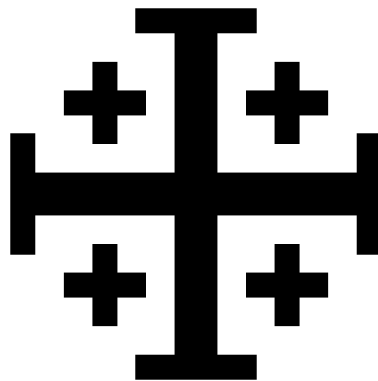


GRACE GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Annual Meeting of the Parish

January 27, 2013



The Annual Report – 2012

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church
Portland, Oregon

Annual Meeting of the Parish



AGENDA

January 27, 2013

Opening Prayer	The Rev. Esme Jo Rymer Culver
Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting	
Recognitions	The Rev. Stephen Schneider
Report of the Vestry Nominating Committee and election of persons to serve on the Vestry [Vote required]	George Fleming, Senior Warden
Financial Report for 2012 and Presentation of the 2013 budget	Maya Crawford, Treasurer George Fleming, Senior Warden
Acceptance of reports as printed	The Rev. Stephen Schneider
Presentation	The Rev. Stephen Schneider
Other Business	
Blessing and Adjournment	The Rev. Stephen Schneider



The mission of Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, a parish for all people, is to extend God's gracious love and hospitality to each other and to the community by providing worship that inspires, opportunities for service and growth on life's journey,
and a sacred place in the heart of the city where people can find wholeness and strength.

Annual Meeting of the Parish

**January 29, 2012
Minutes**

Opening Prayer: The annual meeting was called to order at 11:40 am after the opening prayer offered by the Reverend Stephen Schneider.

Minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting: Meeting minutes for the January 30, 2011 annual meeting were read and approved as written. Motion passed.

Recognitions: The Angeline Barry award was presented to Hale McMahon in recognition of his services to Rahab's Sisters.

The Reverend Stephen Schneider thanked all who provided leadership in the past year, including members of the Vestry, Grace Foundation and Grace Institute board members, clergy, staff, and volunteers. Outgoing members of the Vestry: Peyton Sneed, Senior Warden, Mary Olson, Clerk, and Kathleen Chapman were especially commended for their years of service.

Mariann Koop-McMahon, previously parish secretary, who has moved to a new role in Grace Institute, was presented with a gift to mark her years of service.

Report of the Vestry Nominating Committee/Election of Persons to Serve on the Vestry: Peyton Sneed, Senior Warden, reported that the following names are placed in nomination by the Vestry Nominating Committee to serve as follows: Class of 2015: Rob Beck, Dan Heuvel, Susie Jeffries, and Peggy Panarella. After a call for nominations from the floor, the named persons were elected to the Vestry by acclamation. Motion passed.

Financial Report for 2011 and Presentation of the 2012 Budget: George Fleming, Treasurer, presented the financial report for the year ended December 31, 2011 and the budget for 2012 as approved by the Vestry. After questions and discussion, the financial report and the 2012 budget were accepted as submitted.

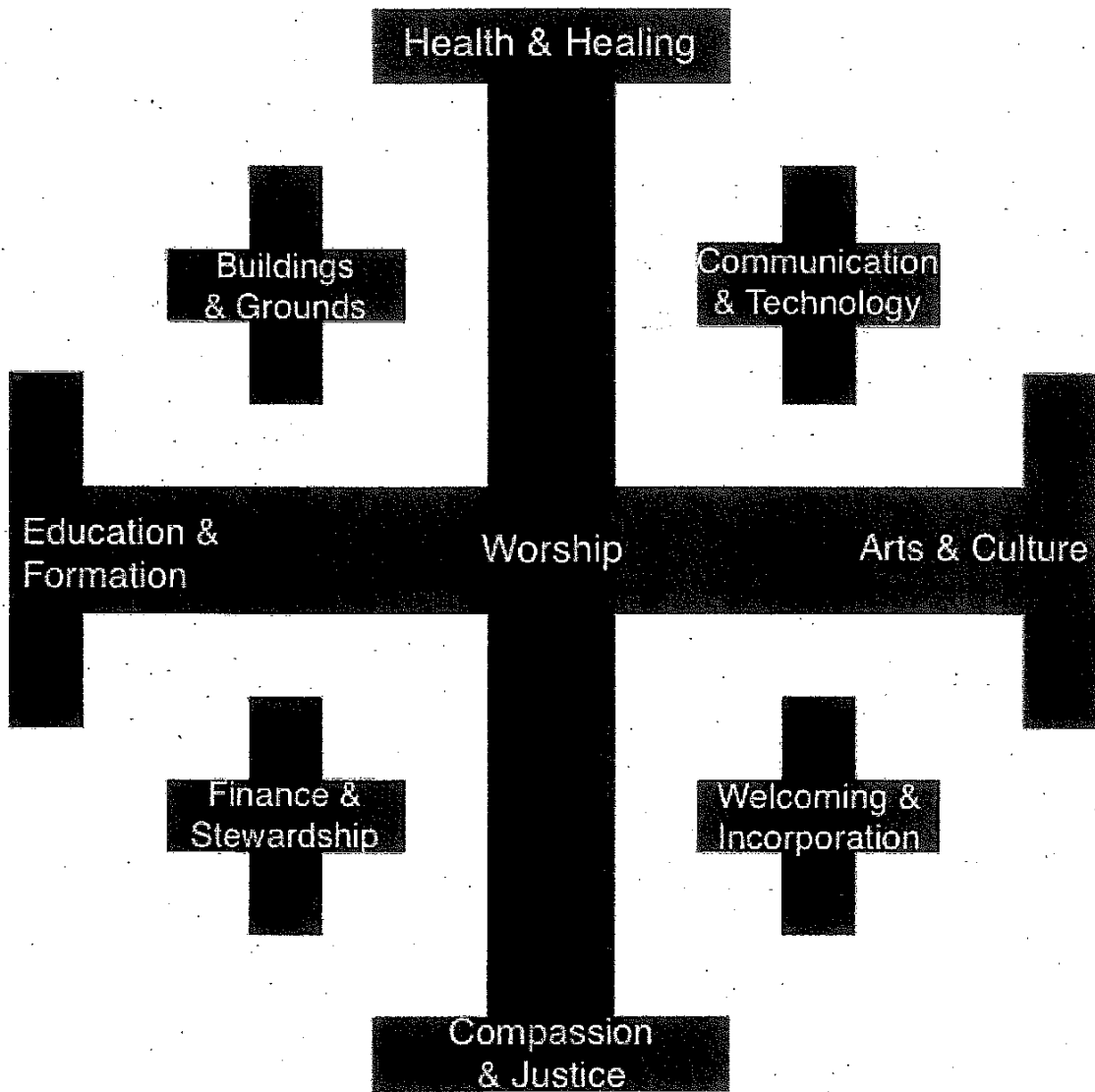
Acceptance of Reports as Printed: The Reverend Stephen Schneider presented the reports included in the Annual Meeting package. These were accepted as submitted.

