

**Lay Reader Schedule for  
September**

Sept. 7 – Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.  
Lay Reader: Sherry VanDoren

Sept. 14 – Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.  
Lay Reader: David Wheeler

Sept. 21 – Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.  
Lay Reader: Kelly Alford

Sept. 28 – Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.  
Lay Reader: Ardie Freeman



**Coffee Servers - September**

Sept. 7 – Wendy Voss  
Sept. 14 – Beth Brenner  
Sept. 21 – Sarah Rubish  
Sept. 28 – Ardes Spaulding

***Ushers for September –  
Marie Wheeler &  
Sherry VanDoren***

**Hurly Burly Sale and Luncheon  
Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

It's not too early to start gathering good items for our annual fundraiser—vintage items, interesting items, things you've inherited and put away in a box because you don't really want them, interesting plates, books, china, glassware sets, silver, etc., and especially **antiques**. Please let Beckie know if you can help **make pies**. She can also use 8 oz jelly jars ASAP—thanks!

***There will be a planning meeting  
Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:30 at  
the church. Everyone is welcome with  
their ideas and willingness to help—  
“many hands make light work!”***

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**Epiphany Guild**

The Guild will meet on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00 for a potluck at Connie Vicuna's lake cabin (tentative). Dessert and beverages will be provided.

**Acolyte Schedule  
September**

Sept. 7 – Holy Eucharist  
Donika Bjorke &  
Cecelia Kleinsasser

Sept. 14 – Holy Eucharist  
Nik & Matt Voss

Sept. 21 – Holy Eucharist  
Audrey Rubish &  
Jena Alford

Sept. 28 – Holy Eucharist  
Patrick & Will Burns

**VESTRY** will meet on  
Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>,  
at 7:15



## *Notes from Mother Jean...*

There's been a lot of talk flying around the Internet (and other places) about the decline of mainline churches and what to do about it – especially where young people are concerned. Some brave souls have actually ASKED some young people (I know – radical, right?) what they thought, and one thing seems clear. They are seeking an authentic experience.

There have been specific complaints about pastors or priests trying to look young and hip, and trying to conform their liturgies to what they think young people want, with flashy graphics and praise bands and things like that. There's nothing overtly wrong with these things. They are all well and good if that is the tradition of your church. But if they aren't, and we are just doing them in hopes of attracting young people, then we are being inauthentic. And remember, overwhelmingly, young people are seeking authenticity.

Well, good news, better news! The good news is that there won't be any clown masses or liturgical dance in the near future here at Grace! The better news is that we get to keep on doing what we're doing, to the absolute best of our ability!

This begs two questions, in my mind. The first is to our own young people – does this resonate with you? Are we on the right track? And the second follows a “yes” answer to the first – what can we do to make our liturgy the absolute best it can be?

I absolutely love our Episcopal traditions and liturgy (which is a good thing, considering I'm an Episcopal priest). I think they are beautiful and meaningful and deeply spiritual. But too often, liturgy in our churches is simply done badly, or someone decides unilaterally that they can ignore our Book of Common Prayer altogether, in favor of some cobbled-together

mish-mash of other traditions deemed better than ours simply by the fact that they are different. Or they decide that the Book of Common Prayer is boring and out of touch, because they haven't explored it in its entirety.

In my opinion, we don't need new traditions and liturgy. We need to do the ones we already have to the best of our ability, and with meaning and integrity. And that takes work! One place to start is by increasing our knowledge of our traditions surrounding our liturgy. Why do we do the things we do every Sunday? Where did they come from? Do they still have meaning for us today?

So to start the process, in October I am going to start a column in Grace Notes entitled, “Why do we do that?” In it, I would like to answer and any all questions you might have about our liturgy, or really about anything Episcopalian at all, since most of our traditions and doctrine are closely tied together with the liturgy.

So, if you have ANY questions at all about our Church, please drop me an e-mail and I will try to answer them in the next month's column. I don't pretend to be the complete repository of Episcopalian knowledge and lore, but whatever I don't know myself I will make sure to find out. I'm looking forward to learning some things, too! Remember, the only stupid question is the one not asked!

Because you didn't have any warning to ask questions, I'll start:

*Q: Mo. Jean, why do we have to sing different hymns every Sunday? Can't we just sing our favorites week after week? Signed, Hypothetical Parishioner*

*A: Good question, Hypothetical! Yes, it would certainly be easier to sing our old favorites, and whenever possible, I do try to schedule them. But hymns are far more than mere musical interludes in our worship. There are*

three texts that General Convention has authorized for use in our liturgy. One is the Bible, one is the Book of Common Prayer, and the third is our hymnal. (Actually there are many more, since several translations of the Bible, a few different books of worship materials, and several hymn collections are also allowed, but they all fall into one of those three categories – Bible, BCP, and hymnal.)

No church is required to sing hymns at all, but if they do (which is a good thing since they greatly enhance our worship experience), they should be from one of our authorized hymnals. The reason for this is because all of our hymn texts are actually theological documents and they have been carefully chosen by the Standing Committee on Liturgy and Music and voted on by General Convention. They don't just enhance worship, they inform our theology. They are designed to go with our Bible readings and to correspond with our liturgical seasons. They are important, and should be paid close attention to. This is why I have asked, on occasion, that people at least open the hymnals and follow along with the text, even if they don't feel like singing that day.

I look forward to reading your questions (submitted in writing or by e-mail, if possible), and to learning together about this great Church of ours!

