

# THE BELL TOWER

## June - 2012



It is my pleasure to announce the Reverend Meredith Holt has been called as the 26th rector of Grace Episcopal Church Galveston.

In June of last year I started lining out all that we needed to do to find a new rector. We didn't know who our interim was going to be, we hadn't met with the Diocese yet, and had absolutely no idea where this journey would take us. The only thing that I knew for sure at that time was that God was guiding us through this process and had already picked who our new rector would be and would lead us down that sometimes rocky road.



At our core values meeting the idea of using the scripture "I am the vine; you are the branches" as our theme was first discussed. The brochure committee subsequently adopted that theme for our Parish Profile. At that time we had no idea that the day the search committee would meet to confirm their choice of a new rector would be the very Sunday when this was the gospel reading.

Meredith+ was baptized at St. George's, New Orleans and confirmed at St. Thomas, College Station. She spent her early years living in Rhode Island, California and Hawaii. She graduated from Claremont McKenna College in Southern California with a degree in neuroscience and religious studies.

While in college, she also studied tropical ecology in Costa Rica, taught secondary school biology in Ghana, worked in reading research and at the interfaith chaplaincy office. She was sponsored to Virginia Theological Seminary by St. Thomas, graduating in 2010. While there she served as the president of the Missionary Society and traveled extensively for study, research and teaching. After seminary she returned to Texas to serve as Associate Rector/Curate at St. Mary's, Cypress. Meredith+ is thrilled to be called as the next Rector of Grace Galveston!

Meredith+ has a deep love for scripture and theology, and she is passionate about worship, Christian formation, mission and growing communities. These are things that we had included in our Core Values and Vision statements.

Meredith+ very much looks forward to getting to know the people of Grace and the surrounding community. Please feel free to invite her for tea/coffee, a meal, fishing, touring Galveston, or something you especially like to do ... or if you wait long enough, she'll invite you! When not at Grace, I know you will probably find her exploring new places, hosting dinner parties, reading, doing something craft-related, re-learning the piano, walking on the beach, or planning a scuba trip.

Our new Rector's first day at Grace will be Sunday, July 1st, the same day as Bishop Doyle's visit.

Before then she will be keeping all of us in her prayers, leaving St. Mary's, co-directing a session at Camp Allen, attending a weeklong conference, moving and much more. She will also be visiting Grace, meeting with some of you and moving into a condo until the rectory is ready.

Are you wondering what to call your new Rector? She prefers to be called Rev. Meredith.

As I have said many times I feel blessed to be a member of this congregation and I know that you will embrace and welcome Meredith+ as she will embrace us. She definitely has a strong spiritual connection to Grace.

Faithfully,  
Judy Webb  
Senior Warden

## ***From our Senior Warden***

I want to say thank you to everyone who worked so hard to find the Reverend Meredith Holt for Grace. I know the countless hours that have been put in by so many of the people of Grace. As I promised long ago we finished our search ahead of schedule and with the praises of the Diocese. We have had a model search that the Diocese is going to use as an example in the future and our Parish Profile has been added to the examples of profiles for other churches in transition to follow.

I believe God chose Rev. Meredith to be our 26th rector of Grace and I also know that we exercised our free will to find her. The pieces of the process fell in place as we went through the process. It began with finding Rev. Doug Tucker to be our interim and ended with the search committee making their recommendation the Sunday when the Gospel reading proclaimed, "I am the vine; you are the branches".

Our search to find a new rector is completed. I know that the people of Grace will welcome, support and embrace Rev. Meredith as she starts a new chapter at Grace.

Faithfully, Judy Webb

## ***Mission Statement***

Through the Grace of God help each person experience God's love and guidance.

## ***Grace Church Core Values Statement***

We believe in the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

*At Grace Church we value:*

- ✠ A traditional and dynamic style of worship
- ✠ An open and inclusive church
- ✠ Our historic presence in our community
- ✠ Service including outreach and pastoral care
- ✠ Hospitality and fellowship
- ✠ The courage to grow and change
- ✠ Our steadfast commitment to our community
- ✠ Stewardship of our resources including time, talent and treasure

## ***Our vision for the future of Grace will include:***

- ✠ ***Expanded worship opportunities***  
A variety of worship services that reflect the interests and passions of parishioners.
- ✠ ***Pastoral care team***  
Parish members caring for each other.
- ✠ ***Development of Christian Education***  
Commitment to thought-provoking and inspiring educational enrichment for all ages.
- ✠ ***Outreach***  
Partnership with our neighbors, other churches and community social services.
- ✠ ***Grace campus as community meeting place***  
Bringing the island to Grace through the use of our facilities.

