



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

163RD ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1- DECEMBER 31, 2023

130 FIRST AVENUE, NYACK, NY 10960

WWW.GRACECHURCHNYACK.ORG



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*We believe that Grace Episcopal Church
is called by God to live the way of Jesus
through a ministry of reconciliation,
seeking to restore all people
to unity with God and each other,
through prayer, worship, spiritual growth,
witness and action.*

October 16, 2000

ANNUAL REPORT 2024
(For the year January 1 – December 31, 2023)

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Photos: Verne Becker and others

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING/ELECTIONS
February 11, 2024**

AGENDA

Call to order

Opening prayer

Appointment of Secretary

Appointment of Tellers

Report of the Nominating Committee/Polls open

Approval of Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting

Rector's Report

Finance Warden's Report and Presentation of the 2024 Budget

Property Warden's Report

Other Reporting

Breakout for Small Group Work

Election

Commissioning of Newly-Elected Members

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Adjournment

Minutes of the 162nd Annual Meeting of Grace Episcopal Church, held on Sunday, February 12, 2023.

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge opened the meeting at 8:56 in the church after the 8 a.m. service. The following appointments were made: Sally Ann Mock, secretary of the meeting; Katharine Fulmor and Emily Nevill, tellers for the meeting. The report of the nominating committee was read by Katharine Fulmor. The recess was moved by Patti Hyland and seconded by Nancy Waack. All present approved.

The following slate of nominees was presented:

Vestry Member (3 years)	Angela Metzler, Paul Shusterman, Paula Spruck
Diocesan Convention Delegates	Jim Cochran, Sally Cochran
Diocesan Convention Alternate	Adrienne Langford, Emily Nevill
2024 Nominating Committee	Theresa Bergen Liz Weber Roy Kepler retiring, Vestry members

The meeting was returned to order at 11:31 in Memorial Hall with over a hundred in attendance.

The minutes of the 2022 meeting were approved by those present on a motion by Jeff McDowell and seconded by Jim Cochran.

The Rev. Dr. Trowbridge opened with 3 questions those present were asked to answer: who would you go to for wisdom; who would be asked to get people together; and who would you talk to that makes decisions. For the Parochial Report everyone was asked to write their name, age and racial/ethnic category.

Finance Warden Jeff McDowell reported that the 2022 budget ended with the surplus thanks to several donations. The balanced budget for 2023 was approved by all on the motion by Roy Kepler, seconded by Katharine Fulmor. Jeff McDowell thanked those who serve as counters on Sunday mornings, the Treasurer and finance Committee, Pat Cose, and the Search Committee.

Property Warden Emily Nevill reported on the work done in the rectory in anticipation of the arrival of the new rector. Re the church she reported on the termite damage to the wall between the Narthex and the church area itself.

Organist choirmaster Brandon Beachamp thanked all the choir members who worked thorough the last few years as the church was starting up after being closed because of Covid. He mentioned the affect weather has had on the church organ and the pianos around the church.

Verne Becker gave a report on the Adult Spiritual Committee and Sandra Rodriguez reported on the Children/Youth ministry events during the year.

No nomination coming from the floor, Father Dustin called for the slate of candidates to be elected by acclamation.

Thank you and special recognition to the outgoing vestry members, Kevin Faherty and Margie Winslow followed. A Special Acknowledgement was given to retiring Parish Administrator, Thayer Woodcock, who was given a certificate to Hudson House.

Commissioning of the new elected members of the Vestry, Diocesan Convention Delegates and alternates, and the 2023 Nominating Committee followed.

The meeting ended at 12:55 with a blessing by Father Dustin and a closing hymn, with adjournment moved by Jeff McDowell and seconded by a Katharine Fulmor.

Respectfully submitted
Sally Ann Mock, clerk

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

PRESENTED FOR ELECTION AT THE GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

February 11, 2024

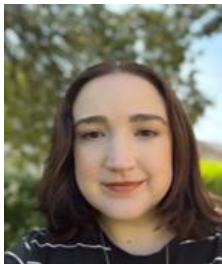
The 2024 Nominating Committee met in person for over 5 months to discuss possible nominees for: two warden positions, three open Vestry seats as well as nominees for delegates and alternates to the diocesan convention and the lay members of the 2025 Nominating Committee.

Committee members discussed a range of possible nominees and once we came up with a group of names of possible candidates and individuals were approached and asked about their willingness to serve. In addition, nominations from the congregation were encouraged and accepted. We are able to report that our requests were received and we were able to compile a slate of candidates reflecting the diversity that is Grace Church.

The Nominating Committee respectfully submits the slate of 2024 nominees is as follows:

<u>Sr./Finance Warden 2-year term</u>	Emily Nevill
<u>Jr./Property Warden 2-year term</u>	Liz Weber
<u>Vestry Member 3-year term</u>	John Loftin, Mary Bish, Elaine Hinsch
<u>Convention Delegate</u>	Sally Cochran, Josh Langford
<u>Convention Alternate</u>	Vern Becker, James Cochran
<u>Lay Member of Nominating</u>	Sondra Holt, Katherine Fulmor, Beth Paskowski, Sally Seiler

BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES



Emily Nevill (Sr./ Finance Warden)

Grace Church has been my home for nineteen years. Grace is where I was confirmed, married, and had the joy of seeing my husband baptized. Grace is where I found a faith I could aim as my own. I've spent the last two years serving as Property Warden, and am a member of the Adult Spiritual Formation Commission and the Stewardship Committee. I serve as a worship minister and lector. I've previously served on the Transition Committee, the vestry, the Renewal Works Committee and as a delegate and alternate to Diocesan Convention.

Serving Grace Church in any capacity is the great joy of my life. My other great joys are my husband Jacob and our two ferrets, Juniper and Coriander. We live in Nyack and I work as the adult services librarian at the Palisades Free Library. As I serve Grace Church my philosophy is to "let all that [I] do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14).



Liz Weber (Jr. Property Warden)

I grew up at Grace. I was at youth choir rehearsal the afternoon of the Brinks robbery in 1982. I was confirmed here, served as an acolyte and was a member of the junior and senior youth groups. My husband and I married here, baptized our daughter here, buried my father here. My mother, Sondra Holt, is still an active member. I took a break from church — as many young adults do — during my 20s, but returned and became an active member.

I have served Helping Hands, Adult Spiritual Formation, Fellowship, and Newcomers commissions. I was on Vestry from 2019-2022, and was on the Transition Committee for our recent rector search. Currently I serve Midnight Run, on worship ministry and I organize refreshments after our 9:30 service. Outside of church, I'm a journalist — for many years I was a food writer and editor, and am now an executive-level editor who oversees news features at The Bergen Record, The Asbury Park Press, The Journal News and other USA TODAY Network papers in New York and New Jersey. My husband, Greg Weber, has been studying Norwegian since he recently discovered his heritage through ancestry.com. Our daughter, Samantha, 11, is in middle school. She's an acolyte and a member of Junior Youth Group. She loves school, horseback riding, playing piano

and clarinet, reading, playing video games, baking and telling jokes. I love reading, too. And doing crosswords, walking and running, attending the theater and dining at great restaurants. I'm honored to be nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee.



John Loftin (Vestry Member)

I'm John Loftin, a candidate for the vestry. I work as a mathematics professor at Rutgers Newark, and I am originally from north Louisiana. My husband Mitch Pfenning and I have been attending Grace for 20 years, and we usually go to the 11am service. I have served on the vestry once before, about 10 years ago, and recently I have served as the point person for our 2024 pledge campaign. If I am elected to the vestry, I hope to help lead Grace to continue along the path to the new and abundant life that our Lord Jesus Christ has promised for us all.



Mary Bish (Vestry Member)

One of the hardest things about moving is finding a new church home - but I believe I found it here at Grace Church! I moved to Rockland County from Poughkeepsie, where I had been a member of Christ Church. When I asked my rector what church she'd suggest I attend, she provided Grace Church as a real contender, and she was spot on. In my previous church I had been very active, serving on the vestry and various committees, as well as singing in the choir, and assisting in worship as a lector and a chalice bearer. Christ Church has a very active ministry with the homeless in Poughkeepsie and Hudson River Housing - and I always felt this was a very special and important action. I reside in Nanuet and work as an elementary principal - and this is the best (and the hardest) job! My background is as a musician, and I play the viola and perform with orchestras as my schedule allows. My family consists of three grown children, two granddaughters (ages 19 months and 5 months), a dog, and a cat. I love to play golf and spend time at Rockland Lake. I really believe that "time spent amongst the trees is never wasted time." I am excited to serve Grace Church, as I believe my past experience may be helpful to my new church. I usually attend the 8:00 service, and I look forward to becoming more active here and getting to know the people that make up this vibrant and diverse community that feels "right" to me



Elaine J Hinsch (Vestry Member)

Having been a member of the Nyack Boat Club for 50 years I have thru the years attended Grace Church for various occasions and services. I have been attending services on a regular basis since 2021. One of the highlights for me was back in November 2022 when I started volunteering to work at the Grace Thrift Shop. We do such loving things for people in need and the friendships developed there are priceless. As a child growing up in Queens, New York I went to Sunday school and church at an Evangelical and Reformed Church. At 8 years old I was baptized so I still can remember the first important moment on my Christian Road to following Jesus. We then moved to Wayne, NJ when I was 13 and was confirmed and married at the Preakness Reformed Church. I attended a support group after the loss of my husband to cancer and through the friendship of another grieving wife was invited to the Montvale Episcopal Church, St. Paul's. There I was financial secretary from 2006 to 2021 Collecting all money, pledging and recordkeeping. I also enjoyed being on Altar guild and serving on the altar. I served on the vestry and it was during my time at St Paul's that I was received into the Episcopal church. Because one of the parishioners at St Paul's made an announcement concerning the need for help, I became a driver for Meals on Wheels. I can now proudly say I am in my 21st year volunteering as a driver. For my professional life I worked in the Pharmaceutical Industry in both Pre-clinical and Clinical Research. Near the end of my career, I was global head of all training for clinical research and traveled the world teaching and training.



