

# UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS



**Join Us in Fellowship at Coffee Hour on March 3rd**  
**After the 10:00 Service in Vilas Hall**  
**Hosted by the Grace Church Pride Committee**

Meet members of the Grace Church Pride Committee and find out how our congregation is moving from welcoming to inviting. Engage in conversation and share your ideas with us. Enjoy Coffee Hour treats and see what's been happening this past year.

We can talk about future plans, opportunities for projects, one-time volunteering, and provide information if you are interested in joining the committee.

We continue to meet the 1st Wednesday of the month on Zoom. The next meeting is March 6th at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Shelley or Olwen at [sohansenblake@gmail.com](mailto:sohansenblake@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link or with questions.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate our accomplishments in 2023 and look ahead to 2024.

# UPCOMING PARISH LIFE EVENTS



**Sunday, March 10, 2pm**

Join us for a live theater event at the  
**Bartell Theater, 113 E. Mifflin St.**

*Overprint* is a comedy and Sarah Whelan, a recent guest speaker for Rector's Guild, is part of the cast! She is also Olwen's mother.

**\$20 for general admission.** Purchase your ticket ahead at <https://bartelltheatre.org/2024/overprint/>

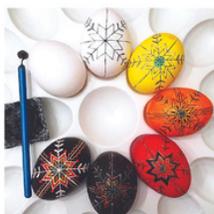
**Please arrive by 1:45 pm.** Just off the lobby, it's the small, main-level Evjue Stage. We will find each other easily and try to sit together.

**After the show, we will gather for conversation at SASS, 10 W. Mifflin St. on the square.**



Parish Life  
Event

**Saturday, March 16, 10–12, Vilas Hall**



## Ukrainian Egg Decorating Workshop *Learn the Art of Pysanky*

Discover the ancient art of writing pysanky, the Ukrainian Easter tradition of decorating eggs. In this workshop by Alice Pollock, learn to create beautifully decorated eggs using traditional symbols and colors that reflect the joys and hopes of the Easter season. Whether you prefer simple or intricate designs, you'll be amazed at what you can create. Bring your friends and family and immerse yourself in Ukraine's rich culture and craftsmanship!

**Cost:** \$15 per participant.

You can purchase the wax stylus—a kistka—used during the workshop for an additional \$5.

**Limited Availability:** Only 15 spots are available!

**Pre-registration Required By:** Sunday, March 3

**To Register:** Email Pat Werk at [patwerk@gmail.com](mailto:patwerk@gmail.com)

**Ages:** 10 years old and up

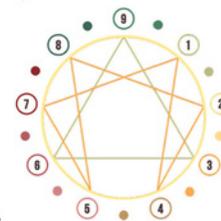


Parish Life  
Event

**Saturday, April 20, 9am–3pm**

**Christ Presbyterian Church**  
944 East Gorham Street, Madison

## Introduction to the Enneagram



The Enneagram is an ancient and modern way of understanding how we are in the world. It helps us identify one of nine styles that most significantly serves as a motivator for our actions. The Enneagram is not a static personality inventory but rather is a dynamic tool for self-understanding, growth, and movement toward healthier relationships and teams.

This workshop will start you on your journey of identifying your type and considering the implications for you and others. There will be plenty of content for those who are already on this path. This will be an informational and fun time of discovery, with opportunity for questions and interaction.

**Facilitator:** Rich Henderson (Certified Advanced Instructor) Questions? Email Rich at [rich@type3consulting.com](mailto:rich@type3consulting.com)

**Cost:** \$50 (\$25 is required at registration, with remainder paid up front or at the event.) **Lunch is included.**

**Register by April 17:** [Event Sign Up](#) (limited to 30 people)

**Pre-workshop requirement:** take online enneagram test - [www.wepss.com](http://www.wepss.com) (\$15, takes about 20 minutes). Have results sent to yourself and forward a copy to Rich by Apr 17.

**Pre-workshop suggestion:** Read *The Road Back to You*, by Cron and Stabile.

TYPE  CONSULTING



Parish Life  
Event

The Grace Parish Life committee is partnering with Christ Presbyterian Church (CPC) to offer this Introduction to the Enneagram workshop. The event will take place in the Fellowship Hall at CPC, but this is definitely a Grace Parish Life event. Financial assistance is available to help parishioners participate in Parish Life events. Please contact me (Kara Pagano [baronesspagano@gmail.com](mailto:baronesspagano@gmail.com), point person for this event) or the church office for us to cover half of the workshop cost.

