age, Doug stood out at baseball eventually being drafted by the Chicago White Sox as a pitcher at 17. His love of the sport continued as he spent summers playing in the Ossining Softball leagues, followed by years of coaching at all levels of the Ossining Jesse Collyer Youth baseball program (JCYS). His boyhood love of the NY Yankees, especially "the Mick," led him to gather a remarkable collection of Yankee memorabilia which he cherished.

Doug's professional career began when he was 23 years old at New York Presbyterian Hospital Westchester Division where he continued to work for the next 43 years, rising to a senior administrator. Beloved by all his fellow colleagues, under Doug's guidance, "amazing things" happened every day at the Westchester Campus. Doug was most proud of being named to the president's circle of the New York Presbyterian family and the close friendships he formed over the years.

Doug easily and willingly shared his strength, generosity, kindness, and loving smile with everyone. His quick wit and sense of humor were gifts that made everyday more fun and serious situations more bearable. He was a humble man asking very little of others while giving so much of himself.

He wished that his friends and family not mourn his death but that they instead gather together to celebrate his life. His family will be hosting a celebration of life in his memory in mid-January.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Doug's honor to Team Mathias, a non-profit established in honor of Doug's nephew to support families of children battling cancer. Please <u>click here</u> to make your donation.

<u>Click here</u> to add to the Keepsake Book for the family.

CAROLYN HILL-JONES 1921–2022



Carolyn Hill-Jones was born in Moorestown, New Jersey on May 7, 1921, the eldest of eight children, to Henry Abram Graves and Olive Taylor Graves. Education was a primary goal in the house of her parents, who made sure that all of their children had post-secondary education. Carolyn attended Hampton University and graduated cum laude with a degree in education in 1942. She later went on to complete a Masters in Education/ Administration and her Doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania.

Her teaching career began in Salisbury, MD, where she taught English and biology. She later taught in the Philadelphia school system at Saltzberger Junior High and John Bartram Senior High. She then was appointed Vice Principal, the Principal at Darby High School, and later becoming the Director of Curriculum before her retirement in 1988.

She was married in 1945 to longtime friend and sweetheart, the late Merrill Augustus Hill Jr. From their marriage two children were born, Carolyn Alice Byrd, and Gerald Douglas Hill.

She then married the late Elmer Jones and relocated to Ossining, New York.

Wherever she lived, Carolyn was engaged in a variety of activities. She was a lifetime member of her church, Bethel AME in Moorestown, serving as Sunday school teacher, leader of the Young People's Division of the Missionary Society. After retiring, she became involved in Church Women United as New Jersey state vice president, New Jersey, and New York President.

She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority joining Theta Psi Omega Chapter in 1993. She participated in chapter activities that served the community. Carolyn was involved with young people in school or church most of her life and enjoyed seeing them grow and prosper.

She is survived by her daughter, Carolyn Alice Byrd, her stepdaughter, Alicia Cheevers, grandchildren, great grandchildren, a sister Ruth King, and two brothers Ralph Graves, and Douglas Graves.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, December 9, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Chapel at the Cedar Crest Senior Living Community, 1 Cedar Crest Drive, Pompton Plains, NJ.

<u>Click here</u> to add your memories to her Tribute Book.

THE SHORTEST DAY By Susan Cooper



So the shortest day came, and the year died, And everywhere down the centuries of the snow-white world Came people singing, dancing, To drive the dark away. They lighted candles in the winter trees; They hung their homes with evergreen; They burned beseeching fires all night long To keep the year alive,

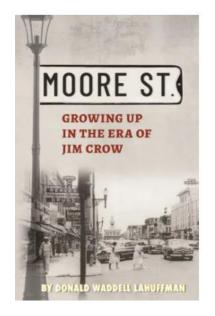
> And when the new year's sunshine blazed awake They shouted, reveling. Through all the frosty ages you can hear them Echoing behind us—Listen!!

All the long echoes sing the same delight, This shortest day, As promise wakens in the sleeping land: They carol, feast, give thanks, And dearly love their friends, And hope for peace. And so do we, here, now,

> This year and every year. Welcome Yule!



SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH AND PLAN TO JOIN US!



Our discussion of *Moore Street: Growing Up In The Era Of Jim Crow* by Donald W. Lahuffman, has been rescheduled to be discussed during our Annual Champagne Toast for2023!

Moore Street is a compelling firsthand account of the author's boyhood years growing up in Fayetteville, North Carolina during the era of racial segregation, circa 1942-1960. While the focus is on a neighborhood in Fayetteville, North Carolina, the story is a metaphor for the transcendences of manhood survival despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles...

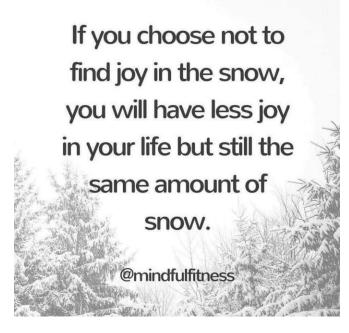
Watch your emails for more Book Club information!

ALL ARE WELCOME AT TBC'S TABLE!



DECEMBER EVENTS

- 2 Old Mill Singers Concert at Trinity Campus
- 3 Old Mill Singers Concert at Trinity Campus
- 3 Grace serves at Loaves and Fish
- 13 Vestry Meeting
- 16 Staff Meeting
- 18 Lessons and Carols (All Saints' Briarcliff)
- 20 Blue Christmas Service at St. Thomas Mamaroneck





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| Diahann C. Malcolm | 1 | Karen Pasieka |
|-------------------------|----|----------------------|
| Emric Cole | 3 | Jan Greene |
| Zoe Grace Parker | 3 | John Engle |
| Alexander Sergey Mahlau | 10 | Janet Robertson |
| Christopher D. Boswell | 11 | Carissa Paige Wagner |
| Kathryn Brocchi | 11 | Stephen Okyne |
| Elfreda Okyne | 12 | Lisa Marie Liberti |
| Joan Holsten | 13 | Janet L. Hughes |
| Jonathan Moser | 13 | JoAnn McGrath |
| Andy Madison | 13 | |
| | | |

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

| Christine and John Schuler | 2 |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Carolyn Black and Arthur Hightower | 28 |



CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Carole Johannsen, Supply Priest The Rev. Dorothée R. Caulfield, Deacon

ST. PAUL CAMPUS OFFICE Tina Farrell, Administrator Carolyn R. Black, Music Director Emeritus

Anthony Sena, Sexton

TRINITY CAMPUS OFFICE

Tam Hernández, Administrator Katherine Pendzuk, Treasurer and Verger Pablo Montoya, Sexton

VESTRY

Tam Hernández, Warden Darryl Moy, Warden Mark Monroe, Clerk Kate Pendzuk, Treasurer

> Kellie Ishmael Milton Kerr

Maribeth Osgood Ed Shultz

MISSION STATEMENT

To love God is a call to action. Strengthened by prayer, worship, and study, Grace Church embraces and serves all people, the earth, and every living thing.