✠ ***As these goals are realized it is our heartfelt desire that there is an increase in stewardship and financial support for Grace Church***

## ***From our Junior Warden***

*Submitted by John McCulley*

### ***Over 55 Group***

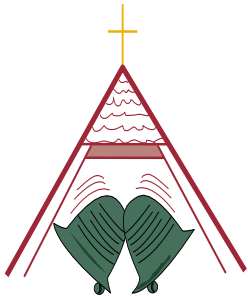
We put a third coat of finish on the Silk Purse tree stump angel. The next step there is adding landscaping around the angel. If you have any suggestions on that please let us or Shirley know. The caladiums and elephant ears planted on the north side of the building are up now and look nice. We have reglazed part of window on Jinkins Hall on a trial basis. All of the windows there need deglazing - a lot of work! A ceiling board in the church carriage entry was painted as was the church sign on Broadway.

### ***Junior Warden's report***

The church stained glass window repairs are continuing. The two large windows in the chapel were in bad shape but they have now been repaired as have the three smaller windows around the door on the west end of the church. The faded plexiglass protective covering over the chapel windows has been replaced with clear Lexan which is much stronger. It is properly vented top and bottom to prevent heat and moisture buildup. Now you can see the stained glass clearly from the outside! We are getting an estimate for repairing the three large church windows on that side of the church.

## ***JAN'S CORNER (AKA PEALINGS)***

*Submitted by Jan Dorsett*



I thought my fellow parishioners might enjoy this:

**"Your happiness is the dream of your sleeping sorrows,  
and your sorrows are the shadows of your absent joys.**

**Happiness is the verdant frontier of your imagination.  
Yea, it is the unblossomed flowers in the hidden garden of your heart."**

From *"And the Scroll Opened"* by George M. Lamsa

## ***Boy Scout Troop 177***

Six boys and three adults did a ten-mile bicycle ride in Galveston. We started at the church, rode to the sea wall, then down the sea wall past the new pleasure pier. Then we rode to the ferry, crossed over to Bolivar and back, and on to a park in old Galveston for lunch. The last stop was King's Confectionary on The Strand for ice cream before returning to the church. It was fun and a good way to enjoy Galveston! Pete Rhymes and two older scouts went on another over night canoe trip in preparation for their week long high adventure canoe trip next month. Our troop did the opening flag ceremony at the Moody Gardens Memorial Day celebration.





### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Submitted by Cathy Smith

The Grace Church Christian Education program for summer begins June 3, and we invite anyone interested to come join us as we explore how to be good disciples of Jesus through games and crafts. Please wear casual clothes as we will be incorporating hands-on projects and participatory activities.

We also want to recognize – and thank -- the following folks, all of whom have taken the "Safeguarding God's Children" program: Jeanne Drain, Jennie Lippold, Kathleen Lucas, Flo Mauzy and her daughter Adriana Pickett. These dedicated

members of our Grace Church community will be assisting in the classroom and nursery this summer, and we welcome them to our group. With these additional leaders, we hope to now be able to implement the Grace Church program for the Tweens.



### **Episcopops: share music and fun**

Submitted by Bill Watson

Our Episcopops performance on May 20th was a great success. Stay tuned for future practice and performance dates. If you haven't experienced Episcopops yet, think of it as a mini Graceful Gathers with music! Come join us sometime. I think you will enjoy the experience.



### **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Submitted by Judy Ricketts

The Grace Church chapter of the Daughters of the King will meet June 3, and new members are always welcome. Meetings are held the first Sunday of each month, and Cathy Smith will begin a new study preparation for DOK membership in September.

Congratulations to Leslie Watts for becoming the newest member of the DOK; a brief recognition is planned to take place during the June 3 worship service. As part of our mission, the Daughters are attempting to keep casseroles in the freezer for anyone who may need help with food. In addition to our prayers, we also offer prayer blankets, shawls and quilts for the sick and those in need. Please let us know if you have anyone to add to our prayer list.

### **ECW (Episcopal Church Women)**

Submitted by Barbara Zimmerman



The Board of Directors for the ECW for the Diocese of Texas will have its quarterly board meeting in Galveston in August. I'd like to involve Grace, Trinity and St. Augustine's in helping me host the group. It will be a one-day meeting, I could use a hand! In July, I will be attending the Triennial Meeting in Indianapolis, which will occur at the same time as the General Convention. I am looking forward to sharing with you all some of the information from the workshops.