Sally Cochran (Convention Delegate)

My husband Jim and I became a part of the Grace Church community in 2001, after 25+ years at our previous church. Since arriving at Grace, I have sung in the choir and am currently the choir librarian and have digitally catalogued the entire music library. I have served on Vestry, the finance and property committees, nominating committee and the search committee for the organist and choirmaster. I am a retired high school librarian and have a part time business as a high school theater costume designer.



Josh Langford (Convention Delegate)

Here is my bio: "I began attending Grace in 2017, and, the following year, I was baptized at Grace, got married at Grace, and was received into the Episcopal church at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. In 2021 my daughter was also baptized at Grace. Currently, I serve on the Social Ministry Commission, the Stewardship Committee (Planned Giving and Endowment Subcommittee), lead a Way of Love small group, and sing in the choir. My family lives in Valley Cottage. Adrienne, my wife, serves on the Vestry and various committees. My stepson, Jack, is an acolyte here at Grace (and on the high honor roll at Nyack Middle School!). And Eloise, my daughter, was once told by Bill Murray that she looks like Shirley Temple, so she's got that going for her. I am the Territorial Prospect Research Manager at The Salvation Army in West Nyack. Before working in fundraising, I spent almost a decade as an adjunct professor of English and Composition at multiple colleges."



Vern Becker (Convention Alternate)

I grew up in an evangelical home and attended Wheaton College in Illinois, where I majored in Biblical Studies. I then worked as a writer/editor for several magazines, including Christianity Today, Campus Life, and HIS magazine. Later, as a freelancer, I was the author, co-author, or editor of eight books, including *Aim High* (with Olympic decathlete Dave Johnson); *The Calling* (with Bible smuggler Brother Andrew); *The Real Man Inside*; and the *Recovery Devotional Bible*. From 1997 till my retirement in 2022, I taught technology in various private K-12 schools in the Tri-state area. I also completed an M.A. in journalism from NYU. I have attended Episcopal churches since 1985, and was confirmed in the early 1990s by Bishop Don Taylor. I began attending Grace in the late 90s, and have been a member since 2002. I serve as the security/lock-up person, the weekly live-streamer, and the chair of the Adult Spiritual Formation Commission



James Cochran (Convention Alternate)

I am a retired Research Professor at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. My wife, Sally, and I came to Grace Church in 2001 from a church in New York City. At Grace, I serve as an acolyte for worship services, and take part regularly in Midnight Run and Men's Prayer Breakfast. I have served on vestry, on the Adult Spiritual Formation Commission, as a convention delegate, and was a substitute member of a Grace's Kitchen team.



Sondra Holt (Lay Member of Nominating)

I have been a member of Grace for 43 years. My daughters were confirmed here and were married here. One daughter, Liz Weber, and her family, attend the 9:30 service, and are active in many aspects of life at Grace. I previously participated in the Grace Church Players and in the Parish Choir. I have served on the Worship Committee, as a member of Vestry, and as a Warden. Currently I am a reader and a lay Eucharistic Minister, and I serve on the Property Commission. I was previously chair, and then co-chair of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee. I am presently taking on the position of Interim Chair, following the recent loss of my friend and colleague, Karin Baere. Grace is an integral and important part of my life. It is my community. I am honored to be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.



Katharine Fulmor (Kickie) (Lay Member of Nominating)

I am a cradle Episcopalian and have been a member of Grace Church for most of my life. When my wife, Theresa Bergen, my son Raymond, and I returned to Nyack in '92 we came back to Grace. At Grace I have served on the vestry, as warden and on various other committees. I am honored to serve on the Nominating committee for next year. Presently I serve with the worship ministers, Adult Spiritual Formation Commission, and have just retired as co-

manager of Grace's Thrift Shop with Theresa. Isn't it wonderful to be retired! Thank you for this opportunity to serve the Grace Church community



Beth Paskowski(Lay Member of Nominating)

Hello, I am Beth Paskowski; I've been attending Grace Church with my husband Joe since 1999. Our two children, Emma and Will, have flown from the nest, but we have many happy memories of their upbringing at Grace. I have been honored to serve the Grace Church community in a number of ways, most recently as the head of the Transition (Search) Committee. Through volunteering at Grace, I have gotten to know many people whom I may not have met otherwise. I would be happy to serve on the Nominating Committee in 2024-5.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

REPORT OF THE RECTOR

At the time of last year's Annual Meeting, I had been in my position for barely a month. So, in my written report, I shared with you all a bit of background into what the process was like that brought us all together through your Rector Call process. I've now been with Grace Church for over a year, and as you will read in the following reports, 2023 was a year of great accomplishments and progress. Some ministries continued to chug along as they have for years. Others got their footing once again after enduring the double challenges of a clergy transition and the Covid-19 pandemic. And still others tried out new ways of being Grace Church for our present day and circumstances. I hope you will read the following reports closely and carefully. These pages are relatively few, but they reflect and summarize countless hours of time and extraordinary attention that the members of Grace Church have invested in our parish's life over the past year. The shining acknowledgements and words of gratitude that follow pale in comparison to the Light of Christ burning in so many hearts together in this parish. So, do please join me in thanking all those who contributed to these reports and their contents when next your paths cross. The vast majority of the work and ministry of Grace rests on the shoulders and in the hands of your fellow parishioners and your devoted leaders.

There are so many souls to thank in so many ways, but I want to start off our Annual Reporting by lifting up your wardens Jeff McDowell and Emily Nevill for hearty round of applause. In all my years of lay and ordained ministry with Episcopal Churches, I've never worked alongside leaders of such dedication and commitment as Jeff and Emily. I could go on and on about how many hours of service and how much persistence of spirit it has taken your wardens to oversee the Finance and Properties Committees of this church, let alone the various other additional hats that they both wear. But, I fear that if I did, we might never find souls willing to accept a nomination to serve as warden again! So, I will just say Thank You again to Jeff and Emily, for their dedication and leadership during my first year here at Grace.

In my first year at Grace, I've engaged in the usual tasks of ministry that one would expect from a parish priest, hopefully in a way that aligned with what Grace was seeking in your Parish Profile. But what I think might be most important for me to highlight in this Annual Report of mine is a look at the staffing transitions, both planned and unplanned, that occurred this year. When I came on board to this parish in January, I had no idea just how much time and energy I was going to spend on employee changes through the coming months. Those transitions have deeply affected the core functions of our parish operations, and they will continue to impact our church's identity well into the future. So...what happened?

Even before I moved to Nyack last winter, I was made aware that the longtime parish administrator was planning to retire soon after my arrival. Thayer Woodcock had kindly held on all through the clergy transition, when perhaps she would have preferred to make her exit far earlier. So, I had the great good fortune of overlapping with Thayer from January 16th to April 13th (but who's counting?). But then, the day came when it was time for us all to say good-bye and God Bless to Thayer, and as I watched her leave the office door one last time, I was keenly aware that 23 years' worth of experience and skill and institutional knowledge were heading out with her. The long-term impact of that transition cannot be overstated. Thayer was the constant, when at least five permanent and interim priests came and went. She was the keeper of all knowledge, the one-stop-shop where just about everyone's need could be met and most questions could be answered. There was never going to be a replacement to find for Thayer. There would only be "what's next."

I quickly found that embarking on that journey to "what's next" would be a challenge, one that would turn into a running theme throughout the months to come. Finding Grace's next office support staff person would first mean updating a written job description that hadn't been worked on in decades. It meant ensuring that we were compliant with the latest Diocesan HR Guidelines for Lay Employees. And it meant finding a unicorn that could dance on the head of a pin, in a haystack...preferably one that was equally comfortable with

Canva, Constant Contact, and Publisher, one that knew the difference between The Collect for Purity and The Prayer of Humble Access, and one could telepathically sense a parishioner's hospital admission. After working with an ad hoc committee to craft the job description and interview candidates, we finally found our next Parish Administrator in Elida Cacevic, a long-time resident of Nyack with a background working in the office of a Roman Catholic Convent. Did we manage to mind-meld Elida with Thayer, and transfer those 23 years of experience and skills over to our newest staff member? Alas, no. I'm afraid it will take another 23 years for anyone to get to that place. But we have in Elida a committed soul who I believe enjoys the challenges of her new position, who is well-suited to the interpersonal communications and interactions required of her, and who embodies our commitment to diversity and community.

About a month after Thayer left the office, our Music Director Brandon Beachamp shared with me his intention to leave his position in August. Once again, we began to prepare for a long-term employee's departure, to examine our music program's current needs, and to start the search for the next leader of Grace's music ministry. Again, a committee was formed to create a new job description, one that incorporated the findings of a series of Listening Sessions that were held over the summer to gather input from parishioners about their likes, concerns, and wishes for our music program. The search was an extensive one, and involved hours of hours of time, both of our search committee participants and our choir members. Ultimately, I feel we found an excellent match in Jie Yi Segal, who officially joined us in January. In just the few first weeks he's been with us, Jie has enthusiastically joined into the weekly and daily rhythms of life at 130 First Ave. And once again, with this new hire, we are meeting Grace's commitment to diversity and community.

Thayer and Brandon were not the only long-time staff departing our community in 2023, however. In August, our Property Manager Virginia Kosloff left our offices to take a full-time opportunity with a local real estate firm. Virginia's position was somewhat different from our Parish Administrator and Music Director positions, though. The weekly hours of that position were far fewer, and the needs and realities of managing our properties had shifted significantly over the years, most recently with the addition of a new and highly capable and experienced sexton Jim Sevier. So, this time, as I looked over Virginia's original job description from about a decade ago, I realized Grace needed to consider carefully what its current resources and needs were for property management. Ultimately, I decided to try and see if, in 2024, we might be able to allocate our property tasks to our current Parish Administrator and Sexton, increasing their hours and compensation proportionately. Since so much of the work of property administration and management involves daily back-and-forth communications and scheduling of appointments with tenants, contractors, inspectors, etc., I figured it might be best to have staff members who are on campus most days of the week take over those duties. We are still working out the details of that staffing adaptation, but for the time being, we seem to be streamlining and simplifying those efforts.