A personal note: I have found the Enneagram to be a thought-provoking way to understand myself and others, and a helpful tool for spiritual growth. I encourage you join us on April 20 to learn more about yourself and others. Let me know if you have any questions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/introduction-to-the-enneagram-tickets-820396306437?aff=oddtcreator>



# MUSIC IN OUR COMMUNITY

ENJOY THE MUSICAL BEST OF WHAT OUR COMMUNITY, FRIENDS, AND EPISCOPAL FAMILY HAVE TO OFFER

**GRACE PRESENTS**  
**MIDWINTER CONCERT SERIES**



Alirio Chacin - violin  
 Calvin Guse - piano

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Works by Ysaye, Prokofiev, and Beethoven

March 3, 5PM - FREE  
 Communal meal to follow

Grace Episcopal Church  
 116 W Washington Ave




**love bade me welcome**

ad meliora  
 vocal ensemble

choral works by  
 weir, victoria, hildegard,  
 lang, billings, and others

**march 9, 2024, 7:30pm**  
 blessed sacrament parish  
 2121 rowley ave  
 free admission



photo credit ann lyng

**GRACE PRESENTS**  
 Winter 2024 Schedule

**NEW! Midwinter series**

**Sundays at 5pm FREE (in-person)**  
*intimate chamber music and a communal meal*

**JAN 28** - American piano trios with Dawn Wahn, Alyona A. Waldo and James Waldo

**FEB 18** - Solo piano works with Bradley Simonson

**MAR 3** - Violin/piano duos with Alirio Chacin and Calvin Guse

**Monthly concerts**

**Saturdays at noon FREE (in-person/livestream)**

**FEB 3** - David Sewell, singer-songwriter (folk/blues/old-time) with Matt Pickart and James Waldo

**MAR 23** - Cellist Alex Chambers-Ozasky

Grace Episcopal Church  
 116 W Wash Ave Madison, WI



**Bach Around The Clock - Location:**  
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
 Madison, WI

**Thursday, March 7, 2024 - 3:00 PM**  
 - 5:00 PM - Master Class: Singing Bach - Beyond the Notes with Dr. Sarah Brailey - including Grace Drummond, Grace Church Soprano Soloist

**Saturday, March 9, 2024 - 12:30 pm**  
 Tribute to PDQ Bach - including Mark Brampton Smith, Grace Church Organist

# SPIRITUAL CARE OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, March 2nd - Delta Beer Lab 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**SPIRITUAL CARE FROM TRANS CHAPLAINS**

A SPACE FOR QUEER YOUTH TO PROCESS THEIR TRAUMA WITH THOSE WHO UNDERSTAND MOST.

PARENTS OF QUEER YOUTH ARE WELCOME TO PROCESS FEAR AND GRIEF.

THE DEATH OF NEX BENEDICT IS TRAGIC AND TRAUMATIC. YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE.

DELTA BEER LAB | MARCH 2 | 2-5PM

SAINT DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DELTA BEER LAB

gsafe  
Creating Just Schools for LGBTQ+ Youth

Romans 8:31-39

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33

Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# SPIRITUAL CARE OPPORTUNITY



We are excited to offer a new program for clergy and lay leaders in the Diocese of Milwaukee to help equip them to respond to mental health needs in their parish and local communities.

Rev. Miranda Hassett took this Mental Health First Aid training and shared this recommendation for the training:

Mental Health First Aid training is called that in an intentional analogy with “regular” first aid—it gives you the skills to be an effective helper for minor bumps and scrapes, to help identify signs of something more serious, and in a pinch to help stabilize a situation (think chest compressions!) till you can hand things off to medical professionals.

I really valued the training because it gave me more knowledge of the major common mental illnesses and how they can manifest; more tools for how to be helpful when those things show up among congregation members, family, or friends (as they will!); but maybe most importantly, clarity about MY role in these situations—as primarily helping make connections and referrals to help someone get appropriate professional help.

Who should take this training? Well, just like first aid training, we’re all better off when more people have had this kind of training! It’s great for clergy, folks who work with youth, folks who do pastoral care, etc., but really it’s great for anyone—including church members who might find this training helpful in their daily life and work.

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Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024

Location: Zion Episcopal Church, Oconomowoc

Time: 9 AM- 5 PM (lunch provided)

Fee: \$25

To pay the fee, mail a check to the diocesan office with your name and "mental health" on the memo line. The mailing address is 804 E. Juneau Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53202.

If this fee is prohibitive, reach out to [graicey@diomil.org](mailto:graicey@diomil.org) to request a scholarship.

Registration deadline: March 6, 2024. The workshop has a maximum of 30 participants, so registration will be closed when we reach that number. A waitlist may be available.

#### Session description:

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is a skills-based training that teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of a mental health or substance use challenge. The evidence behind the program demonstrates that it builds mental health literacy, providing an action plan that teaches people to safely and responsibly identify and address a potential mental health or substance use challenge. MHFA First Aid is managed, operated, and disseminated by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

We are lucky to welcome Dan Muxfield as the instructor for this session. Dan has taught Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid since 2015. Since then, he has led more than 300 Mental Health First Aid trainings. Dan has taught a wide variety of audiences including school, government, business, and non-profit organizations. Dan brings energy, enthusiasm and humor to the classroom. He is one of the highest ranked trainers in Wisconsin and comes personally recommended by a clergy person in the Diocese of Milwaukee.