## **COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL**

*Submitted by Nancy Wilkes*

A new Community of Hope training class will be held at Grace Episcopal Church September 6, 2012 through November 29, 2012. The Community of Hope International trains volunteer lay people for pastoral care ministries. Co-facilitators for the training are Rev. Helen Appelberg and Nancy Wilkes. For more information about the classes or if you want to participate in the class and would like to arrange for an interview, please call Rev. Helen Appelberg at 409.789.1070 or Nancy Wilkes at 713.818.6323.

## **TREASURE TO BE FOUND AT SILK PURSE**



One person's trash is another person's treasure, so whether you are a pack-rat or a neat-nick, the Silk Purse is ready to "Grace-fully" accept your donations of gently used clothing, household items, collectibles, books, sporting goods, toys, hobby supplies and small appliances and furniture. Items can be dropped off at the Silk Purse during regular business hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Customers and treasure hunters are also most welcome!

## **HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A SUMMER HOLIDAY**

Don't forget that hunger never takes a holiday, and the St. Vincent's Food Basket needs constant replenishment. Canned and shelf-stable items with high nutritional value are specifically requested, and monetary donations are also needed to purchase staple items in bulk. Just place your food item in one of the specially marked St. Vincent's boxes or baskets located in both the church and parish hall. Monetary donations (cash or check) can be placed in a Hunger Fund pew envelope and dropped in the collection plate.



I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. *John 15:5*

## ***Let's Celebrate***

***Sunday, July 1st***—Bishop Andy Doyle's visit and Rev. Meredith Holt's first Sunday. A celebration is planned following the 9:30am service. Please bring your favorite dish to share with your fellow parishioners.

***Sunday, August 19th 5pm***— installation of the Reverend Meredith Holt as the 26th rector of Grace, Galveston. Reception will follow the service.

## **From Our Editor:**

Please submit your information in writing to Leslie Watts at 3812 Bernardo de Galvez, Galveston Texas, 77550-6662 or by e-mail to [lwatts7@flash.net](mailto:lwatts7@flash.net). Please submit by the 15th of the month to make sure your article is included in the next month's Bell Tower.

**Upcoming Graceful Gatherers**

June 1                    7-9    Lee & Jayne Davis', 7517 Antilles, 789-6280  
 July 6                    7-9    Jim Rothgeb and Bob Scott's, 5011 Woodrow, 392-6164  
 August 3                7-9    TBA

*Graceful Gatherers is hosted monthly, usually on the first Friday of the month. All adults are welcome to join us for a pot luck dinner and enjoyable company. This is a great way to get to know you fellow church members. Please feel free to join us whenever possible.*



**BELL TOWERS DELIVERY METHOD BEING EVALUATED**

*Submitted by Judy Webb*

Over the last several months we have been looking at the most effective way to get the Bell Tower out to you. We are having an increasing problem getting the Bell Tower delivered in a timely fashion. Three months ago it took over 20 days for the Bell Tower to be delivered using bulk mail and last month over 13 days. With the number we mail using first class postage for everyone would be cost prohibitive.

After a lot of discussion, the decision we came to was to email the Bell Tower to everyone who has an email and only mail the Bell Tower to parishioners that request the Bell Tower to be mailed to them. These Bell Towers will be mailed first class and we will no longer use bulk mail to deliver the Bell Tower. This will be implemented with the July Bell Tower.

If you want to continue receiving the Bell Tower by mail, please call the church office to be added to the list.

**2011/12 VESTRY**

**Judy Webb, SR WARDEN**  
**John McCulley, JR., JR WARDEN**  
**Vickie Robertson**  
**Carol Ramirez**  
**Dan Ricketts**  
**William Jones**  
**Treasurer-Derek Paget-Clarke**  
**CHANCELLOR- Jeff Kilgore**

**2011/12 FOUNDATION BOARD**

**CHAIRMAN: Judy Webb, Sr. Warden**  
**Peggy Baldwin-Clayton, Secretary**  
**Bill Watson, Treasurer**  
**Kenny Wegner, President**  
**Leslie Watts.**

