

THE BELL TOWER

November - 2011

Live a God-Pleasing Life! The Stewardship Program is Here!

Stewards **living a God-pleasing life** are managers of all of God's creation. As owner, God has called us to be responsible as we fulfill the role for which we have been created, to do his will as long as we remain on earth. *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10).

We are not given these responsibilities because of our great talents and abilities. On the contrary, we often feel inadequate and unprepared for the tasks God places before us. Our strength is in the Lord. The Apostle Paul made that point very clear as he gave praise to God for his power within us: *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen"* (Ephesians 3:20-21). As stewards **living a God-pleasing life**, we welcome our opportunities for stewardship and give all the glory to God.

This month we will be studying the series: **"Live a God-Pleasing Life!"** in our worship services and Bible study hours. We will discuss **faith** as the foundation for stewardship, for it is only through faith that we can please God. We will delve into the important role that **discipleship** holds in our lives as obedient stewards. We will study the Scriptures to learn how **generosity** is the hallmark of grateful stewards responding to the love and generosity of God. Our stewardship program emphasizes the grace of God who has called us to faith and continues to sustain us. Let the words of the writer to the Hebrews be our prayer:

"May the God of peace . . . equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20, 21).

Please make every effort to attend both the worship services and the Bible studies during these three Sundays. May God give you the grace to continue the faithful stewardship of the many blessings that he has entrusted to your care.

Judy Webb
Senior Warden





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***





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Submitted by Cathy Smith

We will continue our study of the Old Testament throughout the month of November. We are stressing the importance of taking care of God's creatures and the environment. We miss Miz Betty!



ECW RETREAT AT CAMP ALLEN

Submitted by Shu Shu Clowers

The ECW Retreat was held at Camp Allen on October 14th and 15th. Four representatives from Grace attended, and we had an enjoyable, overnight stay. The hosts were the ladies of St Martin's, who were well organized and did a great job. As always, we were well fed by the staff of Camp Allen.

The workshops were varied, and I, for one, learned a few things when I attended the Episcopal Jeopardy Game.

Susan Baker, wife of James Baker, gave her testimony as she told us about the book she had written, Susan mixed laughter with more difficult times during her life story. In His Hands, a very talented potter, gave her testimony as she performed a "Show and Tell" of her life story.

We left having made new friends and visited with old ones, joined in prayer and song to express our faith.

We will do this all again next year, and I know it will be a great gathering of great Episcopal women.

Daughters of the King meets on first Sundays

Submitted by Judy Ricketts



The Grace Church chapter of the Daughters of the King meets in the church library on the first Sunday of each month, following the morning worship service. In addition to offering our regular prayers, we plan to give two prayer shawls to church members who are ill, and who themselves also are members of our group. The Daughters of the King are happy to pray for anyone who would like our prayers.

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

Transition Update - The Pre-search Process

We are part way through the 3rd step in the pre-search process of calling a new rector to Grace. The first step was our Core Values meeting where we developed our Core Values statement. The 2nd step was our Vision Statement where we developed our Vision statement for Grace in the upcoming years.

Our 3rd step is to develop a rector profile where every adult (over 12) is given a chance to have a voice in expressing what they want to see in a rector by completing a Parish survey. The survey was first distributed in church on October 30th and will be available in church again on Sunday November 6th. The surveys will also be emailed to everyone that has not completed a survey in church and then they will be mailed to everyone who has missed both opportunities to complete the survey. This is so each parishioner will have an opportunity to have a voice in our future Rector. The surveys are anonymous. When the survey is completed in church please place it in the basket and sign the record sheet indicating you have completed a survey. Online we will have a listing of the email addresses that have completed a survey, but the emails are not linked to the surveys returned.

The questions on the survey are based on the information from the Visioning and Core Values meetings. At both of these meetings we found that there was a lot of common ground in what we saw for Grace in the future. As the surveys are returned the results will be collated and the resulting profile will be sent to the Bishop and then given to the search committee to guide them.

In looking back over some notes I made on last year's stewardship survey I found some interesting similarities between what we wanted a year ago and the results of our parish meetings. A year ago we said that we wanted a strong Christian Education program for all ages, increased spiritual development, increased stewardship both monetary and sharing time and talent, to achieve our goals, strength our outreach and increase our membership. All of these statements appear on our Core Values or Visioning statement. Our Vision Statement ends with: "As these goals are realized it is our heartfelt desire that there's an increase in stewardship and financial support for Grace Church". I have seen an increase in the gift of time and talent during this period of transition. For our vision for Grace to work you need to prayerfully consider what you can do for Grace through you stewardship.

You should have already received your pledge card in the mail. This year the cards are 2 sided, one side is your time and talent and the other side is for your treasure. To carry out the vision we have for Grace it is important that we have a commitment from you for your time, talent and treasure. Please fill in and return the pledge card , no commitment to Grace is too small.

Thanks to all of you that have committed for your time and talent to the super effort you are putting forth during this period of transition. I know that many of you are giving in areas that put you out of your comfort zone. Everyday I feel blessed to be part of such a devoted congregation.

Peace to all,

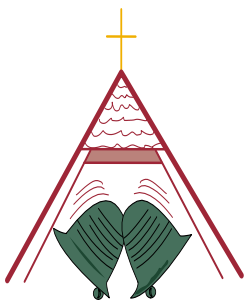
Judy Webb, Senior Warden

Graceful Gatherers

Please mark you calendars:

Nov. 4	7-9 pm	Laura Hyatt, 4622 Ave N 1/2
Dec. 2	7-9 pm	Peggy Baldwin-Clayton, 5222 Denver
Jan. 6	7-9pm	Barbara Zimmerman

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.