Register to attend here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXa3rIDOmSTVrFlxwa65q9ghx6gvSnkCecZJEXhZzfbqwtOw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXa3rIDOmSTVrFlxwa65q9ghx6gvSnkCecZJEXhZzfbqwtOw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

# WAYS TO SERVE



## Warm up your knitting needles for a worthy winter project!

May 4th, 2024 marks the day of the final vote on reunification of three Episcopal dioceses into one in the state of WI. In anticipation of a final vote at the General Convention in June, The Episcopal Women's Church Women's Board in Milwaukee put together a knitting challenge to show support for reunification of our three dioceses. Parishes who knit and bring scarves to the May 4th event will be recognized. While the challenge is for each church to knit 100 scarves, any number are welcome!

How to participate:

You provide one 300-yard skein of 4 ply worsted yarn, your knitting needles, and your time and knitting talent. Scarves will get lots of wear so washable yarns will be the best choice. Follow this link to find information about the Christmas at Sea program, the simple scarf pattern you will use, and more detailed knitting instructions.

<https://seamenschurch.org/programs-services/christmas-at-sea/>

There will also be paper copies of the pattern and instructions on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Tag your scarf with the name Grace Church and bring it to place in a basket at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday, April 28. If you are unable to bring it then, please contact us and we will help you to make other arrangements. A representative from Grace Church will take them to the May 4th meeting. After the reunification vote, all scarves will be collected and mailed to the Christmas at Sea program by a generous donor.

Thanks for supporting this challenge!

Questions?

Contact Lynn Morgan [Lbbaby61@gmail.com](mailto:Lbbaby61@gmail.com) or Sue Byram [suebyram@aol.com](mailto:suebyram@aol.com)



## Easter Flowers for the Homebound

Seeking volunteer deliverers for our Easter Flowers to the Homebound. Plants, with signed cards, will be available at both services Sunday, March 17, along with the recipients' contact information. As a deliverer, you will contact your party prior to delivering to set up a convenient time for each of you.

Questions? Or if you wish to volunteer, please let me know. Many thanks.

Pam Teige  
608-800-9884 - cell (text or call)  
[teigep125@gmail.com](mailto:teigep125@gmail.com)

## Hats, Scarves and Mittens Collection

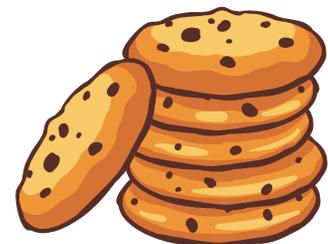
We are collecting new (sales abound right now!) and gently used (and clean) hats, scarves, and mittens for Wright Middle School. Donations can be dropped in the box at the back of the church, You can also order them on Amazon and have them sent directly to the school:

Wright Middle School, 1717 Fish Hatchery Rd, Madison, WI 53713. Monetary donations are also welcome.

## A Call For Coffee Hour Hosts

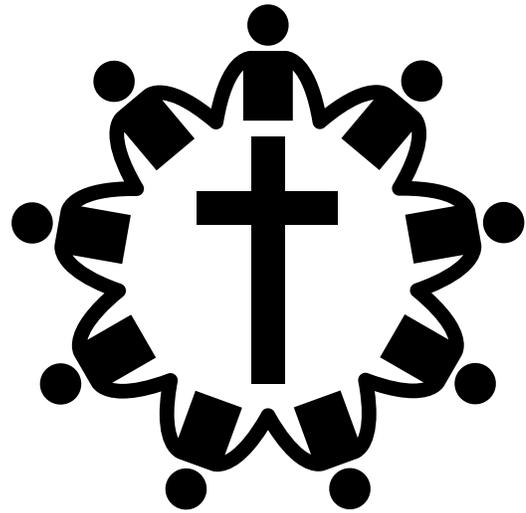
If you enjoy the refreshments and camaraderie of coffee hour, please consider hosting one. Starting this month, the last Sunday of each month will be devoted to those celebrating birthdays. Perhaps you are a member of a committee, group or team that might step up to the plate and provide some sweet and savory items for all to enjoy. Perhaps you want to celebrate your cultural heritage, as I am sure the Irish will come March 17th. Simply bring your plated foods to the kitchen before the 8am or 10 a.m. service and our kitchen assistants will take it from there. No need to worry about drinks, as the church supplies coffee, tea and juice. A few committees have already signed up to host.

If interested, please email Mary Ann Nanassy to check for available open dates for hosting.  
[man1951@charter.net](mailto:man1951@charter.net)



# COMMITTEE AND PARISH ROUNDUP

Grace Church is home to nearly 20 different committees and organizations. Some of them are focused inwardly on the growth, development, and care of the church building and parish, such as the Vestry and the Development Fund Trust Committee. Others are outward facing and focus on bringing the love of Christ to those around us and in the community. Regardless of your interests, there is a place for you at Grace.



**For more information about the following organizations or if you're wanting to get involved, please contact [assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org](mailto:assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org).**

Adult Formation - Tuesday Bible Study  
Creating a More Just Community  
Compassion Circle  
Episcopal Church Women  
Grace Food Pantry  
Haiti Partnership  
Healing Prayer Ministry

Hymn Sing  
Mission and Outreach  
Music Ministry  
Pride Committee  
Rector's Guild  
St. Margaret's Altar Guild  
Welcoming Committee  
Parish Life Committee

## Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach Committee is a standing committee of the Vestry. It seeks to extend the love of Christ to people beyond the walls of Grace Church. Funding for our efforts comes from designated donations, especially a special Lenten appeal, and other fundraising. Our goal for this year through the Lenten appeal was to raise \$15,000.