State of Grace: The Reverend Stephen Schneider reported on the highlights of the past year, including among others: the introduction of Grace Storyworks and Godly Play for the younger members, the Global Marketplace, the publishing of the new parish directory, welcoming PHAME Academy to the campus, the successful annual auction, the completion of the Columbarium, the development of the Master Plan, the very successful Art Camp, and the website renewal. He thanked all who made these achievements possible.

Web, Social Media and Beyond: The Reverend Stephen Schneider demonstrated some of the capabilities of the new website.

Blessing and Adjournment: The Reverend Stephen Schneider adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm with a blessing.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mary Olson
Clerk to the Vestry*



The State of Grace

The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider, Rector

Dwight Zscheile has just written a new and provocative book, *People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity*. Drawing from his own personal experience, Zscheile contrasts two stories:

[There is] a narrative that dominates American life today – that you are what you learn or achieve, that identity must be cobbled together from a wide array of shifting possibilities, that you must work incessantly at securing meaning and community because these things are not given. Amidst competition, consumerism, anxiety, and opportunity, life is what you make of it, largely on your own. Underneath these swirling waters of struggle and flux like deep currents of meaninglessness, isolation, and despair in a world where the modern myths of endless progress have been exhausted and the future is ambiguous.

[There is] an alternative story, one in which every human life is precious beyond measure, created for loving relationship with the source of all life. In this story, your worth is given, not earned. Rather than bearing the weight of making it all up as you go, you find yourself in a common narrative that goes back many generations. You were welcomed into a community of unlike people where difference need not be cause for division, as is so often the case in our world. You are offered forgiveness for your faults and errors, for the violence you do to others and this earth, and so are released to forgive others and break the cycle of hatred and retribution. You are claimed by a love and power beyond your own. You were held in the arms of grace. And in that embrace you are freed to participate in the restoration of human community and all creation.

We are people of two stories — the story proclaimed by our surrounding culture and the alternative story of faith. At Grace, we are a people who have cast our lot with the alternative story. We are part of a movement of Christians seeking to chart a path forward during this time of post-Christendom.

A Church for the 21st Century

This alternative story is reflected in Grace's mission plan, *A Church for the 21st Century*, adopted in November of 2009 and amended in June of 2012. This plan continues to shape our common life as we seek to embody what Jesus referred to as life in the kingdom or "the dream of God."

At the center of the plan is our statement of purpose:

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, following in the way of Jesus, seeks to effect transformational change in individuals, in our Portland neighborhoods, and in other communities near and far. To do this we will engage our spiritual, human and financial resources in creative partnerships with people and organizations to further God's work in our world.

This purpose was reflected in the plan by four goals for our parish. In this year's report on *The State of Grace*, once again I would like to comment on some of the ways we have sought to move forward in the pursuit of these goals.

Goal 1: Welcome all who come to Grace and engage them in a deeper relationship with God and with one another.

Welcome is central to the life our community. It happens in many ways. This past year, under the leadership of Larry and Lee Ann Snyder, our Welcoming Team continued both to plan and

to act. A highlight of the year was creation of new nametags (with lanyard and clip-on options), thanks to the hard work of the Snyders and Brandon Stauffer.

Our parish's official welcoming statement is seen each week on our service bulletins:

"We welcome into full membership persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic level. We recognize, celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We hold that discrimination is incompatible with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We affirm all relationships founded on the principles of God's love and justice."
(Adopted by the Vestry, June 6, 2006)

A large group of new members were welcomed in the fall of 2012.

Goal 2: Transform lives by practicing and teaching the Christian way of life in all that we do and all that we are.

To be followers in the way of Jesus requires practice and practice is the work of Christian formation. Over the past year, Christian formation has been an ongoing process at Grace. We did this at all ages and levels.

For children — through two classes that met weekly during the school year, *Godly Play* (younger children) and *Grace Story Works* (older children) and during the summer through *Summer Church School*. A faithful group of volunteer leaders, artists and teachers make these excellent offerings possible.

For youth — through the Sunday Evening Grace Youth Group emphasizing fellowship, faith formation and service under the leadership of Mother Esme Culver. New directions for youth ministry that include global mission trips for High School Youth was explored in a fall parent meeting and a Rite 13 program was planned for Middle School Youth in 2013.

