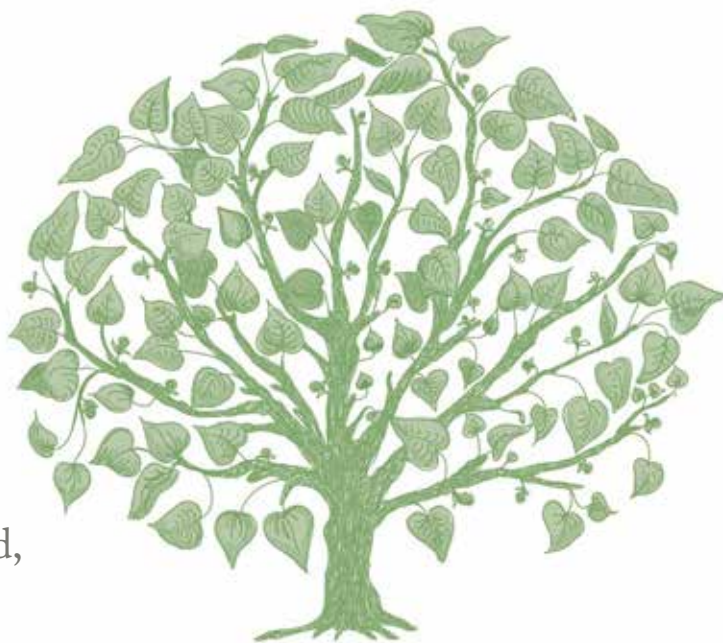


The Second Annual Meeting of

# GRACE CHURCH

an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires

January 19, 2014  
Crissey Farm, 426 Stockbridge Road,  
Great Barrington, Massachusetts



## **The Five Marks of Mission**

A unifying commitment of  
The Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church

The Mission of the Church is the Mission of Christ...

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

To teach, baptize and nurture new believers

To respond to human need by loving service

To seek to transform unjust structures of society

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Q. What is the mission of the Church?

A. The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 855 (Catechism)*

**GRACE CHURCH**  
an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires  
Second Annual Meeting ~ January 19, 2014

**AGENDA**

Call to order, appointment of Acting Clerk

Opening Prayer (all say)

*Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, as we begin our second year together as Grace Church, bear our prayers. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Old Business

Minutes of the 2012 Grace Church Annual Meeting (January 20, 2013) as printed in this booklet.

Recognition of Executive Officer and Vestry Member

Sally Brooke, Clerk  
Dindy Anderson

New Business of Grace Church

Vestry and Convention Delegate Nominations and Elections  
Presentation of the Ministry Budget of 2014

Reflection Conversation

Closing Hymn

The Blessing

May God give you grace to never sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love. (William S. Coffin) And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

The Dismissal

People's response      "Thanks be to God."

**GRACE CHURCH**  
an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires  
Second Annual Meeting ~ January 19, 2014

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**MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING**  
**January 20, 2013 Crissey Farm, Great Barrington, Massachusetts**

The First Annual Meeting of Grace Church was called to order by rector Francie Hills at 11:30 on January 20, 2013 following the worship service. After the opening prayer, the congregation joined in “Dwelling in the Word” using the text from Luke 9:10-17. The minutes of the 2011 St. James’ Annual Meeting (January 22, 2012), as well as the minutes of St. George’s Annual Meeting (January 18, 2012) were accepted as submitted. The Wardens’ and Ministry reports for St. James, as well as those of St. George’s, were accepted as submitted.

Francie recognized with gifts and thanks the hard work of the members of St. James 2012 vestry: Lee Cheek, Sr. Warden; Douglas Happ, Jr. Warden; Geoff Perkins, Treasurer; Elizabeth Holland, Ass’t Treasurer and Clerk (replacing Susan Frantz); Dindy Anderson, Kathy Clausen, Susan Gray, Margaret Layton, Dutch Pinkston and David Pott.

Francie also recognized, with gifts and thanks, the work of St. George’s 2012 Executive Committee: Susan Gore, Warden; Louise Robitaille, Ass’t Treasurer; Cathy Haywood, Clerk; Richard Gore and Deborah Holmes.

Rector’s Report: Francie began by explaining “We intentionally placed this Annual Report of the Rector as a hinge between the Old 2012 Business of Sts. George and James, and the New 2013 Business of Grace Church.” She further elaborated: “...2012 was monumental for all of us. In that year St. James, as the oldest church in the diocese, celebrated its 250th anniversary. In that year we discerned that we should move forward in consolidating as one parish...a new parish...with a new name.”

She thanked the Transition Committee for its important help in effecting a smooth transition. She mentioned particularly Geoff Perkins and Louise Robitaille and thanked them for setting up the new accounts, coordinating with Diocesan Financial Officer Steve Abdow in so doing. Once Grace was named, we entered the canonical process necessary to consolidate. First, St. James’ Vestry needed to vote to surrender parish status and become a mission for a while. St. George’s had already taken the step.

After a visit, the Diocesan New Parish Committee recommended Grace, both the oldest and the newest church, to the Diocesan Convention in October. After the canonical process, the Diocese had to submit paperwork to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and as of January 1, 2013 Grace is officially a Massachusetts corporation.

“Many people and many prayers” were involved, and Francie invited Sue Gore and Lee Cheek, the senior wardens, to accept gifts and “go out, have a good time, relax, and breathe!”

She then thanked John Cheek and the 250th Committee, and asked them to stand and be recognized for their great work in producing the celebration, at the same time as the consolidation was going on. Also thanked was Steve Murray who wrote three pieces of service music especially for the celebration. Prior to the celebration a Service of Remembrance by Paul Hamill was performed at the First Congregational Church, led by Charles Olegar and incorporation St. James’ choir members and outside musicians.

The December 2 celebration itself took place at the “beautifully transformed” Berkshire South. The Presiding Bishop preached and celebrated. Among the 220 attendees were retired Bishop Gordon Scruton and his

wife Rebecca; the now Archbishop of Ghana Daniel Sarfo and his wife Mary and three other friends from Ghana; along with parishioners and clergy from neighboring churches, representatives from churches across the diocese, and friends. There was a reception at Crissey Farm afterwards.

The “Who We Are” project was an integral part of the Larger Celebrations Program. Before this came the “Artist of the Month” program at St. James. Both programs had been developed and run by Charlene Peet. Francie asked Charlene to come forward and accept a bouquet for developing “Who We Are” for Grace. Francie said, in thanking Charlene, “It has added to our parish life and helped the people of Sts. James and George come to know each other in ways we can hardly understand or imagine.”

Francie reported on the disposition of the ashes buried in the columbarium at St. James: We have acquired a burial plot and tombstone in Mahaiwe Cemetery for ashes to be buried if the families agree; the columbarium itself will be moved to St. Stephen’s, Pittsfield for those who wish their loved ones to remain there; or people can simply take the loved one’s ashes back. She hoped to be able to re-inter the ashes at the Mahaiwe Cemetery and St. Stephens some time during Eastertide.

The former Outreach and Mission groups have been combined into the Wisdom Group, which has the task of defining how Grace will proceed in these important areas. Francie said she felt confident that Lee Pantry and Gideon’s Garden would expand and thrive, and expressed her gratitude to Sue Gore and Pennies Curry for these. George Raymond, Doug and Sue Happ, Don Peet and John and Lee Cheek were thanked for their key involvement in People’s Pantry.