Here are some examples of our work which we hope will inspire you to support us:

- **Homelessness** - We have a long tradition of support for the homeless. With the closing of our shelter due to the pandemic, we are developing new approaches. We have advocated for a new shelter with testimony before the City Council and Dane County and a new facility is now in the pipeline. We are working with Porchlight and others to plan services in the new shelter. Through The Beacon, a day shelter on East Washington operated by Catholic Charities of Madison with major partners including the City of Madison, Dane County, and the United Way of Dane County, we are providing lunch to over 100 individuals twice a month. We also provide weekly support for job seekers, monthly meditation, and are planning periodic music services and nutrition support. Through Porchlight, we are funding a Groom for Success program for homeless job seekers.
- **Diversity** - We strive to find ways to develop a strong multicultural community in Madison. We have expanded the number of funded internships through the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dane County and scholarship support through Centro Hispano. This year, we have added funding for the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness and have helped launch our Grace Church Pride Committee. We are engaged with the Intertribal Council of Wisconsin and other groups to recognize long standing inequities and to address them in meaningful ways.
- **Haiti & International Affairs** - We monitor the difficult situation in Haiti. Through directed donations, we have continued to support St. Marc's School and Clinic in Jeannette and the Newala Clinic in Tanzania. We received grant support from the Commission on Global Reconciliation in the Milwaukee Diocese to help start a cassava production program in Haiti. This is an especially important effort to move from addressing poverty issues to expanding economic development. We have also responded to pressing needs in Ukraine through World Central Kitchen.
- **Creating a More Just Community** - We support this group in criminal justice and prison reform through MOSES and other initiatives. The Breaking Guns event is a good example of projects we support.

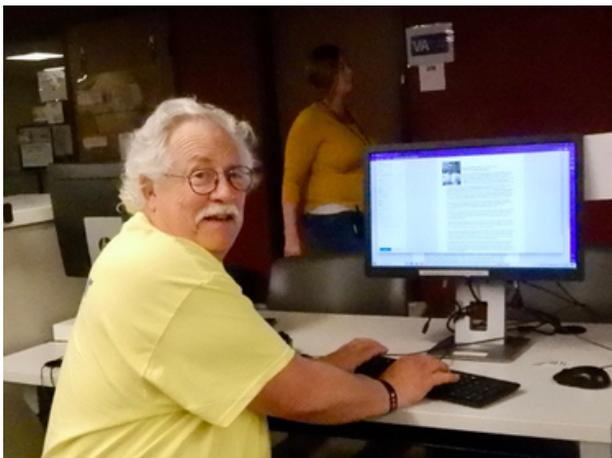
# MISSION AND OUTREACH

## Grace Church at The Beacon: Employability Project

The Mission and Outreach Committee has embarked on a new effort to help homeless individuals at The Beacon, a day shelter on East Washington, find employment. Job seekers and job openings are identified by community organizations such as Food Share Employment Training and the Dane County Job Center. We meet with job seekers at The Beacon to help them with letter writing, resume creation, interview skills and the like. The Grace Church Employability Project includes Carol Smith, Pam Teige, Mike Edwards, Nellie Laughlin, and Ron Geason (geasonron@gmail.com) as Mission and Outreach Committee Chair.



*Pam Teige and Carol Smith greet job seekers. Ron Geason reviews resumes*



## Grooming for Success

Conducting a successful job search can be a challenge for anyone. It is especially difficult for the homeless. It is hard for homeless individuals to put all the pieces in place to start the process. Getting computing support, phone service, mail address, transportation, clothing for interviews, providing references, addressing legal issues, etc. can be daunting.

Grace Church, through The Mission and Outreach Committee, is providing financial support to Porchlight, the homeless shelter in East Portland, so job seekers can get haircuts and "look sharp" as they prepare for interviews. Contact Ron Geason for more information.

Porchlight has partnered with Inspire Barber & Beauty Salon to provide working men who stay at the shelter a voucher for one free haircut a month.

This one service costs \$35, but to the men who walk away with confidence, it means so much more.



# MISSION AND OUTREACH

## Prayer, Meditation & Stress Reduction at the Beacon

Life is hectic and stressful for most of us. The need to handle stress is even more important for the homeless. Imagine trying to find peace and calm when you are scrambling to get housing, food, a job, and to find and keep friendships.

The Mission and Outreach Committee at Grace is addressing the problem. Once a month, we have reserved time and a location to offer prayer, meditation, and stress reduction services to Beacon clients. Ron Geason, Chair of Mission and Outreach is experienced in yoga and meditation and enjoys working with the homeless. Geason states, "I try to combine aspects of prayer, yoga, and meditation. Some clients want to continue sessions beyond our normal one-hour timeframe."

Please contact Ron if you would like to be involved (geasonron@gmail.com) +1.608.416.3714. He indicates that we are trying to expand our work with The Beacon based on client needs and our skills and interests.