For adults — through the Benedictine Community, The Catechumenate, Bible Study offerings, Adult Classes (including discernment workshops), and Grace Lectures offered this past year by Nigel Nicholson ("The Martyrdom of St. Perpetua"), David Galaty ("Darwin, the Bible and the Church" and "Albert Einstein and the Thoughts of God") and Andrew Eshleman ("Freedom and the Sovereignty of the Good").

For families — through a revived and well-received Grace Family Camp that was held this year on Labor Day weekend at the Cedar Ridge Conference and Retreat Center in Vernonia.

On December 8th Grace Memorial expanded its role in hosting the 42nd National Theological Conference of Trinity Institute on the theme, *The Radical Christian Life*. With featured speakers Sr. Joan Chittister and Fr. Richard Rohr, over 60 people shared in the daylong conference. This year an expanded group of co-sponsors included Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon, along with several Episcopal and Roman Catholic parishes. A follow-up evening where the keynote address by Joan Chittister was replayed drew a group of 50 from the Grace community.

Grace Memorial helped to fund and co-sponsor with the Muslim Educational Trust a special lecture in April of 2012 featuring prominent Muslim scholar, Dr. Tariq Ramadan – *The Quest for Meaning: Pluralism and Islam in the West*.

Goal 3: Establish Grace as a vital center of community in Portland.

Weekday afternoons during the school year Grace is animated with the rhythms and sounds of PHAME Academy, the region's leading nonprofit arts organization for adults with developmental disabilities. As a result of this partnership over 70 young adults attend weekly classes at Grace in music, theatre and the visual arts. During 2012 Grace entered into a two-year agreement with PHAME, providing office (Grace House) and program space in the Parish House and Sanctuary,

During 2012 we continued our valued partnership with the New City Initiative, now a separate nonprofit building a bridge between religious congregations and homeless individuals and families making transitions off the streets. Robb Beck, working with Fr. Paul Schroeder of the New City Initiative, coordinated "Just Glass" art classes led by Nancie Mann with JOIN clients and Friday dinner patrons

Again this year the wider community was drawn to Grace through the annual Art Faire and Bazaar sponsored by Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and led by ECW President Susan Germundson, with Sharon Loomis-Malin and Connie Sullivan Lovett. Marsha Sharpe once again prepared a memorable luncheon.

Grace is perhaps best known in the wider community through Grace Art Camp, the major program of our affiliated nonprofit, Grace Institute. Under the leadership of Mother Esme Culver, the Camp Director, Grace Art Camp served 1,180 youth this past summer focusing on the Andean culture of Peru and offering summer employment experiences to a large number of artists and youth (See Mother Esme's "Grace Institute" report on pages 27 - 28).

The Grace Community Center Auction, under the creative leadership of a team led for a second year by Dale and Patti Walhood, was a huge success. Team members included Mary Olson, Becky Wong, George Fleming, Julie Romberg and Nancy McCusker. The auction supports our community outreach efforts through the Grace Memorial Community Center.

A well-attended solo piano concert on Prudence Edwards Denney Steinway Grand Piano featuring keyboard virtuoso Byron Schenkman was held in September.

Several thousand visitors to the Parish House each year see exhibits in the Grace Gallery with bimonthly shows curated by Bill Kramer and assisted by Phillip Barasch. This fall a special Arts Night, with presentation and reception, was held in the Community Center with photomontage artist, Friderike Heuer, to accompany a Grace Gallery showing of her work, "Affirmation & Negation."

Again this year the Grace Community Center continued to host a wide range of organizations, including ten 12-step meetings that consider Grace their home.

Goal 4: Inspire and engage everyone we touch in the experience of love of neighbor in Portland and around the world.

Our weekly Friday Community Dinners, under the faithful leadership of Hale McMahon and hosted in partnership with Westminster Presbyterian Church, continued to feed both body and soul.

The Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry led by Ann Heuvel with her crew of volunteers provide lunches each week Tuesday through Thursday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Under the leadership of Mother Esme, Global Grace — a growing and evolving partnership between Grace Parish and Grace Institute — charted a new path to building a global mission consciousness through creative exchanges, resource sharing and constructive engagement.

These are just a few of the many ways we have pursued the four goals we set forth in the Mission Plan over this past year.

Worship

Worship is at the heart of all that we do. This past year we held two Eucharistic services each Sunday morning, with an additional service for families with young children on the first Sunday of the month. In addition, each Thursday morning there was a Eucharist at 9:30 am and each Wednesday a service of Evening Prayer at 6:00 pm. Monthly Eucharists were held at both Holladay Park Plaza and Calaroga Terrace. In addition to these regular services, seasonal services were held on Christmas Eve and Day, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday and in Holy Week.

During the summer months we held three special Sunday Eucharists: an instructed Eucharist, a Courtyard Eucharist featuring Southern Harmony music and a Peruvian Mass with El Grupo Condor (a Peruvian musical group who had been involved with 2012 Grace Art Camp).

The Grace Campus

Under the strong leadership of Junior Warden Dan Heuvel a large number of campus improvement projects were undertaken (including a large tree removal project and interior painting in the Halsey House).

The Campus Master Planning Committee, under the leadership of Paddy Tillett, made significant progress during 2012 toward the creation of an action plan for presenting to the Vestry and the congregation. The plan will draw upon the work of an outstanding panel of design professionals who were engaged by Paddy Tillett on behalf of the committee.

Digital Grace

During 2012, we have made continual improvements to the Grace Memorial and Grace Institute websites that increase the capacity to share the life of Grace with the digital world.