Valerie Smith, Coffee Hour Hostess Extraordinaire, was thanked for organizing and overseeing coffee hour for the past five years. Also recognized and thanked was Nancy Cobden, who offered to organize, set up and take down the Welcome Table when Grace moved into Crissey Farm and has continued as greeter-in-chief.

Francie mentioned the resignation of Minister of Music Charles Olegar in December, remembering his brilliance and energy. An Interim Music Group has been formed to work on future plans.

Tidings, the seasonal newsletter, will be discontinued in favor of a weekly e-newsletter called “Tuesday’s Child”. This will have a link on our new webpage, [www.graceberkshires.org](http://www.graceberkshires.org), managed by Tim Boomer. There is also a Facebook page for Grace, administered by John Cheek. Francie thanked Sally Brooke for being editor of Tidings, working with four or five different clergy during her twelve-year stint.

Francie also thanked the Church School teachers, organized by Dindy Anderson who also taught: Judy Boomer, Margaret Layton, Sarah Sieber, Dutch Pinkston, and Mary and Ian Booton. She characterized the children of the congregation as “amazing, talented, special young people...”

Francie acknowledged and thanked Jane Clausen for her logo design for Grace – a sycamore fig tree like that climbed by Nicodemus in order to get a better look at Jesus. Why a tree? Francie explained it’s a symbol of life and growth, and looks well-pruned, ready for new life, new growth...ready to bear fruit. “That’s where I believe we are right now...Grace Church: pruned and lean but fit and ready for the new life God will give us, and open to the ways God will call us to bear fruit and feed the many hungers of the world.”

New Business: Debbie Holmes of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of Warden, Vestry and Convention Delegate nominations for the 2013 Grace Church Vestry. She asked for nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming, and a motion to accept the slate of officers, vestry, and delegates to Diocesan Convention as presented by the Nominating Committee was passed:

Officers

Senior Warden:	Kathy Clausen	(1 Year)
Junior Warden:	Richard Gore, Jr.	(1 Year)
Clerk:	Sally Brooke	(1 Year)
Treasurer:	Geoff Perkins	(1 Year)
Ass't. Treasurer:	Louise Robitaille	(1 Year)

Vestry

Class of 2014	Dindy Anderson	(1 Year Term)
	Ian Booton	(1 Year Term)
Class of 2015	Susan Gore	(2 Year Term)
	Susan Gray	(2 Year Term)
Class of 2016	John Cheek	(3 Year Term)
	Louise Robitaille	(3 Year Term)

Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternates

Diocesan Convention Delegate from Vestry:	Susan Gore
Alternate Delegate from Vestry:	John Cheek
Diocesan Convention Lay Delegate:	Lee Cheek
Alternate Lay Delegate:	Elizabeth Holland
Diocesan Convention Youth Delegate:	Open

Budget: The 2013 Grace Church Ministry Budget was accepted as presented by Geoff Perkins, Treasurer.

Conclusion: Francie asked parishioners to consider what the Spirit is saying to Grace Church in Luke 9: 10-17, and proposed two Vision conversations to the Parish:

No matter how our church community may have changed, no matter how it may grow and change in the future, as followers of Jesus, what will always abide?

In the spirit of the Five Marks of Mission: A unifying commitment of the Anglican Communion and The Episcopal Church, what mission and ministry do you believe Grace Church should accomplish (or at least begin) in 2013?

After the singing of "Now Let Us Rise and Hymn the Great", Francie sent us out with a blessing:

"May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love." ---William S. Coffin

Respectfully submitted, Sally N. Brooke, Clerk to the Vestry

## REPORT FROM THE RECTOR

Grace Church, an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires officially began on January 1, 2013. The first Sunday of the New Year was January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany, and Grace chose that day (or the Sunday nearest) to be her permanent feast day. As the (unelected) first Rector, I called the first Annual Meeting of Grace to order on January 20, 2013. The 2012 Annual Reports (and final annual reports) of St. James Great Barrington and St. George Lee were poignantly presented, and the new congregation elected its first Executive Team and Vestry.

For the Rector, January activities included an unusual amount of pastoral care with several parishioners sick or in need of counseling. During January, February and part of March, Lee Cheek graciously volunteered to lead the music program while we decided how to move forward after the loss of the Minister of Music in early December. In February an Interim Music Committee was formed and eventually found Chris Clark to direct the choir and Sara Keene to accompany on the keyboard. Lee Cheek remained available to sub in Chris' or Sara's absence.

The Properties Committee, led by Junior Warden Rick Gore, began an active search for space for Grace Church. They eventually found the property on State Street and the Vestry leased it for offices, meeting space, storage, and a small chapel. After Sunday worship at Crissey Farm on November 17, the congregation moved to the new office for coffee hour, and the Rector blessed the new space.

Lent came early in 2013, and Grace observed Ash Wednesday with the Imposition of Ashes at Fairview Hospital and at a communion service at Wheeler and Taylor. A Lenten soup and conversation group met on Tuesdays at noon at the Rector's home. On Sundays during Lent after worship, a series about end of life issues was offered, coordinated by Louise Robitaille and the Rector. Grace shared Holy Week by joining Christ Church Episcopal and Trinity Lutheran for Maundy Thursday, going to various churches on Good Friday, celebrating the Great Vigil of Easter with St. Paul's, and returning to Crissey Farm for the festive Easter morning celebration.

Throughout the year guest speakers and preachers blessed the people of Grace: Bev Hosokawa and Dorree Ndooki gave a presentation about the mission they work with in Tanzania. In the summer, Dorree's sister, Nemea, who is an ordained Lutheran pastor in Tanzania, was the guest preacher. Christy Cunliffe, a medical missionary in Ivory Coast (and the Cobdens' granddaughter), gave a moving sermon one Sunday when she was visiting Grace with her family. The Rev. Laura Everett, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Council of Churches, was also a guest preacher in September. Grace was blessed throughout the year with the excellent preaching of the Rev. Ted Cobden and Licensed Lay Preacher Lee Cheek.

In the spring, Bruce Rockwell, the Diocesan Stewardship Missioner, introduced the Year-Round Stewardship concept to Grace. The Vestry approved the creation of a Year Round Stewardship Team, and the initial members were Tom Doyle, Nancy Cobden, John Cheek, Viola Bagnaschi, and the Rector. The team began meeting regularly with Bruce for Bible study, reading, discussion, and reflection. The team began the on-going "Weekly One-Minute Stewardship Sermons" that offer gratitude to various ministries in the parish. They also planned and led the Stewardship Season, which included the moving reflections done by several parishioners. The intentionality of this team should undergird Grace with a deep sense of stewardship in all they do.

In April a group of parishioners decided Grace needed more social life. As a result the "Second Sunday Suppers" (which actually started on a Friday night and evolved to the Third Sunday of the month!) were



born. Visiting different area restaurants, about 22 people have attended each month's dinner since this began in May. Thanks to George Raymond, Lynn Walker, and Tom and Paula Doyle for cooking this up!

An adult inquirers' class was formed, and in its first year as Grace, the parish sent three people to the Regional Confirmation service on the Feast of the Ascension (May 9) at St. Stephen's Pittsfield. Confirmed or Received were Ian and Mary Booton and Robert Clausen. About 20 from the parish attended the beautiful service, which was Bp. Fisher's first Regional Confirmation in the Berkshire Corridor.

On-going adult formation continued on Tuesday nights as a group of faithful parishioners met at the Rector's home to study the lessons for the following Sunday. A mid-week Eucharist was offered each Thursday at noon at Wheeler and Taylor.