Pealings

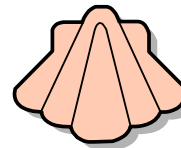
Congratulations to our Hall of Fame Inductee, Rose M. Daniels who was inducted last July at the 106th Awards Banquet of the Texas Association of Women's & Youth Clubs

Rose began her club membership with the Westene Neighborhood Club in Galveston in 1971. She has continued to work with Olivia Washing District and The Texas Association of Women's Clubs as 3rd Vice President and also serving as 3rd Vice President of her local club.

Rose is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana.. 50 years ago she came to Texas and married John M. Daniels.. She has three children and nine grandchildren. She has also been a foster mother to four other children.

She received the Community of Service Award from UTMB and Church Women United in the U.S.A. along with other awards. She has also received the Velma E. Mosley Community Service Award for her more than 2500 volunteer hours in Galveston county.

She is a member of University of Texas ACE Unit Volunteer's 1300 hours and counting. A teacher of young children for fifteen years. Owned and operated a day care and after school facility.



Time for Baptisms Sunday, November 6, 2011

It is recommended that, as far as possible, Baptisms be reserved for:

The Easter Vigil

On the Day of Pentecost

On All Saints' Day or Sunday after All Saints' Day

On the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany)

All Saints' Day is November 1, which is on a Tuesday this year so we will baptize at Grace on Sunday, November 6. If you are an adult and interested in being baptized or is you have a child you would like baptized, please call the church office (762-9676) for information.



**Don't forget to set your clocks
back 1 hour
on Saturday, November 5th.**

Live a God-Pleasing Life!

This year's stewardship theme is **LIVE A GOD-PLEASING LIFE!** We have been "*created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do*" (Ephesians 2:10). Together we'll learn how God not only prepares the work we are to do, but prepares and equips us, his stewards, to do that work.

Be sure to join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we study God's Word to find how we can **LIVE A GOD-PLEASING LIFE!** Both our worship and Bible study will focus on the following themes:

Bible Study Schedule

November 2nd	FAITH IS THE FOUNDATION
November 9th	DISCIPLESHIP IS THE PATH
November 16th	GENEROSITY IS THE HALLMARK

It is our prayer that each of us will be overwhelmed again and again at the grace of God which has created us, saved us, and daily offers us forgiveness and strength to be stewards who please him.

Commitment Sunday is November 20th, which will be a day of joyful response to that grace of God. Please make every effort to attend both worship services and Bible studies during this program and prayerfully consider your privileges and responsibilities as God's stewards.

St. Augustine Episcopal Church 41st and M 1/2

Fish Fry, Raffle, Yard Sale, Saturday, Nov. 5

Annual Fish Fry--11 AM-3PM, \$7.50, proceeds to church renovation/maintenance
Raffle--32" flat screen TV, tickets \$2 apiece or \$5 for 3, proceeds to victims of Texas wildfires
Yard Sale--8AM-1PM, proceeds to Margaret Biehl Community Garden
(yard sale donations appreciated, and can be dropped off Sunday 10/22 or 10/30 from 10:30-1 or call Karen at 762-0316 for other arrangements)

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 2nd-6PM Bible Study followed by Compline
 Friday, November 4th-7-9PM Graceful Gathers at the home of Laura Hyatt, 4622 N 1/2
 Saturday, November 5th St. Augustine's Fish Fry 11AM-3PM
 Sunday, November 6th - UTO Ingathering
 Wednesday, November 9th-6PM Bible Study followed by Compline
 Tuesday, November 15th Vestry Meeting
 Wednesday, November 16th-6PM Bible Study followed by Compline
 Saturday, November 20- Commitment Sunday and Thanksgiving Feast

2011 FOUNDATION BOARD

Bill Watson
 Peggy Baldwin-Clayton
 Kenny Wegner
 Leslie Watts
 EX-OFFICIO: Sr. Warden: Judy Webb

2011 VESTRY

Judy Webb, Sr. Warden- 762-5421
 Vickie Robertson, Clerk- 986-1195
 John McCulley, Jr. Warden- 632-0125
 Dan Ricketts- 795-0460
 Carol Ramirez- 740-2029
 Derek Paget-Clarke- 737-2091
 William Jones- 935-1148
 TREASURER- Derek Paget-Clarke- 737-2091
 CHANCELLOR- Jeff Kilgore- 939-6924

Happy Birthday!

11/4 Amy Lakich
 11/7 Richard Arthur
 Shu Shu Clowers
 Crystal Lee
 11/9 Joe Carranza
 11/15 Gerald Richard
 11/16 Aaron Harr
 Anna Hyatt
 11/23 Michael Martinez
 Andy Ramirez
 11/24 Richard Arthur
 11/25 Ella Anderson
 11/26 Grace Roe
 Bill Watson
 11/29 Cathy Smith

Happy Anniversary!

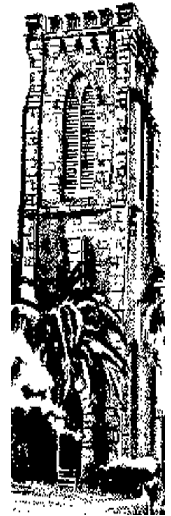
11/8 Andy and Amanda Ramirez
 11/23 Jim and Leone Carr

BELL TOWERS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE!

Follow the link on our website:
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 - INTERIUM 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 RICKETSS

ALTAR GUILD - SHUSHU CLOWERS, DIRECTOR

ACOLYTE ABBA - GERALD RICHARD

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - CATHY SMITH

WEDDING COORDINATOR - PAT BEVIL

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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e-mail address: gecg@att.net