In 2011, Vestry missionary Martha Humphrey created the logo that appears on both website and in 2012 designed new business cards for both Grace Memorial and Grace Institute employing the Grace logo. It is planned that the logo will make its appearance in other ways during 2013.

Finance and Stewardship

The Vestry took steps during 2012 to improve our financial system, redesigning our budget format and establishing a new approach to management agreements with our two affiliated corporations — Grace Institute and Grace Foundation.

In the fall of 2012, under the guidance of stewardship consultant Paula Franck we continued to build upon the fresh approach to stewardship begun in 2011. This year the theme for New Consecration Sunday was “Practice Generosity.”

Diocese of Oregon

As part of its Mutual Ministry Agreement with the Diocese of Oregon, Grace implemented a Signature Ministry consulting program, using Grace Art Camp as a model. A packet of Grace Resources was distributed to all the congregations in the diocese. A report for 2012 on this Mutual Ministry Agreement was presented to Bishop Michael Hanley.

Since “Gospel Justice” was the theme of the 2012 Diocesan Convention, a special report on “Gospel Justice at Grace” was presented to the Bishop and is available on the Grace website.

In Appreciation

I am most grateful to the leadership provided by the Vestry of our parish. Our two Wardens, Senior Warden George Fleming and Junior Warden Dan Heuvel, have given tirelessly of their time and wisdom to the leadership of the parish. Retiring from the Vestry this year are George Fleming, Martha Humphrey and Lee Ann Snyder. Each has left a lasting mark upon the life of the Grace community during their term of Vestry service.

I also appreciate the faithful service given by those who lead and serve on the boards of our two related corporations: Grace Institute (Kari Stanley, President) and Grace Foundation (Gary Tuck, President).

This year we welcomed Ellie Martin to the parish staff as Administrative Assistant. I also want to thank the other members of the staff of the parish who have served us capably during the year: Janet Pickner (Business Manager), Keaka Loo (Sexton), and Jill Hartley (Nursery Coordinator).

Our organist and choir director, Susan Jensen, is a treasure. We are so fortunate to have her with us, sharing her love of music, Anglican worship and a unique pastoral sensitivity.

I continue to be grateful for the leadership given to our community by our gifted Associate Rector and Director of Grace Institute, the Rev. Esme J.R. Culver. In countless ways she tirelessly ministers to our parish family while also giving leadership to the growing programs of Grace Institute.

We are also most fortunate to have the active presence of two priest associates, The Rev. D. Corbet Clark, D.Min. and The Rev. Stephen Whitney-Wise. I also honor Bishop William B. Spofford who continues to inspire us all as he enters his 92nd year.

A Concluding Word

During 2012 I was selected as President-Elect of the Board of Trustees of Pioneer Courthouse Square, while co-chairing the Square's program committee. I was elected as Vice-President of the Board of Directors of Holladay Park Plaza. This year in the Diocese of Oregon I continued to serve as the clergy member of the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees and was asked by the Bishop to serve as a member of the 2012 Diocesan Convention Planning Committee.

I am especially grateful this year for Ann and for each of the members of my family, who along with those of you in the community of Grace, offered prayers and provided strong support at the time of the death of my father, Vance W. Schneider, who entered the larger life of God on December 8, 2012.

Finally, I continue to be honored to serve the Community of Grace as Rector.

*Faithfully,
Stephen V. Schneider*

Associate Rector's Report

I give thanks for God's continuing call for me to minister at Grace and it is with a deeply grateful heart that I serve as a priest to this congregation as I approach my 7th anniversary as Associate Rector. My gratitude extends to Fr. Stephen Schneider, the Vestry and to the Grace congregation, for your continued support of my ministry here. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those with whom I work closely, those who inspire me with their grace and dedication to God's work, and to all those who enter with me into a deeper knowledge of God.

It has been a very busy, successful and fulfilling year which included:

- Participating in regular rotation for preaching, presiding at Sunday services.
- Presiding and assisting at weddings and funerals, conducting or participating in a variety of sacramental functions, Youth Day and other special liturgies throughout the year, on and off the Grace campus.
- Caring for specific pastoral concerns throughout the parish and offering spiritual and vocational and discernment direction.
- Participating with the Rector at parish business meetings including Vestry and other parish-related committees, Coordinating lay ministers for Grace including Grace Acolyte Guild, lay readers, intercessors and chalice bearers.
- Carrying responsibility for a wide variety of faith-formation, programmatic events and parish-related events on and off campus.

It was my pleasure this year to provide leadership to several wonderful groups, programs and events:

- The Grace Women's Retreat at Alton Collins Retreat Center held March 2 - 4, 2012. *I give special thanks to Jo Bronson for her assistance in preparation for the retreat and to members of the Women's Retreat planning committee for their ideas, assistance and dedication.*
- The Benedictine Way, added a new group this year. St. Hildegard of Bingen meets weekly on Tuesdays and St. Gregory the Great meets weekly on Thursday evenings. Both groups came together to sponsor "An Evening with Joan Chittister," on Wednesday, December 19th. Over 50 parishioners enjoyed Benedictine style radical welcome and hospitality with good food and fellowship while enjoying a replay of Sister Chittister's address to Trinity Wall Street's "Radical Christianity" Conference. The Way also offered Morning Prayer and Breakfast with Benedict for each week in Advent and one week in Lent. *I give thanks and appreciation to Peggy Panarella for her wonderful leadership of the St. Hildegard group.*
- Pre-Holy Week Quiet Day held at The Bishop's Close on March 31st.
- The Grace Catechumenate, which meets from January to Pentecost, brought together a wonderful group of deeply committed parishioners, all of whom are currently moving forward in individual discipleship and study.
- "Bible Basics": A bible study group which meets each Sunday at 9:00am continues to be well attended, growing and lively.
- Youth Faith Formation working with several resources including *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens* by Dorothy Bass and Don Richter. Middle School Youth meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:30 pm and High School Youth holds its own meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month. As part of its leadership training, High School Youth assist in program and events for Middle School Youth. Plans begun in 2012 are underway to include High School Youth in a mission trip to a children's

orphanage in Peru. As part of its year end outreach awareness program, the youth sponsored the first of its Sunday Night at the Movies fund raising events, showing the *Muppet Christmas Carol* for the parish in December. Funds raised purchased two goats for needy third world families from Episcopal Relief and Development. I am deeply grateful to our wonderful young people who fill my heart with joy and I am thankful for their enthusiastic and involved parents!