## Grace Church Feeds the Homeless at the Beacon

Grace has a long history of support for the homeless community in Madison. On March 2nd we opened a new chapter in this work. Through the Mission and Outreach Committee, 150 meals were provided to individuals in need at The Beacon; a homeless day resource center on East Washington operated by Catholic Charities of Madison and 27 partners including Portlight. We serve lunch on the first Thursday of each month and look to expand services. Bing Ridders and Mary Ann Nannasy are heading this effort.



*Bing Ridders along with wife DeeDee, Mary Ann Cook and Bill Foote deliver our check to Alisia Henning of The Beacon.*



*We all need a little stress reduction. Ron Geason works with Beacon clients*

# MISSION AND OUTREACH LENTEN APPEAL

## 2024 Lenten Appeal for Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach Committee is a standing committee of the Vestry. It seeks to extend the love of Christ to people beyond the walls of Grace Church.

Funding for our efforts comes from designated donations and direct appeals. In recent years, we have made special Lenten Appeals for financial support to sustain our work throughout the year. We met our goal of raising \$15,000 last year and have set a goal of \$15,000 for this year. We continue to find new and exciting ways to bring Christ to our community.

Here are some highlights which we hope will inspire you to support us:

**Homelessness** - We have a long tradition of support for the homeless. With the closing of our shelter due to the pandemic, we are developing new approaches. We are working with Catholic Relief Services, the City of Madison, Dane County, and others to deliver meals, nutrition support, job counseling, meditation, and other services at The Beacon (the day shelter on East Washington). We are working with Porchlight to expand services for the homeless as we look forward to the opening of a new shelter in 2025. We want to expand our Grooming for Success program at Porchlight where job seekers get haircuts prior to going out on job interviews.

**Diversity** - We strive to find ways to develop a strong multicultural community. We want to strengthen our outreach to groups such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dane County, Centro Hispano, the Foundation of Black Women's Wellness, and the LGBTQ+ and Native American communities. The creation of our Grace Church Pride Committee and the exploration of Inclusion Theology as a new focus are examples of our work in this area.

**Creating a More Just Community** - We support this group in criminal justice and prison reform through MOSES and other initiatives. The Breaking Guns event is a good example of projects we want to continue to support.

**International & Other Needs** - Grace has been a strong supporter of the Haiti Partnership and St. Marc's School in Jennette. This last year we helped generate \$2,000 in support from the Commission on Global Reconciliation for a new Cassava Project in Jennette. We continue to look for ways to link Grace to the broader international community.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Please support us during this Lenten Season and throughout the year. Undesignated donations will be allocated by the Mission and Outreach Committee. You may designate your donations to any of the above initiatives by indicating your desire in the memo line of a check or by designating your pledge on the Grace website.

**Committee Members:** Mary Ann Cook, Mike Edwards, Brigitte Fielder, Ron Geason, Olwen & Shelley Hansen-Blake, Kathy Harker, Jane Henning, Ann Hodges, Peter Krug, Layton Ridders. The Rector, Associate Rector, and Senior Warden serve as ex officio members.  
**Contact:** Ron Geason, Chair geasonron@gmail.com +1.608.416.3714

# A CONVERSATION WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

## *Julia Weaver with Uptown Sanctuary*

BY ERIN SCHUURMANS

For the next several months' the Bell Tower will be highlighting the various organizations that share our building with us. This month I had the opportunity to chat with Julia Weaver with Uptown Sanctuary to learn more about her background, the background of the program, and her hopes for the future.

Erin: Tell me a bit about yourself - I know that you're an ordained minister, but how did you end up working with textiles as a part of your ministry?

Julia: I was raised in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church and attended parochial school from 1-12 grade. Fortunately, during the 70's my parents became active in the civil rights movement and led us on an amazing journey of human rights advocacy. Not that I appreciated it all as a teenager. I had to be dragged to go hear Cesar Chavez!

I have been weaving ever since my grandmother gave me one of those potholder looms as a very young child. As an artist I work in many mediums, my all-time favorite is weaving. In my mid-thirties I experienced a significant shift in my art. Several silent retreats led me to a worship and arts program at the Pacific School of Religion. At United Theological Seminary I completed my doctorate and my thesis was a work of art.

E: Can you talk about your early ministry days, and how you think they have informed your faith and ministerial practices today?

J: It was a challenge to find a place for my ministry, but several important people recognized something I had to offer and eventually I served for fifteen years as chaplain for the Dane County Jail. Uptown Sanctuary is an outgrowth of that ministry.

E: I understand that you regularly use sage in your space, do you use other indigenous practices in your faith journey, and if so, why?

J: The blessing of landing in chaplaincy is that it is my "job" to talk about God. I experience the joy of finding the intersections with other faith journeys. Cultural appropriation is very real for faith traditions, especially the earth-based and indigenous. My spiritual practice is based on ancient tradition and weaving is one of those ancient and universal practices.

E: Can you walk me through why you decided to start Uptown Sanctuary?