Peace and blessings,

*Mother Jean*

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 Jessica Hotchkiss (camp director) and Joey Hotchkiss (junior staff) were "caught" helping with the annual Donkey Camp at Splash Central—way to go! (Picture on bulletin board)

**September Birthdays, Anniversaries & In Memoriam**

- 1 Isaac Ries (B); Clarke & Shirley Christiansen (A); *Bp. Conrad Gessner, Larry Peterson (I.M.)*
- 3 H. Kirke Wheeler (I.M.)
- 2 Zonya Ankle Franklin (B); *Ken Powell (I.M.)*
- 6 Zandra Ankle (B)
- 8 Ann Buckingham (B); *Thea Jacobs, Irene Benson, Jim Clark (I.M.)*
- 9 Ruth Christiansen (I.M.)
- 10 Elizabeth Johnson (B)
- 11 James Snyder (I.M.)
- 12 Mo. Jean Mornard (B); John & Gladys Haggar (A)
- 14 Rodney Freeman, Jr. (B); *Henry Bonnemann (I.M.)*
- 15 Cheryl Severtson, Pat Buckingham (B)
- 16 Jo Wells (I.M.)
- 17 Jean Marie LaFee (I.M.)
- 19 Justin Hotchkiss (B); *Charles Swett (I.M.)*
- 21 Mac Fuller, Evelyn McIlvaine Dexter (I.M.)
- 22 Joan Manolis (B); *Pat Christy (I.M.)*
- 24 Nanette Roberts (B); *John P. Sauer, Maurine Wheeler (I.M.)*
- 25 Wilma Barkl (I.M.)
- 26 Tara Engel, Austin Sievert (B)
- 27 Evie Reints (B)
- 28 Gary Gogolin (B)
- 29 Vicki Boyd (B); *George Manolis (I.M.)*
- 30 Winifred Venables, Thelma Holmberg (I.M.)

## Episcopalooza Begins Again!



Our first night back is Wednesday, September 10. We'll meet from 6:30 to 7:45. Eat supper before you come, and we'll have a snack of some kind during the evening.

A schedule will be emailed to you in the coming week, and a hard-copy will be mailed as well. If your child has a friend who is interested in attending, I'd love it if you could get me an email address or mailing address...I'll get them a schedule too.

We'll be looking for adults (and adult in the church...it doesn't have to be an adult with school-age children) to volunteer with some craft/teaching duties throughout the year. Please be thinking about saying "Yes" if asked to serve in this capacity. ☺

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Sarah Rubish

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## Youth Services

*Youth Services will begin in September...more information to come from Mother Jean.*

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The first Family Fun Night of the new school year will be yard games...bean bags, goofy golf, kick ball (I hope!), etc.

F.F.N. is the fourth Wednesday of the month, September 24, from 6:00 to 6:45. Supper will be served, and the whole family is invited. The cost will be \$2.00 per person. If you'd like to simplify the evening, I'll have meal "tickets" for sale.

If there's an activity you'd like to see included for F.F.N.'s, please let me know A.S.A.P. I'm putting together the yearly schedule this week, and I'd be more than happy to put in requests.

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## Sunday School

**Sunday School begins on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Classes are from 9:20 until 10:15. All children, ages Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, are welcome to attend. Mrs. Zeyna Kleinsasser is the teacher. She can be reached at 352-4050, if you have any questions.**



## Don't Forget..

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE IN THE OFFICE BY THE 20<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH. IF YOU ARE E-MAILING, PLEASE SEND IT TO THE CHURCH ([graceepiscopal@q.com](mailto:graceepiscopal@q.com)) AS WELL AS TO MARIE ([rmwheeler@hur.midco.net](mailto:rmwheeler@hur.midco.net))--THANKS!



### VESTRY MINUTES – July 15, 2014 (unapproved)

Vestry met with the following members present: Mo. Jean Mornard; Marla Lichty, Sr. Warden; Doug Bjorke, Jr. Warden; Marie Wheeler, Treasurer; Connie Vicuna; Sarah Rubish; Joanne Groves; and Cheri Bjorke.

Mo. Jean opened the meeting with a prayer.

Rector's Report: Mo. Jean reported that she and Michael enjoyed their vacation to Wisconsin. They also buried Michael's mother's ashes with most of his siblings attending the committal service.

Sr. Warden's Report: Nothing to report

Jr. Warden's Report: Doug reported on the replacement of the mother board to the air conditioners for the sanctuary. On Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> Huron received nearly 4 inches of rain in a short amount of time; the church had minimal water damage to the rector's office where the water backed up onto the roof and had nowhere to go. One light bulb was replaced and a ceiling tile may need to be replaced once it dries out. The parish hall, kitchen and restroom floors were waxed the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Old Business: Connie moved and Joanne seconded to approve the minutes. Connie moved and Joanne seconded to approve the treasurer's report.

Connie reported on energy audit update quotes from Wiedenman Construction and Picek Construction. It was moved by Marla and seconded by Sarah to accept Wiedenman's estimate of \$1,900 to remove ductwork and dispose of debris and close off opening to exterior in the upper level north of sanctuary and \$450 to insulate the six access holes in the sanctuary ceiling.

Connie submitted memory garden information and photos to the Plainsman for publication to promote the church to the community.

New Business: The finance committee met on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. Office expenses are up due to copy machine toner. Other expenses are on target with the budget. The mandatory minimum utility allowance for clergy has increased (there was confusion regarding this when the budget was prepared last fall) and will take effect in August (beginning of Mo. Jean's third year); this will result in a total increase of \$622 for the remainder of 2014. A possible increase in Mo. Jean's housing allowance was also brought up, and Marie will bring some percentage increases to the next meeting.

Sarah volunteered to check on the stretching and cleaning of the carpet in the sanctuary. The current carpet was installed in 2001.

The next vestry meeting will be September 16, 2014, at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Bjorke, Clerk