- Continuing to cement the bonds between Grace Parish and Grace Institute by bringing the Grace Art Camp theme directly into the parish via a special liturgy, a visit from Napoleon the Alpaca and Rojo the Llama on St. Francis Day as well as several programs dedicated to Peruvian life and history. Parish youth participating in Grace Art Camp helped to create several weavings which will be taken to Peru in 2013 and inspired another weaving created by Grace Storyworks church school children for the parish. Many parish children and youth were involved in Grace Art Camp as campers, counselors and counselors-in-training. (See "Grace Institute" report on pages 27 - 28).

Other Activities during 2012:

- At the 2011 Diocesan Convention, I was elected to Diocesan Council and in 2012 completed my first year of a three year term as Chair of the Mission and Ministry Committee.

In the fall of 2012, I joined the Board of Directors for Episcopal Campus Ministry at Portland State University and am very excited for the possibilities of a wonderful ministry on campus. As a former Viking, I feel called by God to give back to this great institution that gave me a solid foundation upon which to build two careers.

- I continued participating with Between Women, a group of twelve inter-faith women (Muslim, Christian and Jewish) who gather to share our traditions and learn from each other how best to build loving interfaith, inter-traditional trust and love.
- I continue to Co-Chair the Culver Vision Fund, a fund dedicated to promoting the spirit of reconciliation and peace throughout the world and to encourage entrepreneurial and sustainable program efforts by young leaders at Mercy Corp. I am also privileged to sit on an advisory committee at Mercy Corps for North Korea Program Office and staff.

I look forward to more opportunities for our mutual formation and growth. I love my work and ministry and the people whom God has called me to serve. May God's peace surround each of you in the coming year. As always, to God be the Glory,

*Faithfully,
Esme J. R. Culver+
(and Bailey)*

From the Senior Warden

It has been an honor, privilege and pleasure to serve as your Senior Warden this past year. It has been a year full of positive activities, challenges, and many events all filled with mystical feeling of the spirit moving through our church.

The missioner model established a couple years back successfully continues to create a sense of purpose in an effort to meet the needs here at Grace. Each missioner diligently provides the love and desire in fulfilling the various roles and responsibilities placed upon them.

Your Vestry and Clergy's accomplishments were many. Here are just a few highlights:

- Change in roles and responsibilities of office employees in GMEC & Grace Institute — Functionality and economic improvement
- Generous donation from the company of a Parishioner of many beautiful cabinets, and the gracious time and efforts for installation throughout our campus.
- Completion of a two-year contract with PHAME, with increased rent expansion into other parts of the campus.
- Mid year Halsey rental house — Loss of tenant both a blessing — (a) creating an opportunity for possible expanded use by Grace Art Camp participants and a negative—(b) short time reduction in anticipated rent.
- Second year of our New Consecration Sunday — well received and a great process

It is difficult to fully express my sincere appreciation of our devoted Clergy who work tirelessly to meet all the spiritual, inspirational and demanding needs of our church and parishioners. We are truly blessed to have them here at Grace.

I want to thank all members of the Vestry for their generous gifts of time, talent and energy. They have shared their unwavering service and diligent leadership in many areas.

I will be leaving the Vestry with many unfinished tasks, but I am confident the remaining Vestry members and our new candidates, with the God's help, will meet those tasks and opportunities.

*Respectfully submitted,
George Fleming
Senior Warden*

From the Junior Warden

The Grace campus was a busy place in 2012 just as it has been most other years. Although specific activities may change from year to year, the one constant is the dedication of Grace parishioners. I want to extend my appreciation to every person who helped out during the year to make Grace a comfortable environment for worship and a pleasant place to enjoy each other's company.

The year started out with an opportunity provided by Hasson Realty. They were vacating some office space and made their high quality work station cabinetry available to us. Thanks to Curt Germundson's vision and many hours of hard work, we were able to put virtually all of the cabinets and shelving to good use. When the dust settled, we had upgraded offices both upstairs and downstairs, added storage to classrooms, installed shelving in the basement of the Halsey House and installed multiple work stations and a great deal of storage cabinetry in the Mason Burnham room.

Another significant project was the removal of the large Lombardy Poplar tree that stood just east of the Halsey Street House and a fairly large English Holly tree near the corner of 17th and Halsey. The Poplar had grown very large and made the yard space between the parking lot and the house unusable. The Holly Tree was too close to the house and had also become unmanageable. Once the Poplar was removed, the area was leveled and covered with cedar wood chips providing much needed space for a large Grace Art Camp tent. An Alaska Cedar was donated and planted near the former location of the English Holly.

The spring work party was a successful event. A partial list of tasks completed includes removal of the concrete/gravel pad and asphalt path near the kitchen stairs, removal of a low fence between the parking lot and the Halsey House yard, removal of a large amount of clutter from the community center stage, pressure washing walkways and stairs, landscape maintenance, cleaning of pews in the sanctuary, concrete repair and reinstallation of bike racks near the kitchen. The fall work party focused on much needed paint inside the Halsey House in preparation for plans to convert it to use as a space for a residential Faith Community in 2013.