As part of Fairview Hospital's 100th Anniversary celebration and through the leadership of Vice President Doreen Hutchinson, the hospital hosted a week of healing for its employees and volunteers. The Rector participated in planning the week and offered healing prayers, meditations, and blessing of hands for the hospital staff and volunteers.

Gideon's Garden was planted and blessed on June 1. This was the fifth year for the Garden. It started with 1/3 acre in 2009, and this year there were about 2 acres, which Taft Farms graciously gave to Grace to use for this youth outreach garden. In October Grace offered the Community Blessing of the Animals at Gideon's Garden. In the process of parishioners spending time at the garden and developing relationships with the people of the farm, this year's Christmas Eve service for Grace was at Taft Farms in the greenhouse. This was the third year for this bi-lingual service, but this year it was Grace's only Christmas Eve service, and Bp. Fisher celebrated. This makes my heart glad. Gracias!

The first wedding was entered into the Grace Parish Register on July 27, 2013 when the Rector solemnized the vows of Quinn Doyle and Jonathan Luestner at the outdoor chapel in West Stockbridge. The second wedding was entered into the Grace Parish Register on October 12, 2013 when Bp. Fisher solemnized the vows of the Rev. Marc Lawrence Britt and myself at St. Stephen's Pittsfield.

I was engaged to Marc in the summer of 2012, and in early 2013 I began exploring the possibility of retiring when I turned 65 (December 29, 2013).

I announced my decision to do this to the congregation at the end of May 2013. This put into motion a remarkable time of transition for Grace and for me personally. The Bishop, Diocesan Transition Minister, and Grace Leadership agreed to begin the profile process in the summer. The caveat was that the parish and Rector had to agree not to talk with each other about the profile/search process. This is a hard thing to do when the Rector is still the Rector, but I believe we were very faithful to this necessary agreement. I know Grace Church has an honest and beautiful profile, and I trust God will bring you the priest you need at this exciting time. You are blessed by the remarkable leadership of Senior Warden Kathy Clausen, the rest of the Executive Committee, the Vestry, and the Profile and Search Committees as you go through this transition.

The things I felt I needed to accomplish before my leaving on November 24 were (in addition to providing for regular Sunday worship, routine formation and pastoral care) 1. The permanent relocation of the ashes that were in the St. James Columbarium and determining the wishes of those who had purchased niches 2. Plans for archiving the records of St. James and St. George 3. The publication of John Toffey's history book of St. James' last 50 years 4. Planning my wedding and retirement 5. Saying goodbye well to each other.

The St. James Columbarium was given to and installed at St. Stephen's Pittsfield. The ashes of seven people were recommitted there on September 1, 2013. One person has reserved a niche. A cemetery plot was acquired at Mahaiwe Cemetery and a stone was erected. The ashes of four people were buried there on

November 1, 2013. Four other people have reserved a space there. The ashes of all others previously in the St. James Columbarium were returned to their families.

The Great Barrington Historical Society has agreed to receive and maintain the records of St. James Episcopal Church. Doreen Hutchinson is coordinating that. The Lee Historical Society will receive and maintain the records of St. George Episcopal Church. Sue Gore is coordinating that.

John Toffey's book is finished. I wrote the introduction. The 250th Celebration Committee is in the process of having it published.

Married October 12, 2013! Retired January 1, 2014!

Parish gave beautiful parties and gifts to celebrate both the wedding and my retirement...THANK YOU! I have loved you and said goodbye to you as well as I knew how. You will always be in my heart and prayers.

The Rev. Frances A. Hills, Ft. Washington, MD, January 11, 2014

### REPORT FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

At this second annual meeting we mark the end of our first year as Grace Church. The earth has made a full revolution around the sun in a great celestial journey, and we have made a great spiritual journey through the liturgical seasons. With God's help we have discussed, prayed, sung, created, planted, harvested, laughed, cried, cooked, eaten, typed, texted, emailed, and dreamt a new church into existence. There have been many firsts and quite a few surprises along the way. If the first year of Grace's life is any indication of what is to come, it can be said that the Spirit is a'moving and a'shaking in the people of Grace.

Retaining the practices of a well organized spiritual community, the Grace Vestry continued using "dwelling in the word" to ground our meetings in scripture. This year we used the story of the loaves and fishes from Luke 9:10-17. As soon as we could, we planned the Vestry and Wisdom Group Advance which was held on May 4. The Rev. Bill Coyne was our facilitator. By combining these two groups, we could focus our planning on mission-related work. Bill asked us to consider the Five Marks of Mission and restate them in the language and culture of Grace Church. Following much discussion based on the answers gathered from a set of questions that had been the basis of discussions between vestry members and their "prayer partners," we came up with a "missional statement of purpose." It reads-

*Continue to build on the partnerships we have, and listen for where we are needed so we can use what we have learned to create new partnerships to put God's love into action.*

Clearly Grace was going to be a church that looked outward and initiated works that embodied God's love, or joined others in doing so. Examples of this abound in the activities of our parishioners.

Not long after this Advance, our rector announced her retirement and marriage plans. Gratefully, she and our bishop decided that since Grace had done so much *discerning* over the last couple of years, as we worked to consolidate our previous parishes, we were prepared to go forward immediately into the search process without the need of an interim. This was both a blessing and a challenge. We were doing a new thing; we were saying good-bye and we were seeking a new rector at the same time. While we began to adjust to the inevitable loss of Francie, we had many tasks ahead to prepare for a new rector. Once again the energetic people of Grace, fueled by faith and love, accomplished this dual journey.

As the summer began, we met with the diocesan transition officers and created a profile for Grace. Fortunately, Ted Cobden, Sue Gore, Bev Hosokawa, Doreen Hutchinson, Edna Leavenworth, and Louise Robitaille worked at break-neck speed to pull together an informative and appealing Parish Profile. It was

posted on our new website. Being born in the second decade of the twenty-first century meant that we needed a presence on the web. Our two churches' websites had to be transformed into a new site. Owing to many years of Tim Boomer's dedication, we knew how useful a website can be and so we created a new, fresh-looking site employing the brand image of Grace Church. From this site users can learn about Grace and our community activities. They can watch a short video, made this summer, which features members of Gideon's Garden. From the site members can keep up with parish news by reading *Tuesday's Child Newsletter* or connecting to our Facebook page. Yes, Grace has a Facebook page managed by John Cheek.

We spent much time this year considering what it means to be "church," to do "church," and how we might look like a church. What do we need to have on the ground to do God's heavenly work? Rather than launch into buying or renovating a building, we decided that an office would suffice. Francie had generously offered her home for Bible study and many group meetings, but it had always been a temporary solution. Now events were pushing us forward to this next step. The Blessing of the Office was a poignant moment. Grace had her first real home! Immediately we began to dream about what that office could become and through the hard work of many, lead by Rick Gore, a new Grace Chapel was created where the mid-week service is now celebrated each Thursday.

As a community we celebrated Francie's engagement, wedding, and retirement. She guided us and lovingly prodded us to develop this new church entity. She will always be the 'mother' of Grace Church and like all mothers we know she is proud to see us stand on our own in this transition time. She has helped us see that to do God's work we need to be in the neighborhood, hands in the soil, stirring the cooking pot, or sorting the grocery bags. What God worked through her, her generous, contemplative, and loving spirit will always abide in Grace like a mother's DNA.