"That was a lot of time talking about staffing, and not a lot of time talking about Jesus!" you might be thinking to yourself. That's true. And in the pages to come, you'll read lots and lots of words about how God's Spirit has been on the move at Grace Church. But I thought it important, in this year of such tremendous staffing changes, that I share with you a little more information about those efforts that have commanded so much of my attention and care this year. I do truly hope not to have to continue with these sorts of changes in 2024! But I also recognize that navigating these challenges is hard work that needs to be done well and carefully, if the parish is going to be able to continue moving forward with such profound changes to its staffing pillars. Thank you for helping Elida and Jie find a home here at Grace, and thrive in their new positions.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Dustin+

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, Rector

GRACE CHURCH ANNUAL MUSIC REPORT 2023

2023 was a rather momentous year for music at Grace. We bid farewell to Brandon Beachamp, our Organist and Choir Master for 11 years, and set out on a lengthy search for a new Music Director. In December, Fr. Dustin named Jie Yi Segal to the position.

However our musical life at Grace continued. Music was provided for all three Sunday services - at the 8:00 by Jan Valentine, harp and David Starling, guitar; the 9:30 by Brandon and Jan; the 11:00, as well as a number of other liturgical services, first by Brandon and the choir and then Jan and the choir. Many thanks to all. In the first half of the year there was also Evensong once a month. Easter featured a spectacular brass ensemble with a postlude that moved many to tears. In December we celebrated Advent with a service of Lessons and Carols. The fall and Christmas brought a number of pieces arranged for choir and saxophone by Jan and the world premiere of a piece by Jacob Nevill.

2023 also we enjoyed a post-Evensong concert by the Women's Ensemble of the Nyack Community Chorus, including a piece by choir member Mary Ann Bleekner, as well as concerts by the full NCC. There was Joyful Noise, a recital by voice students in June.

In December, GraceMusic made its post-Covid return with a very well received Messiah Sing and nascent plans for 2024.

Thank you to all who participated in the music life of Grace, especially Brandon Beachamp for his many years of leadership and friendship, and Jan Valentine for all her contributions, especially this fall and Christmas.



Respectfully submitted,
Sally Cochran
Vestry Liaison to Music



GRACE CHURCH ALTAR GUILD

In January, 2023, Grace Episcopal Church welcomed The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge as our new rector. He has brought energy to our worship services and the overall church leadership.

The Altar Guild of Grace Church invites any and all who are interested in working behind the scenes at our worship services to consider joining Larry and Stephanie Campbell and myself by becoming member of the Guild. You will learn about the working around the Altar, i.e. setting it up, seasonal/holiday changes, what elements are called, what the rector needs (and doesn't need or want). Over the years the scope of work has changed but the fundamentals are always the same: to serve the rector, the parish, the church, and God.



In addition to caring for the Altar set ups weekly, the Altar Guild is responsible for the Flower Funds Perpetual Fund which pays for the weekly Altar flowers and supplies needed to carry on our work. If you wish to have flowers on the altar yearly in memory of a departed loved one, the fee is \$300. If you would like to have extra flowers on the altar during the year the fee is \$30. The only time flowers are not on the Altar are during the season of Advent and the season of Lent when only greens are used.

If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild or having permanent memorial flowers put on the Altar, please contact me at

samock34@aol.com for more information.

Stephanie and Larry Campbell and Sally Ann Mock

WORSHIP MINISTRY ROSTER

Beth Abrahamson	Andrea Merovsky
Karin Baere	Jeff McDowell
Holly Bee	Debbie McGuinness
Jack Burger	Emily Nevil
Mary Ceccolini	Robert Parsekian
Jim Cochran	Tom Perry
Pat Cose	Mitch Pfenning
Cindy Cox	Paul Richards
Charlie Cross	Lynn-Marie Schnalzer
Kevin Faherty	Sally Seiler
Kickie Fulmor	Roger Seiler
Eleanor Harries	Sarah Styles
Heidi Hill	Jaden Szantos
Sondra Holt	Elizabeth Sydor
John Howell	Jack Turner
Patty Hyland	Ben Walker
Adrienne Langford	Toby Walker
Josh Langford	Liz Weber
John Loftin	Samantha Weber
Carol Kepler	Jan Valentine
Rudolph Knight	Robert Valentine
Molly MacQueen	
Valerie Mathews	



We are grateful to our worship ministers for all their faithful service. We are especially grateful for their willingness to perform multiple tasks. If you are interested in becoming a chalice bearer, crucifer, reader, or usher, please contact Fr. Dustin or Kickie Fulmor.

Thank you for all you do.

Kickie Fulmor, Sacristan

FINANCE AND PROPERTY

REPORT OF THE FINANCE (SENIOR) WARDEN

2023 – was an interesting year – Fr. Dustin started his ministry with us as our Rector, but we also saw departures – Thayer Woodcock our long serving parish administrator and source of all things about Grace retired shortly after Easter. Our organist/choir director Brandon Beachamp departed at the end of the summer, and Virginia Kosloff our property administrator left too. It was also a year of new beginnings. Elida Cacevic took on the role of Parish Administrator and a new Organist/Choir Director Jie Yi Segal was hired at the end of the year. It may be that Grace Church is now embarked on a promising normal.

Operating Budget 2023

Good News, we ended 2023 with a \$57K surplus.

Expenses

There were some areas that exceeded what was budgeted – maintenance and cleaning were \$10K over budget, and our expenses for a supply organist was considerably higher than budgeted for. However other areas were substantially below what had been budgeted for. For Grace like any other organization – personnel costs – salaries, pensions, benefits are by far the largest portions of an operating budget. This year, like the last two years, our personnel costs have been substantially below what was budgeted. And, the savings in those costs are the primary drivers of our surplus this year.

Income:

For 2023 our pledge income was slightly higher than budgeted for, plate gifts were more generous, our gifts other than pledge were robust, rentals were a little above budget and we also used \$52K in surpluses from previous years.

Surpluses.

As with 2021, 2022 we end the year with a surplus – this year it will be close to \$52K. While those surpluses are welcome, there are significant reasons why we have had them and should not expect such surpluses in the future. Look at the 2023 end of year report under wages and benefits. That came in at over \$30K less than budgeted for. Why – our parish administrator left in the spring and her position was not filled for several months. Our property administrator left and we have not filled that position. And, finally, our organist/choir director left in August and while we had a substitute organist, her compensation was substantially less. Staff vacancies in 2022 – see last year's report and for 2021 were due in large part to the same reason (We also had PPP loan forgiveness in 2021 and 2022). Unless a staff person departs in 2024, we should not expect similar savings.

.2024 Budget

We present to Grace the 2024 operating budget – \$607, 047. With a very small surplus of about \$14.00. The 2024 budget was presented to the Vestry and approved at its December 2023 meeting in accordance with the by-laws of Grace Church Nyack. In January, using updated pledge estimates and end of year reports, an amended budget was presented to the vestry and approved. That is the budget presented in this report.

The budget committee (Karin Baere, Emily Nevill, Adrienne Langford, Fr. Dustin, Patty Hyland, Kickie Fulmar, and Jeff McDowell) began meeting in early November. For over a month we met and reviewed the current budget, the budget history at Grace, looked at expected income, expected expenses and committee and commission chairs were asked to submit budget requests along with explanations. The budget committee also began asking questions about the Grace budgets of the past. Like – why does an Episcopal Church not include in its operating budget the cost of communion wafers? Or flowers? Or its contributions from social ministry to charities?

Grace has funds that stand outside its operating budget that it has used in the past to pay what are truly church operating expenses. Those funds are supported by non-pledge income – gifts. For example, when Grace receives an undesignated gift of \$5000 or more, the Vestry has determined that 10% of that income goes to the Organ Fund and 10% goes to Social Ministry. In the recent past, a similar percentage went into the flower fund instead of the organ fund. In a desire to be more transparent about our operating expenses, we decided to move funds from those funds into the operating budget and account for them as both income and expenditures.

Looking at the budget for 2024 you will see a few new items under both income and expenses that are new. The flower fund has been used to pay for communion wafers, sacramental wine and other liturgical expenses. You will see funds transferred from the flower fund to a line in the operating budget for worship/sacristan. Similar transfers from flower fund for weekly and holiday flowers, as well as Social Ministry have been done. Other items in the budget that will look different from the past. You will note under interest income – we project that interest income in 2024 will be substantially higher than it has been in past years. In the Spring, the Vestry voted to move \$150,000 from our no interest checking and low interest savings accounts at Key Bank to an 8-month CD at Chase Bank that will pay 4% interest. The Vestry in March will decide what to do with that CD.

As to the overall budget. Our pledge for 2024 is higher than it has ever been. The Vestry used the figure of \$351078 for the budget. Other sources of income – gifts other than pledge – we have every reason to expect those gifts will continue, our income from 1st avenue will continue, we will do our formulaic drawdowns from our quasi-endowment, other rentals seem steady, we will draw down more from the Cropsey fund than we have and we will use about \$23K or our past years surpluses.

From the expenditure side. Our assessment has increased, we will not receive the property insurance bill for 2024 but expect it will go up. We will allocate more funds to maintenance. The interest payments for the Bradley Chapel roof loan will cease this June and the principle will be repaid from funds that have been set aside. The largest increase in expenditures is in our personnel costs that reflect our expectation that no one is leaving. Our rector and our organist/choir director continue. We have eliminated the property administrator position and increased the hours of our parish administrator and sextant to pick up the tasks the property administrator took care of. We have budgeted our security person (the building is locked up every night) to be paid for 366 days this year.

The budget being presented to the congregation is a prudent one, neither wildly optimistic nor pessimistic. It provides resources for investment in new endeavors or safety nets should unexpected challenges occur.

Finally, my thanks to all those who assisted with our financial operations in 2023. The Standing Committee on Finance (Cindy Cox, Kickie Fulmar, Theresa Bergen, Emily Nevill, Adriene Langford, Paul Shusterman, Holly Bee, Sarah Stiles, Karen Hughes, Mike Growney, Sally Ann Mock, Fr. Dustin) The Sunday counting team (Pat Cose, Josh Langford, Patty Hyland, Emily Nevill, Kickie Fulmar, Charly Cross, the Pledge Subcommittee of the Stewardship Committee (Edward Van Sadars, Emily Nevill, John Loftin, Sally Ann Mock, Caran Pullen, Karin Baere, Sally Seiller) the Planned Giving Subcommittee of the Stewardship Committee (Elaine Hinsh, Josh Loftin, Mike Growney, Pat Cose, Joe Marracino, Greg Weber, Fr. Dustin, Jeff McDowell).