This was the first year for us to enjoy the new furnace that was installed in 2011. As promised, it has proven to be much more efficient and there is no question that the church and work spaces have been more comfortable during the cold months.

It seems like there is always something being maintained, repaired, upgraded or replaced. A partial list of tasks completed this year includes: repaired communion rail and baptism font, carpets and kitchen range steam cleaned, plumbing and lighting repairs, iron gate to the breezeway painted, bike rack added on 17th street and endless work by the Altar Guild in the church and by Frank Schramling and Joanna Bailey in the yard and gardens.

As we look toward 2013 there are still some projects that remain on the "to do" list from last year and new opportunities are sure to emerge. Some preliminary work has been done on an upgrade to the sacristy with more progress scheduled in the winter and spring. A much needed and long awaited upgrade to the women's restroom in the community center should be completed this year including additional capacity, new sink/counters and new flooring.

Members of the Building and Grounds Committee will also continue to work with the Campus Design Committee on developing comprehensive, long-term plans for the future of the Grace Campus.

If anyone is interested in serving on the Building and Grounds Committee, please don't hesitate to contact me. We can always use the help and new ideas.

*Thanks to all,
Dan Heuvel, Junior Warden*

Altar Guild

This morning, the Altar Guild is hosting its annual Silver Tea in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Parish. We thank you for your support as this is our ministry's sole fundraiser with proceeds directed to meet expenses for the essential furnishings for services at Grace Memorial including linens, candles, communion wafers, and wine.

Each weekend, Altar Guild members work in teams to clean and straighten the Sanctuary, then prepare the necessary items for the celebration of the Eucharist. On Sunday mornings, the team sets up for the two or three worship services and cleans up after. Additionally, we prepare for other services including weekly communion in the Chapel, holidays, weddings, funerals, and memorial services, assisting clergy with any special needs

Earlier this year, the Guild bid long-time sacristan and Co-Directress Carol Snead Godspeed as her family relocated out of Oregon. The Guild was extremely pleased that member Nancy McCusker was appointed to the vacant position joining Alicia Cash in the duties of leading the ministry with ongoing guidance from Jennie Hosken, Directress Emeritus. Also during this year our ministry welcomed Joanna Bailey and Karen Talus as sacristans and wished Cora Olson well as she moved away to pursue further education. All of our members consider it a privilege to serve, care for the things that symbolize God's love and presence, and prepare the worship space for Holy Eucharist services. We are looking forward to welcoming more new members in this wonderful ministry in 2013.

*Respectfully submitted,
Alicia Cash and Nancy McCusker
Co-Directresses*

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King (DOK) consist of a group of committed women in the Grace Memorial Church community, who have reaffirmed their Baptismal covenant with God, and entered into a covenant of community with their sisters. We meet once monthly to pray, study God's truths, discernment of services, and ministry within the church. Our ministry for the year is completing the mailings that are required each month. We will perform at least two coffee hours. The DOK Board will attend a three day Service Leader Retreat at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center, Feb. 15, 16, and 17. This will be sponsored by Province V111 Diocesan. Throughout the year, there will be other spiritual gatherings in which to meet other DOK sisters. The DOK throughout the world have been ordained by God. DOK helps to meet three primary goals: 1) to grow in our faith, 2) to meet the challenge of living as a Christian, and 3) to continue to be transformed by the Holy Spirit.

If you have questions or concerns about the DOK, please call President Shirley Johnson at 503-243-6780. You are welcome to visit on the first Saturday of each month. We usually meet at Grace.

*For His Sake,
Shirley Johnson*

Episcopal Church Women

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of Grace includes all women who attend Grace Memorial Church. We strongly encourage all women to attend our meetings and become involved in making the ECW an active part of the Grace Community. We do ask members to make a \$5.00 contribution each year, which helps us to pay our dues to the ECW of Oregon.

In 2012 we added an event to our calendar. We had our first Mother's Day tea. The tea was well attended and a lot of fun as participants were encouraged to wear their favorite hat. The hats ranged from elegant to the lovely fruit covered straw hat, which included its own fly swatter. This event, which was intended as a community building activity, also raised about \$400 for the ECW.

Our main event continues to be the Holiday Art Faire & Bazaar held on the second Saturday in December. Last year it was held on December 8th and included 21 artists from our own parish and the wider Grace Community. A portion of the artist's sales goes directly to the ECW. One of the largest moneymakers of the bazaar is the food booth. We also continued our tradition of having a wonderful lunch provided this year by Marsha and Will Sharpe. The St. Mary's Guild offered a beautiful star quilt, which raised almost \$1,000. All of these together helped the ECW to net a little over \$4,500. This annual event has been ECW's main source of income since the 1940s.

With funds raised, ECW makes grants to parish programs and other organizations. The ECW budget for this is based on the amount raised each year. These grants are divided into three main designations: Church, Clergy and Parish House, Service for Parishioners and Gifts to the Community.

In 2012 ECW fundraising specifically supported Women's Retreat scholarships, Grace Art Camp scholarships and Clergy Discretionary Funds (crucial in these challenging economic times). ECW was also able to fund teapots, coffee pots, spoons for the kitchen and supplies for St. Mary's Guild to continue their quilting work.

At the January 2011 meeting it was decided that officers would be elected for a two-year term. The officers elected in January of 2011 were Susan Germundson – president; Connie Sullivan – vice president; Sharon Loomis-Malin – secretary and Jessica Jones – Treasurer. Now that we are in 2013 we will be holding elections and we would love to have some new officers! Look for the date of our next meeting in the Grace eNotes.