As we continue into our third year we will continue to ask the questions: what is the church of the twenty-first century? How do we live out our baptismal vows? How do we continue to exist as an entity, as an Episcopal congregation? In due time we look forward to welcoming a new priest, who will serve as priest-in-charge, and will help us to hear God's guiding voice. Until then...

We gather on Sundays, creating our holy space from the contents of plastic tubs in a secular space that we borrow for a few hours. We gather from many different towns with a variety of purposes from many different lives and histories. We seek familiarity, comfort, inspiration, connection, as we reaffirm our faith in a loving God. It happens each and every Sunday and it seems a miracle to me. God comes among us and we are changed each and every Sunday. May we continue in this way, going out after our time together, to love and heal our world. Thanks be to God!

by Kathy Clausen, Senior Warden

## REPORT FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

This has been a busy first year for Grace Church. We started out the year looking at possible locations for a combined Church and Office space. We looked at one of the buildings at Jennifer House Commons and had an architect do a study on what would be needed to rehab the former Yellow Building. There was potential for this building but do to the size of the building we would have to install a sprinkler system. With this cost and the cost to renovate the space it would have used up most of our available building funds so we decided to pass. We also looked at a former church across from Rite Aid in Gt. Barrington but this was an old building that needed a lot of work.

We continue to use Crissey Farm for our Sunday Worship. Our Executive Meetings were held at Francie's home and Vestry Meetings were held at Finnerty Stevens Funeral Home.

Once Francie announced that she was retiring the Vestry decided we needed to get an office space before she left. We looked at two potential spaces at 67 State Road and found the one on the left side was the better of the two. We entered into a 5 year lease and renovated the space as a combination office/meeting space/chapel. We finished the renovations and had Francie bless it on November 17th. We are now setting up Bonnie's office area as she is planning on being there on Thursday's. This also allowed us to have a Grace Church sign up other than just on Sundays from 10-12.

Our Thursday noon service was at Wheeler & Taylor. Once the office was blessed we moved the service there with the same date and time.

Most of our "stuff" from St. George's and St. James continues to be in two storage facilities along with some items at Finnerty Stevens and parishioners homes. We plan on having a work party this spring to go through each of the storage units to see what we want to keep. Hopefully we will be able to combine everything into one storage unit.

by Rick Gore, Junior Warden

## ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

How we follow Jesus and become disciples has everything to do with how we understand what was written about him in our Holy Scriptures. Our journey to unity with God is shaped by this discipleship and by the writings and lived practices of those who were disciples before us—the traditions handed down from our spiritual ancestors. When we study our scriptures and traditions and apply our reason to them, we are exercising our spiritual legs on the Via Media, the 'middle way' of the Anglican journey to unity with God. It is always a delight and surprise to discover and re-discover that God has been with us on this journey the whole time!

The Lectionary Study Group continues to meet each Tuesday evening at 7 pm to read, study, and listen to each other's reflections on the upcoming readings for Sundays. The group, which varies in size from three to ten, is open to anyone to attend on a regular or onetime occasion. We often use the African version of Dwelling in the Word which employs the practice of carefully listening to each other. And we always have a group discussion on what the readings might be saying to us in our present times. Our discussions can be particularly helpful to lectors. Previous study is not required, though it is welcome and shared. The evening ends with a lovely compline service adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book or simple prayers. Until the retirement of Francie Hills as priest in November, we met at the rector's home. We now meet at the newly furnished office space at 67 State Road, Great Barrington.

During Lent 2013, a small group of 6 to 10 people met for a Simple Soup Lunch at the rector's home on Tuesdays at noon. We shared our reflections on the week's daily readings from Richard Rohr's Wondrous Encounters—Scripture for Lent. Several members of the congregation used the book for daily meditation during Lent, but were unable to attend the lunch.

by Lee Cheek

## BOOKS & BREAD

During the year 2013 The Book Club met nine times, had five pot luck suppers and four dessert and coffee or hors d'oeuvres with wine. We instituted the latter to encourage some new hosts. Space and age of the hosts limit availability. The whole thing gets easier if the meal is not a meal at all but a snack. The meeting time was changed from 6pm to 7pm for those meetings.

We read *The Clothes They Stood Up In*, *In The Garden of the Beasts*, *American Rust*, *The Housekeeper and The Professor*, *The Woman Who Named God*, *The Glass Room*, *Between Shades of Grey* and *Spies*. A nice mix of fiction and non-fiction.

The first meeting, in January, was to select the books, hosts and discussion leaders. In other words to make up the schedule for the year. George Raymond handily put the schedule into a chart and e-mailed it to all the regulars, as he always does. For the very first time we did not vote to select books as we had only 8 presented, the very number we needed. So we just selected them all. Some were not in paperback, which was also a first. The Book Loft got the paperback ones for us and allowed us a 10% discount when purchasing.

During the year we were hosted by the Garbers, the Smiths, Marion Gaenzle, George Raymond, Martha Katz, the Peets, the Drumms and the Andersons. Discussion leaders were Martha Katz, Pam Drumm, Valerie Smith, Dindy Anderson, Charlene Peet and George Raymond. Nancy Cobden was tireless in having the sign up sheets available at church and taking it to the host/hostess.

Once again, in most cases but not all, the presenter of the book was asked to lead the discussion.

We have been meeting a long time for a Book Club and some big changes are ahead. You will hear about them in church. We all feel most grateful to have belonged to this group and hope that all who have joined us once or several times feel the same, as we do "welcome the stranger".

by Pam Drumm

## BREAKING BREAD KITCHEN

Grace Church hosted seven Breaking Bread kitchen dinners during 2013. The dinners were prepared and served at the American Legion Post building in Sheffield. Grace Church was one of seven groups that participated in serving these community dinners. Dinner is open to everyone, there are no requirements for participation.

Members of Grace Church set the menu, gather the food, prepare the food and serve dinner on individual plates. We gather late afternoon to set up the dining tables and begin food preparation. Dinner consisting of a salad, entrée and dessert is served around 5:30pm. We finish the evening by cleaning up and doing dishes. Many parishioners and friends participate in the entire evening or just for parts of the dinner. Our guests have always given us praise for the meal and the friendship of the gathering.

Full time support of the dinners for 2014 has been suspended due to the lack of volunteer organizers who will take the leadership role. We are contemplating several different scenarios where we can still participate for those so inclined. Watch for notices as we move through the year.

by Doug and Susan Happ

## CHURCH SCHOOL

We have continued to use a story-telling felt board curriculum called the Beulah Land Curriculum. This curriculum involves Bible stories followed by “wondering” questions. The children love to participate in putting the stories on the board. God is always present with us in the interesting and difficult questions of the children and the discussion that follows. This Fall, after discussion with the older children, we are enriching this curriculum with additional resources, including learning how to find the stories in the Bible and reading them in the Bible. Children can also participate in an art/craft activity and play with the story.

We enjoyed several sessions with children from Taft Farms/Gideon’s Garden as well as occasional visits by the individual children. This has been a great blessing to us. In addition, the church school helped with the planting of the Garden.