And to our Bookkeeper – Cindy Cox and a special thank you to our treasurer – Karin Baere.



Faithfully submitted,
Jeff McDowell, Senior Warden (Finance)
jffmcdwll@hotmail.com

1:35 PM
01/09/24
Accrual Basis

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Operating Income and Expense to Budget
January through December 2023

	<u>Jan - Dec 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Income			
OPERATING INCOME	467,005	450,680	16,325
INVESTMENT INCOME	510	450	60
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER F...	127,848	130,195	-2,347
Total Income	<u>595,362</u>	<u>581,325</u>	<u>14,037</u>
Expense			
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	56,305	56,305	0
COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES	3,819	6,250	-2,431
MUSIC	1,914	4,200	-2,286
FINANCE	8,057	6,600	1,457
OFFICE EXPENSE	19,895	25,000	-5,105
PROPERTY INSURANCE	38,027	36,795	1,232
UTILITIES	32,965	28,000	4,965
TELEPHONE	1,738	2,000	-262
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS	47,074	40,000	7,074
CLEANING SERVICE	23,407	19,548	3,859
PROPERTY TAXES	1,656	1,656	0
WAGES & BENEFITS	264,129	300,536	-36,407
CONTRACTORS	24,109	33,650	-9,541
MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT	1,566	4,975	-3,409
TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUN...	14,311	15,811	-1,500
Total Expense	<u>538,972</u>	<u>581,325</u>	<u>-42,354</u>
Net Income	<u>56,391</u>	<u>-0</u>	<u>56,391</u>

Grace Episcopal Church					
Summary of Balances by Fund					
December 31, 2023					
	<i>Opening</i>			<i>Net Income</i>	<i>Closing</i>
<i>Fund Name</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>(Loss)</i>	<i>Balance</i>
	<i>1/1/2023</i>				<i>12/31/2023</i>
Operating	0	595,382	539,319	56,063	56,063
Prior Years Operating	94,889	(52,600)		(52,600)	42,289
Endowment Fund *					0
Endowment - Ministry	124,397	13,182	6,952	6,230	130,627
Endowment - Building	191,890	20,334	10,776	9,558	201,448
Endowment - Future	567,496	60,135	28,489	31,646	599,142
General Fund Interest Distribution					
Cropsey	591,783	66,889	15,000	51,889	643,672
Flower Fund	80,816	13,749	7,866	5,883	86,699
Social Ministries	67,076	20,528	9,647	10,881	77,957
Organ	33,813	12,118	0	12,118	45,931
K Braxton Fund	33,793	3,820	0	3,820	37,613
Columbarium / Garden	131,509	30,084	16,099	13,985	145,494
Cornerstone	9,920	0	0	0	9,920
137 First Ave Reno Repay	32,056	2,400	0	2,400	34,456
137 First Ave Reno Exp	(41,784)	0	0	0	(41,784)
Rental Properties	0	98,304	98,304	0	0
Grace Music	30,378	650	2,722	(2,072)	28,306
Memorial Fund	124,608	25	29,427	(29,402)	95,206
Piano Fund	1,080	0	0	0	1,080
St. Benedict	3,067	1,500	1,275	225	3,292
Youth Fund	15,478	0	1,872	(1,872)	13,606
Special Projects					
Grace's Kitchen	18,472	0	0	0	18,472
Nyack Hunger Coalition	595	0	595	(595)	0
First Ave. Capital Fund	26,293	2,400	16,695	(14,295)	11,998
First Ave. Renovations	33,722	0	22,626	(22,626)	11,096
Church Major Repairs	6,500	29,060	0	29,060	35,560
ASF	6,834	0	951	(951)	5,883
Fun(d) Raising	1,166	880	603	278	1,444
Dora Reese Music Fund	7,075	0	6,950	(6,950)	125
5 Yr Plan to Pay Off Roof Loans	(21,466)	14,311	0	14,311	(7,155)
Air Conditioning	7,010	0	0	0	7,010
All Saints	1,055	1,380	0	1,380	2,435
Kitchen Reno 2021	29,285	0	0	0	29,285
Holiday Music (Funded by Flower)	(1,036)	1,259	0	1,259	223
Patterson Hall	633	0	633	(633)	0
Rector's Discretionary Fund	1,922	1,050	298	752	2,674
Rector's Initiative	8,000	0	0	0	8,000
Summer Mission Program	4,322	5,348	0	5,348	9,670
Sunshine Choir	177	230	0	230	407
Fellowship	1,618	0	0	0	1,618
Less: Interfund Transfers		(113,786)	(113,786)		
Total Church Assets	2,224,442	828,632	703,313	125,320	2,349,762
Endowment Income Breakdown					
		Ministry	Building	Future	TOTAL
Interest/Dividend income		5,021	7,745	22,905	35,671
Capital Gains		8,161	12,589	37,230	57,980
Bequests and Contributions		0	0	0	0
TOTAL		13,182	20,334	60,135	93,651

2024 Budget -Income Section

Income	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Pledge	335,619	347,682	332,084	321,870	322,130	327,746	351,078
Pledge @ 5% Discount	327,229		315,480				
Plate	5,016	3,466	4,000	5,537	6,000	10,359	7,000
Gift Other Than Pledge	28,800	35,315	50,000	70,798	80,000	85,028	70,000
Prior Year Surplus					52,600		23,000
Transfer from Memorials for Maintenance					10,000	52,600	10,000
Transfer from Flower Fund for Weekly Flowers						10,000	18,600
Transfer from Flower Fund for Holiday Flowers							2,900
Transfer from Flower Fund for Sacristan/Worship							13,000
Transfer from Social Ministry Fund for Social Ministry							5,000
Nursery School	14,100	14,150	14,550	14,550	14,550	15,150	15,900
12 Steps	6,500	3,396	4,000	6,305	7,000	6,381	7,000
Other Rentals	4,000	2,930	3,000	34,138	9,000	9,505	9,000
Fundraising/development						805	
Paycheck Protection Program	44,490	44,490	26,012	26,012			
Diocesan Grant							
Thrift Shop	6,000	12,953	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,030	13,200
Transfer by Vestry Action	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	26,725
Ministry Fund	6,350	6,350	6,684	16,997	6,952	17,728	7,118
Building Fund	9,798	9,798	10,313		10,776		10,980
1st Avenue	34,795	34,795	29,816	18,869	34,867.41	32,520	40,000
Interest Income	400	453	500	438	500	510	500
Total Income	502,478	530,778	491,355	542,334	581,375	595,362	607,062
NON PLEDGE INCOME	175,249	530,778	175,875	220,464	259,245	267,616	255,984

2024 Budget Expense Section

Expenses	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Diocesan Assessment	43,439	50,679	57,230	57,230	56,305	56,305	\$ 60,902.00
Prior Yr Assessment Bal							
Worship/Sacristan	250	142	250	152	250	118	\$ 1,550.00
Weekly Flowers							\$ 1,860.00
Holiday Flowers							\$ 2,900.00
Fellowship	400	819	1,200	864	2,200	1,264	\$ 1,000.00
ASF	1,300	634	1,200	1,199	1,200	1,442	\$ 2,500.00
Social Ministry	50		50		50	-	\$ 5,500.00
Stewardship	450	530	750	339	750	499	\$ 750.00
New Member	50		50	39	250	-	\$ 250.00
Youth and Church School	2,000	820	1,500	708	1,500	497	\$ 1,500.00
Pastoral Care	50				50		\$ 50.00
Music	2,500	825	2,500	1,478	4,200	1,914	\$ 4,200.00
Finance (audit, supplies & ps)	5,000	1,206	8,200	1,260	800	2,734	\$ 800.00
Finance credit card fees		4,282	5,000	3,840	4,000	3,516	\$ 4,000.00
Finance interest on loans		1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,806	\$ 950.00
Fundraising							
Office Expense	20,242	22,701	28,000	20,801	25,000	19,895	\$ 25,000.00
Property Insurance	31,710	39,112	25,442	25,791	36,795	38,027	\$ 39,370.82
Utilities	30,400	28,702	31,956	30,243	28,000	32,965	\$ 28,000.00
Verizon - Phone	2,402	2,259	2,300	1,866	2,000	1,738	\$ 2,000.00
Maintenance & Repair	29,000	36,266	35,000	46,084	40,000	47,074	\$ 50,000.00
Cleaning Service	19,600	15,429	18,500	18,239	19,548	23,407	\$ 22,253.28
Property Taxes	1,460	1,476	1,608	1,607	1,656	1,656	\$ 1,656.00
Salary and benefits	275,899	238,834	207,210	208,640	300,536	264,129	\$ 319,000.26
Rector's Moving Expense			15,000	8,849			
supply (clergy/routine)	600	2,650	1,800	7,138	3,000	1,669	\$ 3,000.00
supply(organist)	300	675	600	250	600	9,750	\$ 900.00
Hospitality	1,000	-	1,000	1,255	3,000	1,860	\$ 1,000.00
Property Assistant	4,000	4,308	-				
Secretarial Assistance							
Security	3,500	3,250	3,500	3,025	3,500	3,300	\$ 5,475.00
Bookkeeper	4,000	4,200	4,000	3,903	4,250	4,230	\$ 4,250.00
Live Stream	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	4,300	3,300	\$ 3,300.00
Digital Ministry			15,000	2,400	15,000		\$ 500.00
Continuing Ed	1,000	206	1,000		1,000	19	\$ 750.00
Ministry Development	3,175	3,121	5,175	5,310	3,100	947	\$ 3,100.00
Ministry Dev Other	1,000	446		375	375		\$ 375.00
Staff Development	500	400	500	75	500		\$ 500.00
Cofrences						600	
Other- Funeral/Wedding	100						
Tr to Other - Babbitt Loan							
Tr to Other - 1st Ave Cap		17,906					
Tr to Other - Rectory Reno		30,000					
Tr to Other - Roof Loans \$70	13,800	13,800	10,734	10,734	14,311	14,311	\$ 7,155.30
Tr to Other - ASF							
Tr to Other - Sabbatical					1,500		\$ 750.00
Total	502,477	530,778	491,355	468,794	581,325	538,972	\$ 607,047.66