Again, we would love to have all women of Grace attend a meeting and let us know how we can better serve the needs of the women of Grace.

Respectfully submitted by the Officers of the ECW

Friday Community Dinners

In 2012, Grace Episcopal Church and Westminster Presbyterian together served approximately 3,400 meals to low-income, single people, families, older retired folks, the homeless, all of whom enjoyed the freshly cooked, wholesome food and the pleasure of being waited on. We are seeing a larger number of guests than past years: on the second Friday of September we had a record 98 guests.

A dedicated group of volunteers, both members of Grace as well as “friends” of Grace, serve the food, wash the dishes and clean up afterwards. The cooks, in particular, are due generous thanks for all the work they do, shopping for the food and preparing the meals. It can easily take eight or more hours to prepare a meal. The following is a list of those who currently cook for the Friday Meals:

- Nora McLaughlin
- Eddie Miller*
- Bob Zimmer
- The Heuvels
- Corbet Clark
- Hale McMahon

* Eddie, who with his wife joined Grace this year, likes to cook and wasted little time joining our group.

On two different occasions, students from Oregon Episcopal School spent an afternoon preparing and baking apple pies. Our guests appreciated the pies, especially because it was a group of young people who made them.

For the past twelve years, on the second Friday of each month, Grace has prepared twenty extra meals to support the RAHAB Sisters outreach to the women workers on 82nd Street. We intend to continue this support.

Generous support for the Friday Dinners was shown at the auction last fall when the “paddle raise” resulted in donations totaling \$9,126. A heartfelt “Thank You” from all of us who work on this program and from the hundreds of guests who enjoy a meal in our Parish Hall every Friday.

*Respectfully,
Hale McMahon
Coordinator*

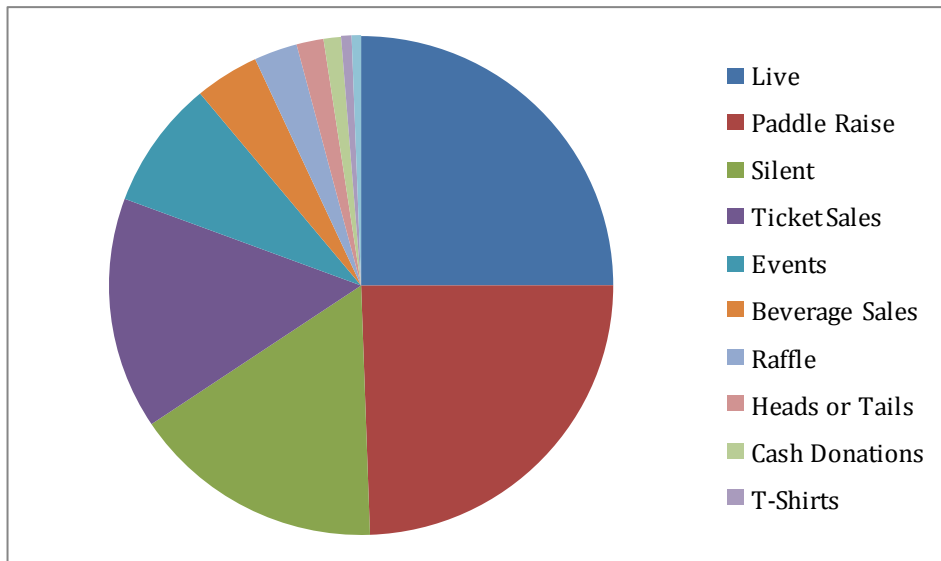
Grace Community Center Auction

Our 2012 Annual Auction followed Grace Art Camp’s Peruvian theme as “An Evening in Peru,” when about 160 guests gathered in the Community Center for a very successful and hugely fun and festive event. We had Peruvian inspired appetizers and family style dinner (by Catering Beyond Borders) and music by Byron Mercurius and Geraldo Calderon. Bright decorations produced by Art Camp participants enlivened the hall.

The auction is our primary fundraiser to maintain our Community Center, which houses various outreach services, mission projects and responsibilities to our local community, including Grace Art Camps, PHAME (theatre program for adults with disabilities), recovery support groups, our Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry, and the Friday Community Dinners.

The evening featured a live auction, silent auction, a “wall of wine,” raffle, and event sign-ups (see pie chart below). All items were provided by many generous donors from the parish and the local business community.

The core auction team consisted of George Fleming, Nancy McCusker and Maya Crawford from the vestry, as well as Dale and Patty Walhood, Mary Olson, Becky Wong and Julie Romberg.



Labyrinth Guild

During 2012 the Grace Labyrinth Guild has offered opportunities for parishioners and the community to prayerfully walk the labyrinth, an ancient sacred path, a metaphor for a pilgrimage to the Divine within.

New Year's Day Labyrinth Peace Walk

As we have for many years on January 1st, Grace Labyrinth Guild offered a New Year's Day Labyrinth Peace walk. We opened with a simple ritual, an orientation by Ann Schneider, music provided by Suzanne Cerdeau, harpist and Laila Murphy, flutist and closing with simple circle dances by Jane Rickenbaugh. The art studio was open for creative response. A marketplace with artistic items and books was available. More than 150 individuals participated.

Easter Dances on the Labyrinth Workshop

A workshop held shortly after Easter was organized by Ann Schneider with a historical presentation of the dances which were done on Easter during the 1500's. These dances done on the labyrinth, represented the path of Jesus from death to resurrection as describe in recent historical scholarship in "The Maze and the Warrior." Participants of the workshop danced the "pelota" with the original music, Victimae Pascale Laudes.