Much appreciation goes out to those who take time out of their busy lives to teach our wonderful children on Sunday morning. A special thank you to Ian and Mary Booton, Margaret Layton, Elizabeth Holland and Judy Boomer.

by Dindy Anderson

## THE FOOD PANTRIES: LEE and PEOPLE’S PANTRY

Food, donated by parishioners, is collected at Grace Church each Sunday. Although we have an “Item of the Week”, which provides focus, any food donations are welcome. The food is then transferred, on an alternating basis to either the Lee Pantry of Lee with which the church has a direct affiliation, or to the People’s Pantry of Great Barrington.

by George Raymond

### Lee Pantry

Beginning Balance	\$21,221.32
Income:	
2013 Donations	\$20,058.00
2013 Bank Interest	3.76
Total Income	\$20,061.76
Expenses:	
Food Purchase	\$21,876.44
Shelter	162.00
PO Box/Dep/Addr Stamps	165.50
Total Expenses	\$22,203.94
12/31/13 Bank Balance	\$19,079.14

### Distribution Counts – 3 Yrs.

2013 Total Families	2096	2013 Total Individuals	5554
2012	1670	2012	4026
2011	1195	2011	3005

The beginning of 2013 began with the transition from St. George to Grace Church with reference to the bank account, new sign and our PO Box. All went very well.

Our individual count for clients served is up 37% from the previous year. With the help of Grace Church and the people in our community, we have been able to continue to help those in need.

A special thank you to Gideon's Garden and the Otis Community Garden for fresh vegetables during the growing season. This was our second year receiving fresh produce from Gideon's Garden and it has been wonderful. We also continue to pick up baked goods from our local supermarkets. Again, a very special thank you to all at Grace Church for your support, our volunteers and our community for being so giving. Thanks be to God!

by Susan Gore

### People's Pantry

People's Pantry, our Great Barrington Food Pantry, was founded in the mid- 90's, and was then housed in the small garage behind St. James' Church. Over the years it has moved several times, but has continued to serve people in need of assistance in procuring food for their families, people who live in the Great Barrington area and surrounding "Hill Towns". The Pantry is now housed in the lower level of the Calvary Christian Church on Route #41 which is located about a mile and a half north of downtown. It is open every Thursday from 10AM to 1PM. The Pantry is staffed by volunteers from local churches, synagogues, and other organizations in the area. Food that is collected for the Pantry comes from religious communities, secular organizations, businesses and many individuals. Food is also purchased as needed with money donated by groups and individuals. Farm produce is provided by local markets and farms and by gardening groups like our Gideon's Garden. The Pantry services between 50 and 70 shoppers per week, thus providing food assistance for well over 100 men, women, and children.

The Board of the Pantry (all volunteers) extends its thanks to Grace Church for the food donations, financial gifts and for the many parish members who have given their time and labor to make the Pantry a success.

by The Rev. Don Peet

### GIDEON'S GARDEN REPORT~GIFTS FROM THE GARDEN

As I begin to think about writing my report about Gideon's Garden and our fifth year supporting this gift from God, I realize how many gifts we have received and how many gifts we have been given to give away. The vegetables we grow, the harvest we deliver to so many, the many families we meet in our community, the other organizations that need our help and most of all thanks be to God, our children all these are gifts from God.

How little we knew at the beginning about how we would be asked to serve in our community. I certainly had no idea of how many children would be sent to our garden to learn, to heal, to ask for help and most of all just to be loved. Grace Church and Taft Farms share a sponsorship of Gideon's Garden surrounded by love. We are planning our sixth season for our garden. We have had the gift of Antonio Francisco as our Hispanic Adult Supervisor working alongside his son Diego who says he will one day be the Youth Supervisor, another gift.

Kyle will once again return as our Youth Supervisor and we will add our new parishioner Ethan to our garden family, more gifts. Matt will continue at Berkshire School and his busy hockey schedule and more demanding school schedule and will leave his service as asst. to Kyle. As we told Matt, he will leave his duties at Gideon's Garden but never leave this family, he is one of us forever.

We have had the gift of Michael and his sister Stephania as new members of our garden family sent to us from Dominican Republic. We have welcomed more involvement from Guthrie Center and CHP volunteers. Two of our community Garden Clubs has given generous contributions to the work the garden is producing.

We have the gift of a new green house that will be covered in the spring to begin planting crops that can create a longer growing season for harvest in the fall and winter, another gift.

*Dear God we thank you for so many gifts you have given to. We thank you God for these gifts and for so many visions of your Holy Kingdom as we see these youth at work in your garden. Amen*

by Pennie Curry

## HEALING MINISTRY

Each Sunday during the administration of Holy Communion an opportunity for healing prayer is offered at a station in back of the congregation. One may come for healing for oneself or for another. Prayer is offered in the assurance of Christ's ever-present care and power of newness of life.

Members of the healing ministry are Pennie Curry, Don Peet, Charlene Peet, Elizabeth Holland, Kathy Clausen, Sue Happ, Sue Gore and Ted Cobden

by The Rev. Ted Cobden

## HOSPITALITY AND COFFEE HOUR REPORT

"I'm just someone who likes to cook, and for whom sharing food is a form of expression" (Maya Angelou)  
"There is no sincerer love than the love of food" (G.B. Shaw)

Every single week we bring these quotes to life, as shown by the bounty on the tables at Coffee Hour. In 2013 we had 28 people serve as hosts and hostesses, providing us with an abundant array of treats lovingly prepared. Many folks pitched in to help with set up and clean up, even if it was not their week. Many times during the year we had "special" events—birthdays, good-byes, guests, meetings—and we always had enough people willing to provide a bit extra, including several yummy cakes! Gideon's Garden was a joyous and bountiful contributor, spurred on by enthusiastic children, and our new Hispanic friends at Taft Farms.

We are always looking for new hosts and hostesses, so if you would like to be part of this special ministry, please let us know. At Grace Church we do food very well!! Cheers!!

by Susan Gray and Dindy Anderson



## MEN'S GROUP

The purpose of the St. James Men's Group is to provide fellowship and to enrich the faith of all who participate. Although we do not meet every month, when we do meet, it is usually on the fourth Wednesday. We meet at a residence from 6-9 for supper and discussion focused on specific topics. All men of the parish and their guests are invited. There are no attendance requirements or attendance expectations. Now and then someone can come to a particular meeting that interests him or he can become a "regular" by attending most all the meetings. At the evening meetings we average about 10 although there are about 20 on our mailing list. We meet at 6:00 pm for soft drinks, wine and cheese followed by supper. Our discussion begins at about 7:30 pm and we adjourn promptly at 9:00 pm.

During 2013, we had six meetings:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Topic/Program</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
January 23	Cheek	Visit to Ghana Orphanage	John Arthur Miller
February 27	Garber	"The Little Church That Could"	Rev. Betsey Fisher
April 24	Cobden	Skiing	Kirk Garber
June 26	Emery	The High Cost of US Health Care	Discussion of article in the June 2, 2013 edition of the New York Times
August 27	Doyle	Buddhism	Monica Raymond
December 4	Garretson	The Future of the Episcopal Church	John Cheek

We feel God at work in our fellowship and care for one another. We are strengthened when we share our life stories and feel the support of the other men. This year we are once again thankful for the fellowship the Men's group provides.

If you would like to monitor the group's activities by being on the mailing list or would like to attend a particular evening meeting, please contact either of the group's co-leaders: George Raymond (637-7224) or Ted Cobden (528-2247).

by George Raymond and Ted Cobden

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee has had no formal meetings this year. In the summer, we tried to seek out students who might qualify and there was no interest. We have been the vehicle to advertise Diocesan scholarships which are available (i.e. Bement). The application was updated in 2012. We will continue to seek out applicants.

by Doreen Hutchinson

## SEARCH COMMITTEE

The search committee first met in November and we have been extremely busy. In our early formative meetings we have been lead and assisted by The Rev. Canon Pam Mott and Mr. Ed Farrell, diocesan transition officers, who remain available to us for help at any time. We have formulated several sets of questions for candidates and discussed how we will proceed after that.