First Avenue Property Budget

		Rental Income 2024			
	Property Address	Monthly rent		Comment	Yearly Gross
1	137 1st Fl	\$1,850			\$22,614
2	137 2nd	\$2,400			\$28,800
4	141	\$2,000			\$24,450
5	145 1st Fl	\$1,585			\$19,020
6	145 2nd Fl	\$1,200		Set by Nyack Housing Auth \$902 & \$148 Julia	\$15,750
TOTAL Income					\$110,634
Expenses					
7				Repairs	\$13,000
8				Utilities	\$6,000
9				137 Cropsey Loan Repayment	\$2,400
10				Capital Reserves	\$2,400
11				Taxes 2022 \$42,496 (1/2023 bills increased by 4%)	\$44,141
TOTAL Expenses					\$ 67,940.84
NET INCOME TO OPERATING BUDGET					\$42,693

Grace Episcopal Church					
Garden Columbarium Accounts					
December 31, 2023					
	<i>Opening Balance</i>			<i>Net Income</i>	<i>Closing Balance</i>
<u>Account Name</u>	<u>1/1/2023</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>(Loss)</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>
Columbarium Trust	120,079	12,856	0	12,856	132,935
Garden Columbarium Operating	11,424	17,228	16,099	1,129	12,553
	131,503	30,084	16,099	13,985	145,488
		Dividends	Market Value	Net	
		4948	7908	12856	

PLEDGE STATISTICS - 2014—2024

Amount	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<519	41	39	33	33	339	34	29	32	22	22	22
520-1039	45	41	50	43	42	36	36	34	35	37	27
1040-1299	16	24	16	15	17	24	18	19	21	15	18
1300-1559	13	11	14	7	9	8	8	7	5	5	6
1560-2079	13	12	16	18	16	15	18	17	14	9	8
2080-2599	15	13	9	10	9	12	12	10	17	7	9
2600-3119	5	8	12	14	13	10	14	7	7	5	4
3120-3639	2	3	6	6	9	7	6	8	8	8	6
3640-4159	5	3	2	1	3	3	6	2	3	4	9
4160-4679	0	1	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	0	1
4680-5199	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	2	2	1
5200-6239	4	6	6	6	5	3	2	5	4	4	3
>6240	10	9	9	9	12	14	15	14	15	15	15
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Pledges	174	174	174	177	167	177	170	167	144	133	129
Increased Pledges	56	60	45	48	54	42	59	49	43	38	56
Decreased Pledges	21	17	25	28	17	25	17	25	23	24	12
New Pledges	18	18	20	12	23	21	13	15	18	20	18
Moved/Deceased	10	5	8	4	7		14	6	19	2	

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY (JUNIOR) WARDEN

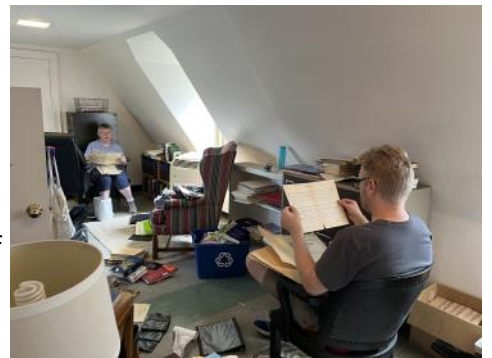
Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service..." (The General Thanksgiving, BCP, p. 101). Working with Grace Church's 150 year old properties these past two years has been a great joy for me. I'm so grateful for the many gifts that God has given us in these walls and for the opportunity to be one of many who serve in maintaining them. A few highlights from the year:

Choir Loft

We engaged the structural engineering services of DR Pilla to establish the extent of the termite damage to the choir loft and plan for repair. Thankfully the damage appears to be limited to the lower structure. Quotes for replacement of the damaged beam, paneling, and ceiling tiles are currently being solicited. Watch for upcoming opportunities to contribute to the costs of the repair work.

Music Director's Office

Our time without a music director brought the opportunity to rehab that office for the first time in 30+ years. It was a veritable archaeological dig of the history of music at Grace—and of past building practices! We upgraded non-grounded electrical outlets, replaced dim lighting, and installed new flooring to cover damaged presumed asbestos tiles. The women's choir robing room also received new flooring and a fresh coat of paint. Thanks to Sally Cochran, John Howell, and Jacob Nevill for their help in sorting through piles and files of music.



First Avenue Rentals



The 137 2nd floor apartment was substantially rehabbed with new flooring, windows, and refrigerator and rented in May to a new Section 8 tenant. Now two of our five units are rented in this way, which maximizes our income by charging full market rent while also providing housing to some of those most in need. The old playground equipment and yard coverings left from when the property housed the Rockland Parent Child Center were removed by Arborview Landscape and the backyard was graded and seeded. At 145, both furnaces were replaced by Blend Air after a routine heating system tuneup revealed that they were leaking dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

Rectory

Babbitt House only required a little attention after all the work we invested in 2022. Some cracked stairs were repaired by Michael DeMarco. The boiler was repaired and the water heater was replaced by Blend Air. A pink dogwood was planted in the front yard as required by the Village of Nyack to replace the trees that were removed the previous year. Thanks to Karine Baere and John Colgan for assisting with this project.

Church

We tackled a number of significant projects at the church in 2023:

- James Walsh of Rock Solid repointed the northwest corner of the church, installed new joints in the blue-stone walkway, and replaced several damaged stones. This eliminated several tripping hazards and ensured the integrity of our walkways for the years to come.

- The exterior lights that illuminate the stained glass behind the altar at night had corroded and were placed by All Bright. Bonus: the light switches inside are now consistent and intuitive to operate.
- Our wireless smoke detectors were past their life expectancy and beginning to malfunction and were replaced by Inter County.
- To accompany our new, robust wifi (more on that below), Blend Air installed programmable, wifi-compatible thermostats around the building to replace old ones that were constantly running too hot or cold.



We should realize significant savings on utility bills by not heating unused spaces.

- In light of the termite issue in the church and other insect and rodent concerns around our properties, we established a contract with Erhlich to handle termite control for the church and pest control across all properties.
- Many administrative projects were tackled, including the creation of a record of people with church keys, an annual maintenance calendar, and a log of major repairs and maintenance work.

Wifi

One of the crowning achievements of the year is the installation of wifi throughout the church and of ethernet for all the office computers. Verne Becker championed this project and put in countless hours interfacing with the All Bright electricians and Frontline Data Services technicians. We now have fast internet access, have eliminated the many cords that created tripping hazards, and can take advantage of technology to save energy, improve security, and much more. We are grateful to the estate of Violet Engel for funding much of this project.



Thanks

It takes a huge community to take care of all our properties. Many thanks to the members of the Standing Committee on Property for their hard work and collective wisdom: Theresa Bergen, Kickie Fulmor, Heidi Hill, Sondra Holt, Angela Metzler, Sally Ann Mock, and Paula Spruck. Thanks to Roy Kepler for tackling the church kneelers and so many other projects. Theresa Bergen deserves special praise for organizing a kitchen cleaning day. Sexton Jim Sevier is an incredible asset to the church and has been an invaluable partner, teacher, and friend to me as we've worked together on the care of Grace for these last two years. I couldn't have asked for anyone better. Kudos to Raymond Bergen-Fulmor for faithfully assisting Jim. Verne Becker, security assistant, diligently locks up the buildings nightly and has an eagle eye for any problems. I'm deeply grateful to Fr. Dustin for his support and insights. At home, my husband Jacob has been incredibly patient every time I pop over to Grace "for just a few minutes." Thank you to each of you who have helped to care for our properties in ways large and small. You are part of God's gifts to Grace and I am so grateful for your service to God in this place.



Respectfully submitted,
Emily Nevill
Property Warden

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AND COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE 2023

The Grace Church Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee (MGCC) oversees the Columbarium consisting of the stone niches located in Memorial Garden which are available for the immurement of the ashes of parishioners and members of the community. The MGCC is also responsible for overseeing the Garden itself. The Garden is a quiet place for relaxation and meditation for both church and community enjoyment. It is also used for various services, activities, and social gatherings. We carry out the maintenance of the Garden and are also responsible for the seasonal plantings in the urns in the garden and on the church steps. The low black iron fence that surrounds the Bark Maple tree, planted in memory of long-time parishioner, Linda Chisholm, contains the historic Washington Irving Ivy given to Franklin Babbit, the first Rector of Grace Church, by Irving from his home Sunnyside in Tarrytown, NY. Irving was gifted it by Sir Walter Scott from his garden at Abbotsford, England.

This past year we were again able to hold our two major fund-raising events, which help enable us to provide perpetual maintenance of the Garden and Columbarium. The first, the annual Mother's Day Plant and Bouquet Sale, a community favorite, is always successful in raising funds.

The second, the fall Garden Party, is an opportunity for fellowship and a chance to enjoy spending time in the Garden. This year our entertainment was provided by our own "(Not) Anonymous Four" led by Jan Valentine and including choir members Amy Lehman, Mia Leo, Paula Spruck, and Margie Winslow. As spring approaches, we look forward to seeing the Garden come to life and to hosting these events once again.

Out of a total 128 niches in the Columbarium, there are only 38 niches remaining for purchase. With that in mind, the Committee, with the help of member, John Colgan, an architect, is in the beginning stages of studying how we might expand the number of niches without disturbing the original design and serenity of the Garden.

We honor and respect the leadership of our recently departed friend and colleague, Karin Baere. She is deeply missed. And we are grateful for the participation of our members who served this year: John Colgan, Jennifer Giunta, Heidi Hill, Rod Langdon, Molly MacQueen, Sally Seiler, and Paula Spruck.

Sondra Holt
Interim Chair
Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

YOUTH COMMISSION

Overview

The Youth Commission at Grace Church is responsible for oversight of the church school, the junior youth group, the senior youth group, the confirmation class and other activities/programs targeted to children through 18 years of age. Sandra Rodriguez is the church school director, Jen Marraccino leads the Junior Youth Group, and Brian Murrell and Kristin Walsh lead the Senior Youth Group.

CHURCH SCHOOL and JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

At this time, we have 8 children registered for church school, which continues to take place after the 9:30 service. We also have a Junior Youth Group, which has approximately 14 kids registered. All classes are being provided in-person indoors. The church school kids continue to meet in Bradley Chapel, while the Junior youth group meets in Fenton. We also continue to combine the groups when appropriate.