**Search Committee**

**CHAIRMAN: Bob Scott**  
**Carol Ramirez**  
**Bill Watson**  
**Laura Hyatt**  
**John McCulley**  
**Jayne Davis**  
**David Wilkes**  
**Nancy Mafrige**  
**William Jones**  
**Jan Dorset**  
**Stephen Glaser**  
**Shu Shu Clowers**  
  
**Judy Webb, Ex Officio**

## Upcoming Events

<b>Friday, June 1</b>	<b>Graceful Gathers @ the Davis'</b>
<b>Saturday, June 2</b>	<b>Election of Bishop Suffragan</b>
<b>Sunday, June 3</b>	<b>Daughters of the King</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 12</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 19</b>	<b>Vestry Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday, June 24</b>	<b>Foundation Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday, July 1</b>	<b>Rev. Meredith's 1st Sunday &amp; Bishop Andy Doyle's visitation</b>
<b>Friday, July 6</b>	<b>Graceful Gatherers at Jim Rothgeb &amp; Bob Scott's</b>
<b>Sunday, August 19</b>	<b>Rev. Meredith's installation as 26th Rector of Grace Church</b>
<b>August 2012</b>	<b>Diocese of TX, ECW Board of Directors meeting in Galveston</b>
<b>Friday, September 14</b>	<b>Episcopal night at Astros</b>
<b>November 9-11, 2012</b>	<b>Camp Allen Retreat</b>

### **TUESDAY MEDITATION at 5:30PM**

Grace Church hosts a contemplative prayer/Christian meditation group in the chapel on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Led by Bill Noble, the gathering begins with a weekly reading from the World Community for Christian Meditation, followed by a 20-minute meditation, and concludes with a brief informal discussion. For additional information, please call Bill Noble at 409-939-8099.

# Happy Birthday!

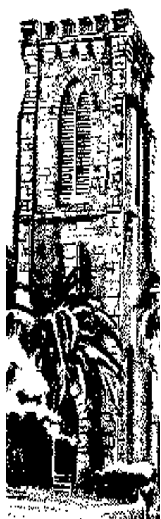
6/6	Lynae Carr Collin & Corey McCulley
6/7	John McCulley
6/11	Leila Boullion Marjorie Kupsa
6/15	Bryce Willey
6/16	Derek Paget-Clarke
6/19	Rick Boullion Patrick McGuffey
6/23	Hank Roe
6/24	John Provenzano
6/25	Mamie Aoughsten
6/27	Doris Ann Nicolai Gene Smith
6/29	Brandt Raeburn

### ***Happy Anniversary!***

6/7	John & Linda McCulley
6/16	Ray & Mary Jones Charles & Kari Roe
6/18	Tony & Elouise Albonetti
6/19	Matt & Amy Lakich
6/29	Valerian & Mary Chyle

### **BELL TOWERS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE!**

Follow the link on our website:  
[gracechurchgalveston.org](http://gracechurchgalveston.org) to go paperless.  
 Please contact the church office if you prefer to  
 discontinue receiving the Bell Tower by mail.



# THE BELL TOWER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1115 36TH STREET  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550  
409 762-9676

## DIOCESAN AND GRACE CHURCH MINISTERS

THE RIGHT REVEREND ANDY DOYLE - BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF TEXAS  
THE REVEREND DOUGLAS J. TUCKER - INTERIM RECTOR  
THE REV. HELEN W. APPELBERG, ASSOCIATE PRIEST  
AARON HERVEY - ORGANIST  
LAURA HYATT - CHOIR DIRECTOR  
CATHY GOULD - PARISH ADMINISTRATOR  
MARIE ARMSTRONG - SEXTON  
JUDY WEBB - SENIOR WARDEN  
JOHN MCCULLEY - JUNIOR WARDEN  
DEREK PAGET-CLARKE - TREASURER

LAY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR—JAYNE DAVIS  
SILK PURSE THRIFT SHOP - SHIRLEY BRIDGES  
DAUGHTERS OF THE KING - JUDY RICKETTS  
ALTAR GUILD - SHUSHU CLOWERS, DIRECTOR  
ACOLYTE ABBA - GERALD RICHARD  
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - CATHY SMITH  
WEDDING CEREMONY COORDINATOR - PAT BEVIL  
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WEBMASTER - JUDY WEBB  
BELL TOWER EDITOR - LESLIE WATTS  
ST. VINCENT'S HOUSE - MICHAEL JACKSON  
WM. TEMPLE EPISCOPAL CENTER - THE REV. KYLE STILLINGS

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