At present we have interviewed six candidates, some more than once, collected and studied their sermons in both written and video formats, and spoken to references. All the interviews have been conducted by Skype, but future ones will be in person. Many meetings have been held and many more are to come. It is an exciting if daunting process. Our candidates seem very interested in the work we are doing and excited about our commitment to mission. We look forward to continuing our work, which is steeped in prayer. We begin and end all our meetings and interviews with prayer. Special thanks to chaplains Penny Curry and Sue Gore.

Though we are moving quickly, we do not know for sure when we might arrive at a decision. Hopefully it will not be too long depending on how the Spirit leads us. Please continue to pray for us and our candidates.

Our committee: Co-Chairs Debbie Holmes and John Cheek, Ed Hutchinson, Tom Doyle, Dindy Anderson, Sue Gore, Penny Curry, Dutch Pinkston

by John Cheek

## TUESDAY'S CHILD REPORT

2013 was the inaugural year for Tuesday's Child. It developed from the musings of several Grace Church members and came to life on January 22nd 2013. Every week an email is sent to a mailing list of 100. About 60% of those people open the email. Though it would be best if that number were 100%, 60 is a very good percentage.

Tuesday's Child includes basic information including worship time, ROTA, lectionary and food donation for the coming Sunday, upcoming events and other information, etc. Also included is a personality from the Calendar of Saints (Episcopal Church), a weekly depiction of the coming Sunday's readings, and links to various church related web sites. Links are included with directions to specific events locations or for more information on specific topics.

The intent is to be a simple but interesting and attractive newsletter for Grace members and other interested people. Help is needed from all members on how to make Tuesday's Child more interesting, useful and serviceable.

by Elizabeth Holland

### THIRD SUNDAY SUPPERS

The “Third Sunday Suppers” program was begun in May, 2013. Each month, parishioners are invited to join together on a Sunday evening at a local restaurant for some fellowship and dining.

During 2013, we had 8 suppers at 7 different venues. Attendance varied from 10 to 22.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Dining Venue</b>	<b>Location</b>
May 10, 2013	Sullivan Station	Lee
June 9	Barrington Brewery	Great Barrington
July 14	Stockbridge Golf Club	Stockbridge
August 11	Perigee	South Lee
September 15	The Morgan House	Lee
October 13	Koi	Great Barrington
November 17	Perigee	South Lee
December 15	Salmon Run Fish House	Lee

It will be noted that, because of particular circumstances, the actual date of the event varied from the third Sunday format. We try only to go to restaurants that will allow each participant to order off the menu and receive a separate check. We did go to two dining venues (Barrington Brewery and the Stockbridge Golf Club) where, in lieu of separate checks, participants paid a fixed price for a special menu that allowed for several choices of entrée.

The program has been successful and apparently well received. On January 12, 2014 a group of 19 met at the Japanese Restaurant Shiro in Great Barrington for Hibachi. The current intention is to have a supper during each of the months of 2014.

by George Raymond

### WELCOMING AND USHERING COMMITTEE

At the start of the first year of Grace Church, it was decided to combine the duties of welcoming with those of ushering as well. Three members of the committee come early each Sunday to set up the welcoming table at the door with bulletins, programs, publications, name tags and a bulletin board. They stay towards the back of the seating area once service begins, to welcome latecomers.

Loose plate collection is the next duty. The team then brings up the plates to the altar, with the slip of paper bearing the number of attendees that morning. After the choir goes up for the Eucharist, they let parishioners go up row by row. They receive the Eucharist after everyone else is done.

Serving on this committee is a wonderful way to greet newcomers and old friends right at the start, to make sure everyone is supplied with programs and a name tag, and to get the service off to a warm and friendly start. Members of the team are: Debbie Holmes, Cecily Mills, Viola Bagnaschi, Sally Brooke, Anne Andrews, Sue Gore, Rick Gore, Doreen Hutchinson, Ed Hutchinson, George Raymond, Sarah Sieber, and Marcia Doelman.

by Sally Brooke

## WISDOM / OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT

We spent the earlier part of this year reorganizing ourselves. It was important to the group to support local initiatives. We want to use our “partnership for missional church principles” of discovery and listening. We have:

- Written a new Purpose
- Shared it with the congregation
- Asked the congregants to share concerns / needs with us
- Sent \$524 to UTO from Grace (we matched what was raised by Grace - \$262)
- Participated in raising \$1,300 in dollars and gift cards for teens as Christmas gifts (we contributed to teens from Great Barrington to Lee) We donated \$500 from our Disbursements to the \$800 raised.
- Decided to support Episcopal Relief and Development during Lent, 2014.
- Agreed (with Vestry support) to pursue a Congregational Development Grant to experiment with Community Fellowship Dinners.

by Doreen Hutchinson

## WORSHIP AT GRACE CHURCH

Our ecclesial identity is that of a Eucharistic community, a people gathered to give praise and thanks, receive forgiveness, and be sent out into the world again, renewed in the assurance of God’s love for us and refreshed by the reminder of the goodness of all creation that we have been given to love and serve.

The worship service is the core gathering from which we learn to hear God’s word through beauty, art, music, poetry, theological reflection in the sermon and the lectionary based prayers, and through the paradoxically solemn and joyful dignity of the Eucharistic feast. Planning for the Sunday worship service begins a few weeks before a new liturgical season with members of the following groups: Acolytes (Ed Hutchinson); Altar Guild (Debbie Holmes and Lynn Walker); Music (Chris Clark, John Cheek, Lee Cheek); Lectors (Louise Robitaille) and the priest (The Rev. Francie Hills).

The first worship service of our consolidated congregations as Grace Church was joyfully celebrated on Sunday, January 6, 2013, the Feast of Epiphany which will heretofore become Grace’s “Feast Day”. Other festive eucharists throughout the year were celebrated at a combined Easter Vigil service at St. Paul’s, Stockbridge, Easter morning, and Christmas Eve which was celebrated at 3pm in the greenhouse at Taft Farms on Division Street in Great Barrington (where the seeds are started for Gideon’s Garden) and presided over by our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Fisher. Eighty-three people stood, or sat in folding chairs, sang and listened to God’s word in English and Spanish. Antonio Francisco read a portion of the Gospel in Spanish and Bishop Fisher completed it in English. Carmen Perkins provided ongoing translations of the Bishop’s remarks during the service. The service was a joyous celebration of human solidarity, La Paz, and Feliz Navidad!

Guest preachers during 2013 included The Rev. Ted Cobden, The Rev. Laura Everett (UCC, President of the Mass. Council of Churches), Ms. Christie Cunliffe (Nurse Missionary to Côte d’Ivoire, granddaughter of Ted Cobden), The Rev. Pam Mott (Canon to the Ordinary), The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Fisher (our bishop), and Mrs. Lee Cheek, licensed lay preacher. The Rev. Hills presided at the Thursday noon-day Eucharist until her retirement. The Rev. Noreen Suriner now presides on Thursdays.

Before her retirement at the end of Pentecost, The Rev. Francie Hills left the Worship Committee in good stead with liturgical planning for Advent and Christmas completed. Presiders during Advent included

Canon to the Ordinary, The Rev. Pam Mott and The Rev. Bill Eakins, who is serving as a long-term supply priest from Connecticut. The service of Advent 3 was canceled due to a predicted, but thankfully less than dangerous, ice storm.