The church school strives to integrate its programs with the 9:30 am church service. Church school lessons are generally based on the Gospel readings for the week, and follow the Liturgical calendar. We have continued to use both the StoryMakers curriculum, as well as the Lesson Plans That Work curriculum, developed by the Youth Ministries of the Episcopal Church. Church School activities and lessons are also at times centered around current events and holidays. I try to start each new week by asking the children how their week was, and if anyone has anything they would like to share with the group. I often see lots of little hands raised as they eagerly wait their turn to share a special event or challenging moment from their week. The Lesson Plans That Work curriculum includes both an opening and a closing prayer, so even when we are using the StoryMakers lesson plan for that day, I try to start and end all church school lessons with a prayer. We are generally thanking God for opening our hearts and minds to the lessons of the week, and also thanking God for allowing us to be together and share in his beloved community.

Since there is always a gap between our last church school gathering and the New Year, I try to start out the New Year with a quick recap where we talk about the Christmas Pageant, and then start talking about the season of Epiphany and the beginning of the ministry of Jesus in the world. We move from Epiphany into Lent and then Easter. We were so lucky last year to have our resident Donkey, the lovely Ruby, lead us in a procession around the church before our Palm Sunday service. The children also once again participated in a Resurrection Scavenger Hunt after the service. In May, we had children from all of our youth groups sail on the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. The children participated in the sailing classroom program where they investigated the ecology, history, and environmental challenges of the Hudson River. It rained the entire time we were sailing, and we were all thoroughly soaked by the end, but it was still fun! We ended Church School for the year in June, with our traditional picnic for the children and their families in Memorial Garden.

We once again kicked off our first day of Church School 2023 with the Blessing of the Animals on October 1st. Many parishioners came to have their beloved pets blessed during the service. This year we had our JYG kids read the story of St. Francis to our younger Church School kids, and then help them make simple pine cone bird

feeders. This year Grace Church also had a Community Blessing of the Animals event in Memorial Garden. It was quite a success, as many members of the community who do not necessarily come to church participated in the Blessing of the Animals, as well as many of our own parishioners. Several of our youth also helped Fr. Dustin with the Blessing certificates.

In November Grace Church also led a youth service project with the Reformed Temple of Rockland on the night of the Interfaith Service here at Grace Church. Several children from both Grace Church and RTR came together before the service to write letters to active military members serving overseas. The letters were filled with messages of love, hope, and holiday wishes. It was a great event, and we talked about having more interfaith activities with the kids from RTR.

This year we moved back into the Sanctuary for our annual Christmas Pageant. The children from both church school and junior youth group spent several weeks learning and rehearsing to retell the story of Jesus' birth. Thanks to the help of this amazing Grace Church Family, the children were once again able to put together a wonderful production.

CONFIRMATION AND BREAD FOR LIFE

We did not have any Grace Church youth participate in Confirmation last spring, but we are looking forward to a large confirmation class coming together soon. Most of our JYG kids have been together since they were very young, and I have discussed with Fr. Dustin how lovely it would be if they could all be confirmed together. Time will tell. We did however have a Bread For Life class in the Spring. We had 4 of our Church School kids come together one Saturday afternoon in June and spend time with Fr. Dustin in the sanctuary learning about our church and what it means to receive communion. The children then spent some time in the kitchen with me, baking bread to be consecrated and shared with the congregation on the following Sunday.

WHAT IS AHEAD?

We will continue to have both Church School and Junior Youth Group meet on Sundays following the 9:30 service. We are looking forward to more service opportunities for our youth in the months to come. If anyone has ideas about activities or service projects please reach out.



**Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Rodriguez, Church School Director**

BOY SCOUTS TROOP 2

The Scouts of Troop 2, Nyack, have been a part of our parish family for over 75 years. The Scouts and their leaders make a mark on our community in many ways. The Troop is currently lead by Scoutmaster Ian Graham, Committee Chair James Feldman, and Chartered Organization Representative Michael Growney. The Youth Leaders are currently Chris P. as Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and Nate D. as Assistant SPL.

The current roster in the troop is of 12 Scouts and 16 Adult Leaders. We currently have a young troop. Most of our scouts are in middle school with the majority of these in sixth grade. We have only three scouts in high school ... one (our SPL) is a senior turning 18 in March, one is a junior and is essentially inactive, and the third is a sophomore who is active.

We did welcome six new scouts from Pack 2 who “crossed the bridge” in May into Troop 2. We are always looking for imaginative ways to keep scouts engaged and active. The good news is that we have resumed normal activities across the board.

We operate under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of American through the Rockland District of the new Greater Hudson Valley Council. We are financially independent and fully funded by membership dues and fundraising.

Although a small Troop we have dedicated core of ACTIVE scouts.

January: We kicked off the year with and Eagle Court of Honor for Jack Gannon. It was well attended with many Troop alumni in attendance!

February: The Klondike Derby resumed as normal at Camp Bullowa (rah rah Bullowa) in Stony Point. It was a COLD one! We had an intrepid patrol despite the weather. The troop was given and awesome tour of the Clarkstown Police Department by Chief J. Wanamaker (Troop 2 alumnus).

March: Troop 2 was in attendance again for Pack 2’s annual Pinewood Derby, helping the Pack leadership set up and run the races! Troop members registered for Merit Badge College went virtual due to weather, but earned badges toward rank advancement.

April: Scouts were recognized for their advancement at a Court of Honor, and the Troop hosted it’s spaghetti dinner for Grace Church at our annual appreciation dinner.

May: Always a busy month ... the Troop help with Pack 2’s Arrow of Light and Bridging Ceremony for their Webelos. An intrepid patrol of four veterans and new rookie scout braved the rain and WON the Great Adventure Race Camporee. We rounded out the month again place flags at Veteran’s gravestones in Oak Hill Cemetery, and participating in Nyack’s Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies.

June: We ended the scouting season with our annual pool party and barbeque at West Nyack Swim Club hosted again by Jeff and Laura Wanamaker.

July – August: The summer was quiet this year with no activities.

September: We started up again with an early Court of Honor recognizing scouts for achievements earned over the summer.

October: After a quiet start ... a busy month! The Troop participated in the Council’s annual Thunderbird Games ... and since it’s not scouting if it’s not raining mother nature obliged with a wet weekend. During this same weekend Dan Deloatch did his IOLS training to become a fully trained Assistant Scoutmaster. The next weekend the Troop attend

November: We had the honor and privilege to attend AND help the veterans at the Willis Polhemus VFW Post #9215 in Upper Nyack retire flags on Veteran’s day. Again, the ceremonial fire pit constructed by Troop 2’s Eagle Project by Tyler Peterson as was used in the ceremony. Troop 2 once again attended this year’s Interfaith Service this year hosted by Grace Church on Tuesday before Thanksgiving ... A Scout is Reverent. The following day the Troop took a 5 mile hike near Glen Gray Camp (Mahwah, NJ).

December: We were able to have our Turkey in Dirt Feast and day of cooking and fellowship in the outdoors ... Dutch-oven roast venison tenderloins for lunch and pit oven roasted turkey with all the fixing for dinner. While cooking the Troop hosted a station for the Cub Scout event Winter Wonderland sharing how we were cooking our meals and helped them roast apples right in our campfire.

In service to Grace Church again this year Troop 2 constructed a new “indoor” manger for the Christmas Pageant ... which was moved back indoors this year.

And around town ... Troop 2 continues to actively serve the church and the community in multiple ways.

Within Grace Church you will see Scouts helping with the following:

- Pack 2 Pinewood Derby

- Constructing the manger for the Christmas Pageant

Around Town

- Placing flags at Veteran’s graves for Memorial Day

- Marched in the Nyack Memorial Day Parade

- Retiring flags with Polhemus VFW Post on Veteran’s Day

In service to other scouts in our Council

- Thunderbird Games XXXI (FDR State Park, Yorktown Heights, NY)

- Winter Wonderland (Camp Bullowa, Stony Point, NY)

This is all in addition to young people building character while having fun camping, learning outdoor and leadership skills. The goal is to develop future leaders that serve their communities putting the BSA mission in direct alignment with Grace’s.

Scout Oath ... *On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.*

Scout Law ... *A scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent*

We thank Grace Church for providing the support and encouragement to do all that we do! You are having an impact in the lives of the young people in our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian Graham, Scoutmaster



ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

ADULT EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMISSION

Annual Report

February 11, 2024

In 2023 the Adult Education and Spiritual Formation Commission continued its mission to offer topics and resources that nurture the spiritual life and growth of the congregation. Our general goal has been to sponsor one event per month. Offerings in 2023 included the following:

To start off Lent, ASF sponsored its annual Quiet Day on February 25 at its usual location, the Chapel of St. John the Divine in Tomkins Cove, NY. Rev. Gwyneth Murphy facilitated. Turnout was comparable to past years (15-20), and attendees felt the time was meaningful.

On March 8, 15, 22 and 29 (all Wednesdays), ASF conducted a series of Lenten supper discussions/activities around the theme of prayer -- thanksgiving, praise, petition and intercession. For thanksgiving, the group created drawings/artwork. For praise, everyone looked at icons and tried to make their own. For petition, participants considered the role of movement – the position of the body, kneeling, praying while walking, etc. And for intercession, people put together their own wooden Anglican rosaries from kits and learned how to use them. Soup, salad and bread were served each week, and each session ended with Compline.



On March 7, 14, 21 and 28 (all Tuesdays), ASF sponsored a spiritual memoir writing workshop led by parishioner/author Margie Winslow. She explained the difference between memoir and spiritual memoir and gave examples. Attendees (about 10 each week) were given writing prompts and time to write each week, and some shared their writing with the group.

The Sunday morning Discovery Group, led by Roy Kepler, continued through the spring. It was an informal Bible study based on the lectionary reading and using the devotional book “Disciplines,” published by The Upper Room. The group met from 10:15 to 10:45 each Sunday (between the 9:30 and 11 am services). Though participants said they liked the study, low attendance prompted us to pause the group and look for a different time slot.

On June 14, parishioner and poet Lily Greenberg read from her forthcoming work, *Mrs. God*, as part of the ASF series on Faith and Art. Afterwards, Jan Valentine moderated a Q&A with Lily about how her faith interacts with her poetry.