J: For twenty years Uptown Sanctuary (formerly known as Backyard Mosaic Women's Project) has served women of Dane County as they returned to their families and communities before, during and after incarceration. I actually cannot take credit for starting US. Pastor Mary was one of those people who saw a connection between my work at the jail and women returning to the community from incarceration. She gets the credit.

E: Did your organization exist prior to covid? If it did, how did you facilitate meeting with people with covid protocols in place? Another follow-up question - how has Uptown Sanctuary changed comparing it to pre-covid days?

J: Pre-pandemic, Uptown Sanctuary served 50 women a year. During the pandemic we received grant monies as an art group for covid relief and seven new looms. Post-pandemic has been a time of reflection and discernment. We are currently working with Dane County Jail staff and community organizations to engage new women. Women range from eighteen years old to elders, from diverse ethnic, cultural, economic and educational backgrounds.

E: Can you talk about how you are funded? Is it predominately through private donations or is most of your funding via grants?

J: We are funded by grants, donations, commissions and fundraising events such as concerts and art shows.

E: What are your long-term goals for the project? And how do you envision Grace Episcopal Church can help facilitate those goals?

J: Long term, it would be fun to engage groups from Grace in some of our projects like Peace Weaving. We are in conversation with OTSC about a collaboration. We collaborated at St. John's and it was a great experience. Finding a way for the studio space to be available for other activities is a goal because underused spaces do not sit well with me. Maybe having a garden space to grow plants for dying!

E: Understanding the healing emphasis the project, I would imagine you aren't hoping for a bunch of volunteers to be in the space, but what are ways we can help support you, the project, and the women you work with.

J: We welcome volunteers. There are always tasks to complete such as preparing material for rag rugs, creating samples and warping looms. Some of that can be done outside the noon - 3 time set aside for the women.

E: What is something that you wish you'd known prior to beginning Uptown Sanctuary, and as a follow-up, what is something that you've learned along the way, that you hadn't expected to.

J: I wish I had known more about the vulnerable nature of women who are incarcerated. Learning about the devastation of human trafficking made for a very difficult year. We have one loom dedicated to those affected by this devastation. On the other hand, learning as I went meant that the women have been my teachers. Their stories are essential, even though they are heartbreaking to hear. I did not expect to know these women in other settings. Some had my husband for a teacher, some were friends of my children and I run into them all the time. If they do not recognize me, I am careful not to mention where I know them from. Usually just saying, Chaplain Julia, brings tears and a hug.

To find out more about the project, or to get in contact with Julia, you can connect with her on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/uptownsanctuary>, or email her at [thejweaver@yahoo.com](mailto:thejweaver@yahoo.com)



# COMMUNITY NOTES

Being a part of Grace church means that we get to make a difference in the world - either through our participation with the MOSES and WISDOM project or caring for UW college students during the holidays, we strive always to bring Christ from the nave into the streets around us.

## Off the Square Club

Recently Grace had the pleasure of welcoming the Off the Square Club into the space formerly used by the men's shelter.

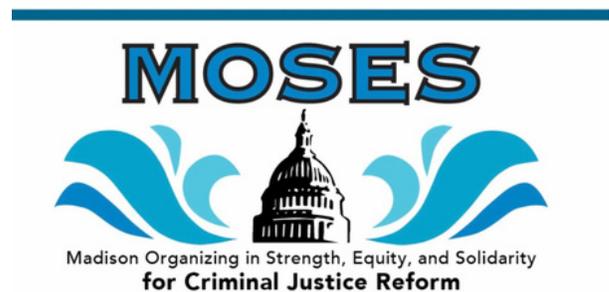
Lutheran Social Services (LSS) - Off the Square Club is a daytime resource center for anyone living with a mental illness.

Professional staff, peer-support specialists and volunteers provide emotional support, vocational assistance and recreational opportunities to help change lives for the people they serve. At Off the Square Club you can receive a hot meal or access a computer to connect you with resources, recovery support or urgent crisis stabilization. Off the Square Club is trauma-informed and recovery-oriented, and many staff members are state-certified peer specialists who are in recovery from mental illness themselves.

The club is open Monday - Thursday, from 9 AM - 2 PM

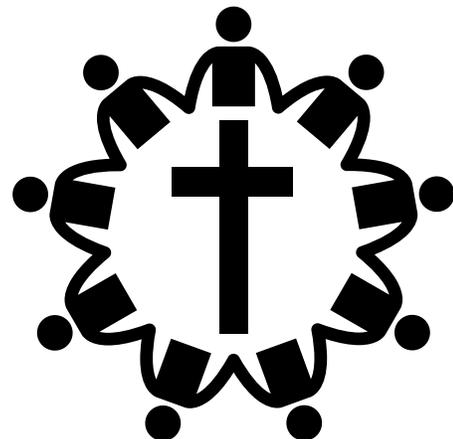
## Land Acknowledgement to the Ho-Chunk People

We honor and acknowledge the Ho-Chunk people, the traditional custodians of this land, and pay our respects to the Ho-Chunk elders, past, present, and future, who call this land on which we gather their home. We appreciate their wisdom, their culture, and their presence among us today as the host people of this land. We lament the injustices done to the original inhabitants and the injustices done to this land in the centuries since. We seek the courage and wisdom to heal the wounds of the past and build a better future together, in deep solidarity.