Many thanks this year to those who prepare and proofread the bulletin in cyberspace via many emails, to Valerie Smith who staples the bulletins, and to John Cheek who picks up the bulletins in time for choir rehearsal.

The Acolytes of Grace Church are a group of God's servers (nine in all: Lee Boomer, Megan Boomer, Kathy Clausen, Mike Frye, Cathy Haywood, Dorree Ndooki, Louise Robitaille, Ed Hutchinson, and our newest acolyte Ethan Novick), who have served in our Sunday worship weekly. They reverently assist the priest at the Lord's Table at the celebration of the Eucharist. The acolytes are an ancient order within the church. Thank you to each and every one of you for your service. *by Ed Hutchinson, Acolyte warden*

Flexibility, cooperation, and a sense of humor describe the members of the Altar Guild of Grace Church. Formed after the consolidation of St. George, Lee, and St. James, Great Barrington, members work in teams to prepare the Lord's Table every Sunday. Since we have no sacristy, our linens and silver are stored in a closet above our rental space. Our teams serve one Sunday per month. Meetings are held as needed, always with food, fellowship, and laughter, as well Business. This year we ordered special new linens to represent Grace Church. Team members are: First Sunday - Sarah Sieber, Edna Leavenworth; Second Sunday - Lynn Walker, Pennie Curry, Ed Hutchinson; Third Sunday - Debbie Holmes, Elizabeth Holland, Valerie Smith; Fourth Sunday- Sue Happ, Viola Bagnashi, Cecily Mills, Elinor Hamill. A special thank you to Martha Platt for keeping our linens clean and ironed! *by Lynn Walker for the Altar Guild*

The Musicians of Grace Church have been faithful, flexible, and even fearless through the many changes during 2013 as they continued to provide solid support and inspiration for congregational singing and as they added beauty, sonic texture, and rhythmic aliveness to our worship service. Despite a non-resonant space, the limitations of an electronic keyboard, and the loss of some very fine vocalists during 2013, the musicians continued to play and sing a variety of musical styles with integrity and soulfulness. When Chris Clark (Director of Vocal Music, Southern Berkshire Regional School District) joined the staff as Music Director in March and keyboardist Sara Keene joined the staff in the fall, choristers who had been pinch-hitting as keyboardists and conductors were able to enjoy simply singing once again. Many thanks to Chris and Sara, and a warm welcome to new singers Mary Ann and John Grammer!

*by Lee Cheek, music assistant*

## YEAR ROUND STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Year Round Stewardship Committee is one of the newer committees in our church and, like Grace Church, we are in our infancy. With the help of The Rev. Francie Hills, we came together, as a group of four lay people, in the Spring of 2013. Bruce Rockwell from our Diocese graciously agreed to meet with us regularly and offer his leadership in this new venture.

The committee meets monthly. We began each meeting with 'dwelling in the word' followed by discussion on how we can amplify the traditions of gratitude and generosity within Grace Church.

Bruce introduced us to a small, but powerful book called "Ask, Thank, Tell". It has served as one of our guiding lights on this journey. As a result of our reading and discussions, we decided to initiate a "One Minute Sermon" on Sundays which would focus on one particular aspect of our Grace Church life. In this brief time, a member of our committee thanks a chosen ministry for the work they do throughout

the year. By doing this, we not only acknowledge the time and energy devoted to this endeavor, but also highlight how important the work is in our greater stewardship.

Our committee is also responsible for conducting the annual Fall stewardship campaign, writing and producing the materials and following up with members who may need additional information. This year we used a series of thoughtful articles called 'Flourish in the Faith'. During each of the six Sundays leading up to our "In Gathering", a lay member from Grace Church would talk about his or her faith in relation to the reading.

As a committee we are embarking on a spiritual journey full of gratitude and generosity. We welcome new members to our committee at any time.

by Viola Bagnaschi, John Cheek, Nancy Cobden, and Tom Doyle

### LITURGICAL RITES CELEBRATED IN 2013

Sunday/Saturday Night Holy Eucharist	53
Mid-week Eucharist	46
Private Communion	18
Confirmation/Reception	3
Weddings	2
Burials	4
Garden Blessings	1
Animal Blessings	1
Office Blessing	1

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate for Officers, Vestry, and Diocesan Convention Delegates for 2014.

#### OFFICERS

Senior Warden	Kathy Clausen	(1 year)
Junior Warden	Richard Gore, Jr.	(1 year)
Clerk	Susan Gray	(1 year)
Treasurer	Geoff Perkins	(1 year)
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Robitaille	(1 year)

#### VESTRY

Class of 2015	Susan Gore	(1 year)
Class of 2016	John Cheek	(2 years)
	Louise Robitaille	(2 years)
Class of 2017	Ian Booton	(3 years)
	Sarah Sieber	(3 years)

#### DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Diocesan Convention Delegate from Vestry	Susan Gore
Alternate Delegate from Vestry	John Cheek
Diocesan Convention Lay Delegate	Lee Cheek
Alternate Lay Delegate	Dindy Anderson

Members of the Nominating Committee were Dindy Anderson, Viola Bagnaschi, Sally Brooke, and Lynn Walker

This supplement to the Treasurer's Report is presented as evidence of the overwhelming generosity of the people of Grace Church as they respond to appeals beyond the scope of their weekly pledges.

<b>Unbudgeted Income</b>			
Gideon's Garden Pass Through Income		2950	
Ghana Baby's Home Pass Through Income		2025	
Ben's Lighthouse Pass Through Income		150	
People's Pantry Pass Through Income		570	
Lee Pantry Pass Through Income		570	
Domestic and Foreign Missionary Pass Through Income		628	
World Venture Pass Through Income		1074	
Tanzania Pass Through Income		650	
Francie's Purse Pass Through Income		3520	
Teen Christmas Pass Through Income		725	
United Thank Offering Pass Through Income		288	
Transition Pass Through Income		2500	
<b>Total Unbudgeted Income</b>		<b>15650</b>	
<b>Unbudgeted Expenses</b>			
Gideon's Garden Pass Through Expense		2592	
Ghana Baby's Home Pass Through Expense		2025	
Ben's Lighthouse Pass Through Expense		150	
People's Pantry Pass Through Expense		570	
Lee Pantry Pass Through Expense		570	
Domestic and Foreign Missionary Pass Through Expense		628	
World Venture Pass Through Expense		1074	
Tanzania Pass Through Expense		650	
Francie's Purse Pass Through Expense		6000	
Teen Christmas Pass Through Expense		725	
United Thank Offering Pass Through Expense		288	
Transition Pass Through Expense		41959	
<b>Total Unbudgeted Expense</b>		<b>57231</b>	
<b>Net</b>		<b>-41581</b>	

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**2013 Budget, 2013 Actual End-of-Year Amounts, 2024 Budget**