On July 12 and 15, ASF installed a rented canvas labyrinth in Memorial Hall for parish and public use as a tool for meditation and prayer. While attendance was small, response was positive, suggesting that additional exposure to the labyrinth could lead to greater attendance over time. The commission is considering whether to purchase a canvas labyrinth at a cost of about \$2700.

On August 16, ASF sponsored a one-hour session of harp/poetry meditation in Memorial Garden, in which gentle harp melodies alternated with readings from scripture and poetry. The theme was Healing. In mid-

September, ASF launched three small groups, which met either at people's homes or at the church for a total of nine sessions – five during the fall, and four scheduled for Jan/Feb 2024. One group of 11 met on Tuesday evenings, a group of 12 met on Wednesday evenings, and a group of 5 met on Saturday mornings. All three groups used the Way of Love curriculum from the Episcopal Church website, and each session included a simple meal. Response was very positive, and the groups have all indicated they want to continue. ASF is currently discussing ideas about how to move forward.

On October 18, seismologist, geophysicist and parishioner Paul Richards gave a talk entitled "Oppenheimer, Nuclear Weapons, and the Meaning of Peace," about the state of nuclear weapons in today's world, how weapons testing is monitored, and about his work with government agencies negotiating test ban treaties. Paul also spoke about how his faith informs his opposition to the development and use of nuclear weapons, and offered biblical insights into the meaning of peace. The talk was well attended and well received.



On November 15, early church historian and parishioner Douglas Furth gave a talk entitled "Before the Gospels: Paul's Fiery Advice to a Divided Church," which focused on Paul's letter to the Galatians, considered by many scholars to be the earliest book of the New Testament. Also well attended, well received.

For Advent, ASF purchased 50 copies of *A Way to the Manger: Devotions for Advent and Christmas*, published by Forward Movement, and distributed nearly all of them to interested parishioners to supplement their daily spiritual practice.

Ongoing Offerings:

Men's Prayer Breakfast, led by Jeff McDowell, gathers in Patterson at 8 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month for discussion, prayer, reflection, and bagels and coffee. The group has met for more than 20 years and is open to men from Grace and outside of Grace. For more information, contact Jeff at jffmcdwll@hotmail.com.

The Women's Spirituality Group, led by Jan Valentine, meets the last Saturday of each month on Zoom to share concerns of the day, discernment, learning, and conversation. Meeting time is 10 to 11 a.m.

I want to thank all who have attended ASF meetings and/or assisted with events, especially Fr. Dustin, Kickie Fulmor, Ron Hammond, Carol Kepler, Emily Nevill, and Jan Valentine. Anyone who might be interested in joining the commission, or who has an idea for a forum topic, special event, or speaker, please contact Verne Becker or Jan Valentine.



Faithfully submitted,
Verne Becker, Chair
heyverne@gmail.com

FELLOWSHIP COMMISSION

The Fellowship Commission continues to be without a chair or formal membership. There is a great need for ongoing support from parishioners. If you would like to lead or serve on this commission, please reach out to Liz Johnson Weber, Pat Cose or Jeff McDowell, who have been helping during this extended transition.

Coffee Hour has been active after the 9:30 and 11 am services, as well as after the 10 am summer service, for most of the year, using Memorial Hall. Many thanks to Gavin Nittoli (and his parents!) who has handled set-up, coffee making, and clean-up for much of the year. And thanks to the many volunteers who have brought refreshments and helped with set-up, serving, and clean-up.

Easter Vigil reception

Following a long tradition at Grace, there was a reception held after the Easter Vigil service on April 8th. We shared savory and sweet bites to celebrate the arrival of Easter.

Ordination and Retirement receptions

On April 30 we honored two members of the parish family: after the 9:30 service we celebrated the recent ordination of Lainie Murrell as Deacon and after the 11:00 service we recognized Thayer Woodcock for her many years of service as Parish Administrator.

Parish Picnic

About 100 people attended the outdoor service and picnic at Hook Mountain on May 21. After the service, attendees shared a meal of sub sandwiches, potluck sides and desserts and fellowship. Kids activities were tug-of-war and other fun games. A great time for all, and a great opportunity to spend time with folks from all three services.

Joyful Noise reception

Assistance was provided for the reception following the June 3rd Joyful Noise concert featuring many talented area students. The Joyful Noise concert was organized by Paul Shusterman and Edward Van Sadars. Proceeds were shared with Elmwood Playhouse.

Dinner and a Movie Fun(d)-Raiser

The Fun(d)-Raiser on August 26th featured the movie Mamma Mia and a Greek-inspired dinner. Ticket proceeds were shared with Nyack Center and attendees responded in abundance with donated school supplies.

Parish Hike

Tom Perry led the annual Parish Hike on Oct. 22. Four parishioners hiked up the Pine Meadow Trail to the Cascade of Slid and had a potluck supper at the Church of St. John's in the Wilderness.

Bishop Visitation

We welcomed Bp. Mary Glasspool on November 15th to all three services by having a coffee hour/reception after each service.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The interfaith service returned on November 23rd, with Grace Church as the host. Many parishioners brought refreshments for the reception that followed the service.

Advent Party

The Advent Party was held on December 3. Church school director Sandy Rodriguez once again arranged a gingerbread decorating contest, which Father Dustin judged. Thanks to the many parishioners who helped with decorating, serving, and clean-up and brought side dishes and desserts to share.

Pageant reception

On Dec 17, a cookies and cocoa reception was held for participants and the audience of the annual Christmas pageant. It was a nice way to get together after the performance, and we thank everyone who baked and brought.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Johnson Weber, Pat Cose, and Jeff McDowell

NEWCOMERS COMMISSION

The Newcomers Commission had a low profile in 2023 as we worked our way back from the Covid hiatus. Commission members continued our important work of greeting and welcoming newcomers at Sunday services and at Church activities and functions. At services, we extend our hands, answer questions, share information about our church, offer copies of the Grace bulletin and invite newcomers to join us for coffee and fellowship.

As newcomers continue to worship with us, we help connect them to interest groups, ministry opportunities and into active membership in Grace Church.

In 2024, we look forward to resuming the twice annual Sunday Welcoming Brunches for newcomers that were suspended during Covid.

Members of this commission 2023 were Karin Baere, Cindy Cox, Adrienne Langford, Linda Langdon, Christine Howe, Joe Marraccino, Lynette Marshall, Terrance Rock, Elisabeth Sydor.

Again, it is important to remember that welcoming is a responsibility of us all, not just members of this commission. The next time you are in church, make it a point to meet someone you do not know. Share time at the reception afterwards; introduce them to others. Whether someone is a newcomer or just new to you, the extension of hospitality is an opportunity to offer the hand of Christ.



Respectively submitted,

Sally Seiler

Chair, Newcomers Commission

845 358-8791 sally@leadersoft.com

OUTREACH

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMISSION REPORT

Our spirit of outreach not only continues but has expanded thanks to the involvement of many.

We continue collecting non-perishable food items each Sunday that are donated to People to People. This local organization puts food on the tables of struggling families, children, seniors, veterans and so many of the most vulnerable among us. Thank you to Charlie Cross for delivering the food donations regularly to People to People.

A small but efficient group of robust volunteers gather once a month to make approximately 100 bag lunches to feed the homeless in New York City for Midnight Run. New volunteers, groups, families and individuals are welcome and encouraged to participate.

In June we had a table at the Rockland Pride Center Event. It was a wonderfully attended event by our Grace community and beyond. This past year marked the 25th year for this family friendly event in downtown Nyack.

Our annual Giving Tree for the children at Nyack Center was in the narthex this year for the holiday season. Parishioners contributed gifts to be distributed for Christmas. Thank you to Paul Weiss for his coordination of this event, as well as to each parishioner that took part.

The Prayer Shawl group started by Social Ministry Commission has now branched off into its own as an extension of pastoral care under the direction of Ellie Harries and Christine Klinger.



In addition to our regular and ongoing outreach, our parish completed our year-long role in resettling a family from Afghanistan at the end of September. To remind you, we partnered with the not-for-profit organization, Hearts and Homes for Refugees. This interfaith mission has brought to light the plight of so many refugees and the needs both great (immigration & healthcare) and small (navigating a grocery store). This family came to us with most members speaking some English and yet needing compassion to navigate acclimating to a new country and all the nuances that entails. Our main focus, once our volunteers provided the family with a safe furnished home, clothing and food was help with

ESOL classes, education and employment. Our budget and finance committee also helped the family navigate full independence. A big thanks to the following people for embracing this family and dedicating much of their time, energy and most of all compassion: Sondra Holt, Linda and Rod Langdon, Molly MacQueen, Bonnie and Robert Parsekian, Beth and Joe Paskowski, Kathy Sestak, Claudia Uccellini and Paul Weiss. It is with profound sorrow and deep gratitude that we extend a posthumous embrace and thanks to Karin Baere, whose compassionate spirit and dedication to serving others have left an indelible mark on our community. It has recently come to our attention that Karin was engaged in reading excerpts of the Bible with one of the family members, and their reading from the Quran with her, exemplifying her unwavering commitment to spiritual enrichment and personal connection. Karin is greatly missed by the family, as well as to the Social Ministry Commission of which she



was an integral part.

This year we made a \$5,000 donation to the charitable work of Episcopal Relief and Development. The hope is that if our budget allows, we can make this an annual donation.

If you would like to hear more on any of the above initiatives, please contact me. It would be wonderful to have some new helping hands as we continue our current outreach, our commitment to fostering positive change and creating a more inclusive and compassionate society through our collective efforts in outreach.



Heidi R. Hill
Chair, Social Ministry Commission Chair

845 358-0950 or Nyack13@gmail.com

Social Ministry Commission donations went to the following this year:

Purchased a new oven for **Tolstoy Foundation, Hearts & Homes for Refugees donations, Soup Angels** \$500 donation, **Nyack Homeless Project** \$500 donation, **Sunday Supper** \$500 donation, **Rockland Prison Justice Project Fund** \$1,000 donation, **Midnight Run** - Donated hundreds of socks & hand / foot warmers, **A Cup of Cold Water Maui** \$500 donation, **Episcopal Relief & Development** \$5,000 donation

GRACE'S THRIFT SHOP



Grace's Thrift Shop's mission:

To provide the community with inexpensive clothing and household goods.