**The October/November MOSES newsletter has arrived!** The newsletter is an easy way to stay informed about important issues in the criminal legal system that Christians need to know about. The lead story covers the October 10 rally at the Capitol to end the ongoing prison lock downs. Another involves the change in retention of eviction-filing records that MOSES helped promote. You can read the newsletter through GraceNotes or pick up a copy on the literature table in the church.

If you'd like to learn more about MOSES, please get in touch with Grace members Margaret Irwin ([mbirwin@charter.net](mailto:mbirwin@charter.net)) or Thomas Smith ([papalevi@yahoo.com](mailto:papalevi@yahoo.com)).



# CELEBRATING SIX YEARS OF THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT GRACE CHURCH

October 22, 2017, marked a significant milestone for the Grace Church community when we installed and dedicated the Little Free Library in the Karlen Garden on Carroll Street. Over the past six-plus years, our Little Free Library's popularity and use have far exceeded the initial vision.

The idea for the Little Free Library came from Pat Werk, who wanted to offer this resource to the downtown community. Initially planned as a birthday gift, Pat's husband, Wolfgang Werk, was tasked with building the Little Free Library. However, life got busy, and the project was delayed. Undeterred, Pat considered placing the library at Grace instead of in front of their home. With positive feedback from the Madison Children's Museum and Madison Public Library, Pat contacted Scott Brummond, a craftsman experienced in building Little Free Libraries in Evansville. Scott agreed to create a miniature version of the church building. Grace member Mary Ann Nanassy, a retired art teacher, volunteered to paint the structure to replicate the church's stone and slate exterior, including its famous red doors. Wolfgang contributed to the planning, installation, and ongoing maintenance, ensuring the structure remained weatherproof.

To replicate the church's stained-glass windows, including the renowned Tiffany window, Pat took photos, printed them onto clear transparencies, and then sandwiched between two pieces of Plexiglas. Soon after its dedication, electricity was installed to illuminate the stained-glass windows at night.



# CELEBRATING SIX YEARS OF THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT GRACE CHURCH

Little Free Libraries have emerged worldwide for over a decade, enhancing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds, fostering a love of reading, and building community. The Little Free Library at Grace Church is no exception. It has become a central hub for the diverse downtown Madison population, including pedestrians, Grace Pantry guests, public servants, parishioners, students, tourists, and the downtown workforce. Its location on the Capitol Square has made it an ideal spot to fulfill the Little Free Library mission ([www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org)). Our LFL is another positive way our church connects to the downtown Madison community.

Now, JF and Pat are seeking volunteers to assist with collecting book donations, sorting the books, regularly restocking the books, and maintaining the box and our Facebook page. If you want to join the Little Free Library committee, please get in touch with Pat Werk at [patwerk@gmail.com](mailto:patwerk@gmail.com).

Book lovers and Little Free Library enthusiasts are encouraged to like the "Little Free Library at Grace Episcopal Church, Madison, WI" Facebook page: October 22, 2017, marked a significant milestone for the Grace Church community when we installed and dedicated the Little Free Library in the Karlen Garden on Carroll Street. Over the past six-plus years, our Little Free Library's popularity and use have far exceeded the initial vision.





## EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

The beauty of spring time lilies are a beautiful reminder that this is the time for rejoicing and celebrating. We celebrate the risen Lord's luminous, pure light & the gift of everlasting life.

If you would like to donate to the cost of decorating our Nave with beautiful, spring lilies, please complete the form below and return it with your financial donation in the collection plate. If you wish to mail a check to Grace, please notify Kristen Wold in the church office via the email address below.

Feel free to email her at:  
[admin@gracechurchmadison.org](mailto:admin@gracechurchmadison.org)

The deadline for orders is Tuesday, March 26th

I would like to make a donation for Easter lilies in memory /  
thanksgiving / celebration (please circle) of:

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Name:

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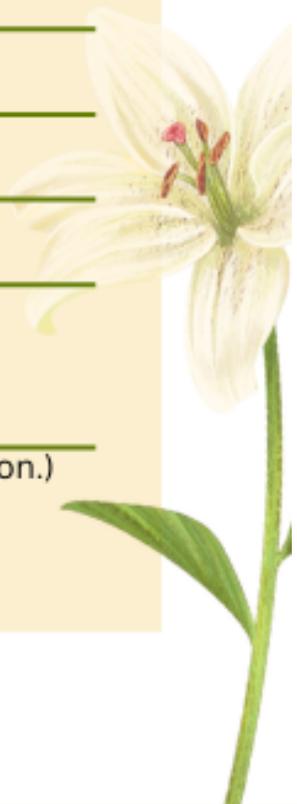
Phone/email:

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Enclosed, find my check payable to Grace (with "Easter  
Decorations" written on memo line) for \$

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(Any amount welcome, \$50.00 suggested donation.)