		2013 Budgeted	2013 Actual	2014 Budgeted
<b>INCOME</b>				
	Pledge	145712	144287	136682*
	Loose Plate	4500	5805	3000
	Special Offerings	0	1514	1000
<b>Investment Income</b>				
	Interest	300	76	27
	Diocese	42500	42969	42500
	Crane Trust	3126	3358	3300
<b>Other Income</b>				
	Flowers	1775	1816	1200
	Breaking Bread	450	525	0
	Carry-over from 2013	10191	10191	9448
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>208554</b>	<b>210541</b>	<b>197157</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Space Related</b>				
	Insurance	1798	2588	2600
	Storage Rental	3340	3293	2040
	Crissy Farm Rental & Set-up	18300	18360	18300
	67 State Rd Rental	0	10100	16800
	67 State Rd Electric	0	97	960
	67 State Rd Gas	0	155	1356
	67 State Rd Water/Sewer	0	0	500
<b>Music &amp; The Arts</b>				
	Organ/Piano Maintenance	250	0	250
	Music	500	0	500
	Choir Supplies & Resources	250	0	250
	Special Programming	250	0	0
<b>Office</b>				
	General Supplies	2000	646	1000
	Postage/Box Rental	250	189	250
	Printing/Duplicating	1000	848	1000
	Telephone/Internet	475	389	720
	Tuesday's Child	0	284	216
	Internet Hosting	0	144	144
	Church Windows/Accounting Fees	2035	2420	1740
<b>Worship</b>				
	Flowers	1380	627	1350
	Altar	225	1177	500

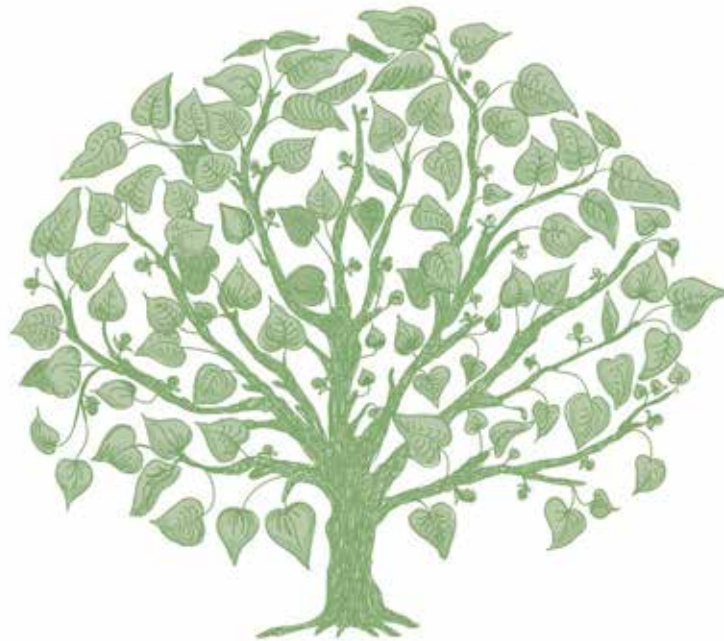


		2013 Budgeted	2013 Actual	2014 Budgeted
<b>Education</b>				
	Christian Formation	250	362	300
	Church School	150	0	150
	Music Minister Cont. Ed	0	0	0
	Vestry Formation	400	291	350
	Crane Scholarships	1500	0	1500
<b>Stewardship &amp; Evangelism</b>				
	Stewardship Expenses	150	851	550
	Advertising	2000	1267	1500
	Fellowship	450	1385	450
	Hospitality	300	-46	250
<b>Mission</b>				
	People's Pantry	1000	1000	1000
	Lee Food Pantry	1000	1000	1000
	Breaking Bread	1750	1363	1500
	Gideon's Garden	1500	1500	1500
	Mission Initiative (Wisdom Team)	500	0	0
	Diocese Local Share	21772	21776	22381
<b>Outreach</b>				
	Disbursements (Mardi Gras earnings)	10191	810	9381
<b>Rector Expenses</b>				
	Expense reimbursement	1500	1340	1350
	Discretionary Fund	800	800	800
	Continuing Ed.	500	245	500
<b>Staff</b>				
	Salaries and Benefits	105418	108382	97084
	Clergy Supply		683	5130
	Organist Supply	13000	9650	
	Nursery			
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>196184</b>	<b>193976</b>	<b>197152</b>
<b>Net</b>		<b>12370</b>	<b>16565</b>	<b>5</b>

\*Fifty pledges had been received by date of the Annual Meeting.

submitted by Geoff Perkins, Treasurer

We have worshiped as a church “without walls” for some time now. How has this experience shifted your concept of “church”? How has this last year been for you as a member of Grace Church?



# SING A NEW CHURCH

VERSES *Marcato* (♩ = ca. 92)

A D A F#m Bm A Dsus4 D

1. Sum-moned by the God who made us Rich in our di - ver - si - ty,  
 2. Ra - diant ris - en from the wa - ter, Robed in ho - li - ness and light,  
 3. Trust the good - ness of cre - a - tion; Trust the Spir - it strong with - in.  
 4. Bring the hopes of ev - 'ry na - tion; Bring the art of ev - 'ry race.  
 5. Draw to - geth - er at one ta - ble All the hu - man fam - i - ly;

A D Em7 A7 Dsus4 D

1. Gath-ered in the name of Je - sus, Rich - er still in u - ni - ty:  
 2. Male and fe - male in God's im - age, Male and fe - male, God's de - light:  
 3. Dare to dream the vi - sion prom - ised, Sprung from seed of what has been.  
 4. Weave a song of peace and jus - tice; Let it sound through time and space.  
 5. Shape a cir - cle ev - er wid - er And a peo - ple ev - er free.

## REFRAIN

A D G Bm A D A7 Bm

Let us \_ bring the gifts that dif - fer And, in \_ splen - did, var - ied ways,

A Bm D A F#m Em7 A7 Dsus4 D

Sing a new church in - to be - ing, One in faith and love and praise.

**Note:** When guitar and keyboard play together, keyboardists should improvise using the guitar chords above the melody.

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Music: NETTLETON; J. Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Pt. II*, 1813; keyboard acc. by Randall DeBruyn, b. 1947, © 1992, OCP. All rights reserved.

# GRACE CHURCH

an Episcopal Community in the Southern Berkshires

Sunday worship at: Crissey Farm, 426 Stockbridge Rd., Great Barrington, MA 01230

office: 67 State Rd., Great Barrington, MA 01230

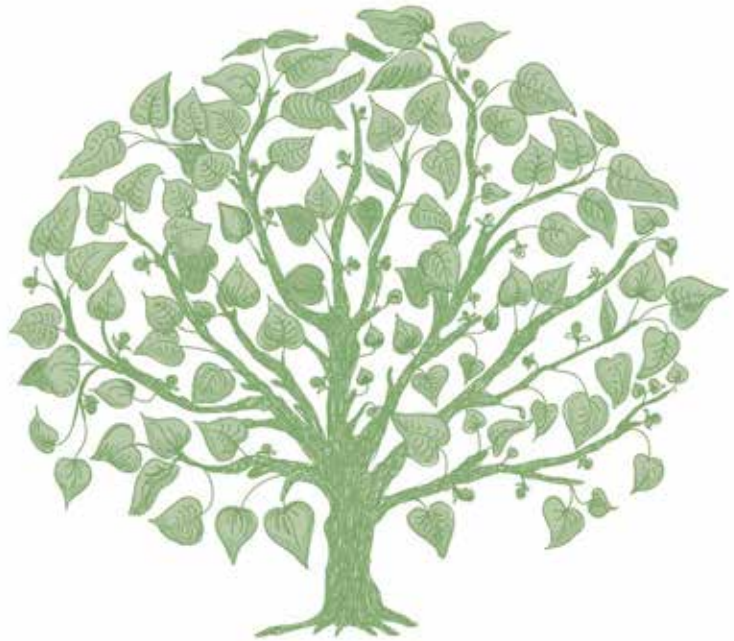
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Join us for the Third Annual Meeting of Grace Church on January 18, 2015  
Crissey Farm, 426 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington, Massachusetts