To raise money for local charities.

To form a community in which the Volunteers care for each other.

Last year as we prepared our price guide for clothing we were very aware of the first line of our mission. In an inflationary period, the difficulty of buying clothing for a family can only be second to buying food . We decided to lower prices and hoped to make up the loose in volume. It worked. We lowered prices and made our largest gift ever ... approximately \$50,000. Our volunteers are the best... and have fun along the way. The community supplies us with the "stuff" we sell. It's a team effort.



At GTS's Annual Meeting our Rector referred to: *the scared space between the helper and the helped*. For the past 9 years it has been our privilege to occupy that space as co-Managers of Grace's Thrift. It has been a privilege and we thank you for the opportunity.

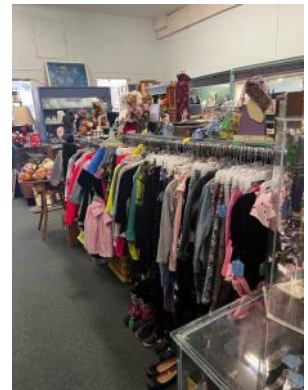
Katherine M. Fulmor and Theresa D. Bergen

Thrift Shop Volunteers

Karin Baere*
 Holly Bee*
 Theresa Bergen*
 Peggy Cook
 Laurie Cozza
 Raymond Bergen Fulmor*
 Maxine Bernstein
 Ann Bush
 Stephanie Campbell*
 Shirley Chalke*
 Carol Curto
 Barbara DeFrancis*
 Elaine Dempsey
 Jane Dougher
 Kat Dyjaak

Faith Elliot
 Kevin Faherty*
 Kickie Fulmor*
 Carol Gaglian
 Nancy Gentilello
 Barbara Green
 Nancy Guglielmo
 Michael Growney*
 Jennifer Giunta*
 Elaine Hinsch*
 Joan Jansen
 Karen Littire
 Sally Ann Mock*
 Mary O'Donoghue*
 Christine Olszweski

Beth Paskowski*
 Kerline Piersaint
 Candy Pittori
 Caran Pullen*
 Jane Seamon
 Sally Seiler*
 Fran Sennas*
 Barbara Sevier
 Jim Sevier
 Paula Spruck*
 Joan Szanto*
 Nancy Waack*
Emeritus
 Martha Graham*
 Carol Streichert*



Donations

Community Organizations
 ARC
 Candle
 Center for Safety & Change
 Elmwood Play House
 GEC Memorial for Deceased Vol.
 Habitat, Rockland Co.
 Health Life Line Clinic
 Head Start of Nyack
 Helping Hands
 Four Legs Good
 Homes For Heroes, Rockland
 Hospice
 Kaleidoscop

Mealson Wheels
 Midnight Run (GEC)
 Murphy House
 Nam Knights (Veterans)
 Nyack Center
 Nyack Senior Center
 P-Flag
 People to People
 Rockland Hosp. Guild
 Saint Ann's Pantry
 Saint Dominics
 Soup Angels
 Sunday Supper
 SYG Service Mission

TOUCH
 Venture Together
 YMCA of Nyack/Child Care
 Volunteer Fire Houses serving Nyack:
 Orangetown Co. #1
 Mazzeppa Engine Co. #2
 Jackson Hose Co. #3
 Jackson Engine Co. #3
 Fire Patrol
 Highland Hose Co. #5
 Empire Hook & Ladder Co. #1
 Chelsea Hook & Ladder Co. #

Grace's Thrift Shop Financial Report

Grace's Thrift Shop
a charity serving the community since 1968

Income		\$122,133.00	
	Consignment	-\$10,674.00	
	Sales Tax	-\$6,299.00	
	misc credits	-\$282.00	
	Sales	\$101,007.00	
	Bag donations	\$689.00	
	Gold & e-Bay	\$2,932.00	
	<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$250.00</u>	
		\$104,878.00	\$ 104,878.00

Expenses			
	Rent	\$39,990.00	
	Loan repayment	\$1,600.00	
	O&R	\$3,032.00	
	Verizon	\$701.00	
	Services	\$3,600.00	
	Maint. Services	\$4,725.00	
	Supplies	\$1,266.00	
	Storage Bins	\$650.00	
	Bags	\$1,983.00	
	tags	\$514.00	
	Water/Food	\$420.00	
	Shop Improve.	\$1,765.00	
	Checks	\$508.00	
		\$60,754.00	\$ (60,754.00)
	Profit		\$ 44,124.00

Donations			
	Pledge	\$ 12,000.00	
	Midnight Run	\$ 200.00	
	SYG Service Mission	\$ 500.00	
	Flower Memorial	\$ 300.00	
	Other GEC	\$ 700.00	
	Subtotal	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 13,700.00
	Holy Innocent	\$1,000.00	
	A Cup of Water	\$500.00	
	Memorial	\$50.00	
	subtotal	\$1,550.00	\$ 1,550.00
	Xmas Gifts	\$34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00
			\$ 49,250.00

PARISH RECORD 2023

Baptisms

Walter Carl Arader
Theodore William Wilde
Matheo Tristan Louis

May 21, 2023
September 10, 2023
September 17, 2023

Confirmations

Lily Greenberg

November 5, 2023

Marriage

There were no marriages in 2023.

Burials

Joan Ellen Marshall (10/18/23)
Duncan Hadley Bell (6/30/23)
Irene E. Mason (8/2/23)
Barbara Holmes (9/10/23)
Merle Porter (9/21/23)
Peter Malcolm (10/2/23)
Priscilla Boylan (6/13/23)

April 22, 2023
July 8, 2023
August 23, 2023
September 23, 2023
September 27, 2023
October 6, 2023
October 8, 2023

PLEDGERS FOR 2024

as of 1/31/24

Pledged \$362,528

Pledgers 129

Aldith & Robert Asselberg
Melissa Audige-Perkins
Karin Baere
Ruth Beck Baliotti
Debra Banks
Nigel Bark
Jo Ann & Paul Barnard
Verne Becker
Mary Bish
Wendy Brown
Jack Burger
Elida Cacevic
Larry & Stephanie Campbell
Ed & Mary Ceccolini
Shirley Chalke
Kate Chisholm
Diane Churchill
Sally & James Cochran
John & Beverly Colgan
Jean Conner-Tierney
Pat Cose
Cindy Cox
Charles & Barbara Cross
Zara & Stephen Crowley
Alison R. Crowther
Robert D'Errico
Barbara DeFrancis
Hilda DeLoatch
Virginia A. Dillon
Paul Dixon
Daphne Estwick
Kevin Faherty
Gerald & Marjorie Federico
Vickie & Fred Frelow
Jeff & Catherine Friesen
Katharine Fulmor, Theresa Bergen,
& Ray Bergen Fulmor
James & Peggy Gilbert
Jennifer Giunta
Lily Greenberg

Michael Growney
Don & Ronna Hammond
Ronald Hammond
Eleanor & John Harries
Susan Hendricks
Heidi Hill
Elaine Hinsch
Robert & Phyllis Holgerson
Sondra Holt
Liz & Jon Huss
Patty & Jimmy Hyland
Sean & Amanda Hyland
Daniel & Myria Jean-Gilles
Roy & Carol Kepler
Maeve Kinlead
Christine Klinger
Rod & Linda Langdon
Adrienne & Joshua Langford
Amy Lehman
Mia Leo & Dick Kuczkowski
John Loftin & Michael Pfenning
Edouard Louis
Deborah Lugo
John & Ejane MacCartney
Orville & Sally Mann
Marraccino Family
Mac & Judy Martin
Heidi McCarthy & Edward Knyfd
Jr.
Jeff McDowell
Debbie & Bob McGuinness
Patricia-Jen McLaughlin
Andrea Merosky
Angela Metzler
Sally Ann Mock
James & Wendy Monaco
Margaret & Bryan Murray
Emily & Jacob Nevill
Sarah & Tom Nittoli
Mary O'Donoghue
Jim & Cindy O'Gorman
Kemi Olateju
Keith & Moriah Olsen
Bonnie & Robert Parsekian
Beth & Joe Paskowski

Martha Patterson
Tom & Dalila Perry
Winston Perry
Karen Phelan
Allyson Pifko & Kristin Walsh
Sherrol Pollard
Caran Pullen & Holly Bee
Alma Richmond & Sam Smith
Terence Rock
Cynthia Rodriguez
Maria Rodriguez
Sandra Rodriguez
Philip & Helen Scala
Roger & Sally Seiler
Anna Shalom
Robert Sorensen
Arthur & Donna Soyk
Paula Spruck
David Starling
Carol Streichert
Sarah Styles & Douglas Furth
Elisabeth Sydor
Joan M Szanto
Laurent Szanto
Charles & Lori Tauken
Dustin Trowbridge & John Howell
Patricia Trowbridge
Claudia Uccellani
Jan & Robert Valentine
Edward Van Sadars & Paul Shus-
terman
Kristen & Mike Velez
Nancy & Dietrich Waack
Barbara Wanamaker
Liz, Greg, & Sam Weber
Paul & Annie Weiss
Justin & Sarah Wilde
Margaret Winslow & Joe Stennett
Thayer & Bruce Woodcock
Christina & Erik Young

7 ANONYMOUS PLEDGERS

CLOSING HYMN

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
 shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Grace Episcopal Church

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website: www.gracechurchnyack.org

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietsche, *Bishop Diocesan*
The Rt. Rev. Allen K. Shin, *Bishop Suffragan*
The Rt. Rev. Mary D. Glasspool, *Assistant Bishop*
The Rt. Rev. Matthew Heyd, *Bishop Coadjutor*

The Reverend Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, *Rector*
Jie Yi Segal, *Music Director*

Verne Becker, *Security Assistant and Livestream Coordinator*

Sandra Rodriguez, *Church School Coordinator*

Jim Sevier, *Sexton*

Elida Cacevic, *Parish Administrator*

Jeff McDowell, *Warden for Finance*

Emily Nevill, *Warden for Property*

Vestry

Holly Bee

Sally Cochran

Angela Metzler

Heidi Hill

Karen Hughes

Adrienne Langford

Paul Shusterman

Paula Spruck

Sarah Styles

Assistant Treasurers/Pledge Secretaries

Sally Ann Mock, Patty Highland

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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