# Lenten Resources

## Lenten Meditations from ERD

Episcopal Relief & Development is offering daily Lenten Meditations throughout the 2024 season to help Christians think deeply about their faith and actions towards other people. This year's meditations, a compilation of daily reflections on humility, authenticity and justice, were authored by Miguel Escobar, an Episcopal Relief & Development Board member and the Director of Strategy & Operations at the Episcopal Divinity School in New York City. In his writing of the work, he has reviewed Scripture and pulled from his own personal faith and experiences as an advisor and educator to provide insights into how following Jesus Christ empowers Christians to act.

## Living Compass 2024 Lent Devotional

The theme for Lent, 2024 is Practicing Forgiveness with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind. The devotional is available in print and online, in English and Spanish. The devotional contains meditations written by several people, including a few priests from the Diocese of Milwaukee. Practicing forgiveness is at the heart of the Christian life. Our faith teaches that forgiveness is not merely an act of pardoning wrongdoing, but also a process of letting go of resentment, fostering empathy, and seeking reconciliation. Through forgiveness, we aspire to emulate the mercy of God, exemplified by the life and teachings of Jesus, as we seek to promote harmony, restoration, and the healing of broken relationships. [Click here](#) to access the Lenten devotional. Copies of the booklet will be available in the back of the nave.

Lent Madness. The excitement returns for another year. Learn about the saints; participate in the elimination rounds. 32 saints are entered in a bracket that concludes with the victor being awarded the "Golden Halo." We will post the bracket for all to follow and learn more at <https://www.lentmadness.org>

## Tuesday Night Bible Study

Starting February 13, we'll be working through the Lenten devotional, Practicing Forgiveness with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind, by Living Compass. Practicing forgiveness is at the heart of the Christian life. It is not merely an act of pardoning wrongdoing, but also a process of letting go of resentment, fostering empathy, and seeking reconciliation. Through forgiveness, we aspire to emulate the love of God, exemplified by the life and teachings of Jesus, as we seek to promote harmony, restoration, and the healing of broken relationships.

Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a constant attitude.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

The reasons for forgiving ourselves are the same as for forgiving others. It is how we become free of the past. It is how we heal and grow. It is how we make meaning out of our suffering, restore our self-esteem, and tell a new story of who we are. If forgiving others leads to an external peace, forgiving ourselves leads to an internal peace.

—Desmond and Mpho Tutu, The Book of Forgiving

We hope you'll join us! Contact leader Heidi Barnhill at [barnhill443@gmail.com](mailto:barnhill443@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

## Stations of the Cross

Join us each Friday in Lent at 12:10pm in the Sanctuary for Stations of the Cross, led by Fr. John Francis. The ancient practice of meditating, reflecting, and collectively praying the Stations of the Cross is a way to enrich our Lenten experience.

We will pause and pray at each of the 14 Stations as we make our way around the Sanctuary, walking from one Station to the next, with chanting as we traverse.

If you are unfamiliar with Stations of the Cross, what better time to participate than this Lenten Season? It is a way to prepare our hearts and minds for the Death and Resurrection of Christ, and the work of His Kingdom in our lives. Programs to follow the liturgy will be provided.



# Lenting with Joy

All are Invited (women, men, laypeople, clergy, and folks of any denomination) to an ecumenical celebration:  
Lenting With Joy!

With some timely words from Julian of Norwich (a 14th-century holy woman with lots to say about hard times, plagues, Jesus, joy, and love).

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Trinity Episcopal Church

Janesville, Wisconsin

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$20 at the door

Our speaker will be the Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, a retired Episcopal priest from the Diocese of Iowa. She has been a wise and highly beloved mentor for the lay members of the Episcopal Order of Julian of Norwich since its inception, and an honored pioneer in the development of a native plant protein formula for infant and childhood nutrition in Ghana, Nicaragua, and China.

Our ecumenical day will focus on silent reflections, workshops and an Ecumenical Service in the Spirit of Taizé at the close of our time together.

A light breakfast, lunch, and refreshments throughout the day will be provided.

Our day is sponsored by the Order of the Daughters of the King—Saint Francis of Assisi Chapter and will be held in grateful thanksgiving for a gift made in memory of Ann Baker-Ewing, a member of the Daughters of the King Chapter in Janesville.

The Order of the Daughters of the King is a vowed lay order for women, founded in 1885 by an Episcopal lay woman. Her aim was to help women develop a deeper relationship with Christ. It has expanded worldwide and continues to flourish.

Any questions? Leave a voice mail or text Janet Irvine at 608-295-1400.

Bring any of your used books on spirituality to donate to good homes.

Please fill out the form [here](#) and indicate which workshop you'd like to attend. Please register by March 1, 2024.

There are three workshop options:

1. Drawing Closer to God: Pat Tobin, local artist and art teacher, will offer a very simple drawing exercise that explores how art can facilitate prayer and meditation.
2. Lectio Divina: Mother Mary Jane will guide us in exploring this ancient practice to reflect and apply a sacred text (Text TBA).
3. A Taste of Taizé: Presented by Janet Irvine, she will explain the origins of the Taizé Service and practice the music being used in our worship time.