Food Labyrinth:

A special food labyrinth was the project of by the children of Grace Storyworks. Food was generously collected from parish members, and the children built the labyrinth walls on the classical labyrinth set up on the floor of the community center by Guild members. This year, the children also assisted the Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry Coordinator, Ann Heuvel, in assembling lunches to see where the food would go. She explained how the food is given out weekly and she shared stories. Parishioners were invited to walk this food labyrinth mindful of the concrete needs of our community. The children also learned to draw and pray the labyrinth using finger labyrinths.

Episcopal Convention

We were invited to participate at the Episcopal Convention at the Oregon Convention Center by setting up our classical labyrinth next to the chapel. Delegates and visitors were encouraged to walk the labyrinth and pray for the wellbeing of the convention and the churches of this diocese. The Labyrinth Guild of St. Lukes, hung the names of each parish of this diocese like prayer flags around the labyrinth.

Broader Labyrinth Network

We were connected with the Labyrinth Network Northwest when reports were given from The Labyrinth Society gathering in Minneapolis, Minn. and for the spring tea and walk to learn more about the activities of the LNN throughout Portland metro area.

Veriditas facilitators were invited to attend the Veriditas Board Retreat at Menucha Conference Center to share "labyrinth" happenings in our region and to learn more about this vital organization which is based in San Francisco and started by Rev. Lauren Artress.

New Year's Day 2013

On Jan 1, 2013, we hosted the annual Labyrinth Peace Walk with at least 150 folks coming to walk and pray as a way to start their year off. This walk also honored Diane Kebo, loyal labyrinth pilgrim and guild member for many years. We opened with a simple prayer for peace and closed with simple circle dances to gather the energy of those who walked and prayed during the day.

Linda Dodds offered an orientation to walking the labyrinth. Licia Seaman, harpist and Leila Murphy, flautist shared their gifts of live music to refresh the spirit of those present.

We collaborated with Trinity Labyrinth Guild and Westminster Labyrinth Guild members who assisted us with the set up and “warming” of the labyrinth.

Guild Volunteers who generously made this all possible.

Jessica Jones, Julie Romberg, Barbara Kelsey, Debbie McDuffee, Peggy Panarella, Claudia Frahm, Becky Wong, Jo Bronson, Joy Finley, Verna Graue, Evelyne Meade, Stephen Whitney-Wise, Yetunde Laniran, Melanie Marcus, John Morrison, Kathleen Chapman, Frank Schramling, Harley Grosvenor.

Respectfully,

The Grace Labyrinth Guild

Mary Olson – Communication specialist

Linda Dodds & Ann Schneider – Veriditas facilitators

Alicia Cash – Liaison to children’s ministries

Music at Grace

First I would like to extend a note of thanks on behalf of the congregation and vestry to all the musicians of our parish who have so loyally contributed their gifts of time and talent through music ministry to the glory of God in our worship services.

Special thanks to our dedicated and hard-working Coventry Choir – who joyfully sing and help to lead music at fifty-plus services a year. Coventry Choir members are a diverse group of dedicated people: librarians, educators, computer specialists, pharmacists, homemakers, retirees and others, some with music training, some not. What we have in common is a love of music and the desire to praise God. The motto of J.S. Bach: “To God alone be the glory” is the foundation of the choir; in all that we do, in all that we sing, our intent is to glorify God.

The choir is a group of people who have become a family; who work hard together and play together. The choir continued to have terrific brunches, parties, and social gatherings throughout the year. From Byrd to spirituals and Bach to Britten, we become acquainted, learn and share some of the great sacred music of all ages. I am grateful for the choir’s hard work, love of sacred choral music, dedication, loyalty and commitment. They are at the foundation of the music ministry of Grace. Other special musical highlights have included special music by Sally Kuhns (former Assistant Principal Trumpet of the Oregon Symphony) performing at Easter, Renaissance music by Bruce and Gwyneth van Buskirk at Christmas Eve and Epiphany services, and Kevin Walsh, baritone and John Strege (retired Canon/Director of Music of Trinity Cathedral) who provided some special music during the summer.

The sanctuary continues to become a musical mecca for some of the best musicians in the city to perform concert offerings. The musical concert highlight of this past year was a wonderful recital of the music of Mozart performed in September by guest artist Byron Schenkman on the still new Steinway B piano given to the parish in memory of Prudence Edwards Denney by her family. It was an extraordinary concert! There were in addition to this annual Music at Grace concert several other stellar concerts performed by The Ensemble, Allora, Wayward Sisters, and the Portland Viol Consort.

In all, it was a fabulous year of music ministry!

A special THANK YOU to Pat Burger (recently retired from the choir) who dutifully organized and maintained the Choir Library for these many past years. And a special thank you to Patty Walhood who continues to help with vestment maintenance.

Many thanks to Debbie McDuffee for her singing in the cantor and solo roles. I also would like to extend an appreciation to our Grace Bellringers who have helped to enrich our worship ministry through their gifts of ringing handbells on special feast days. Many thanks to Alicia Lehrle (Bell Captain), Connie Sullivan, Louise Tippens, and Debbie McDuffee who help to ring bells at special services.

We welcome new members to the choir and to the bell choir! We welcome members to this marvelous community of faith, fellowship and music ministry and to come sing in the Coventry choir, play Dutch liturgical handbells, participate in a seasonal youth choir, and contribute in all ways that give you a voice of song to glorify God.

Thank you all for your wonderful, kind and generous support in the music ministry at Grace.

*Blessings to you,
Susan Jensen
Music Director / Organist*

St. Mary's Guild

Working with the support of the Episcopal Church Women of Grace, the St. Mary's Guild "officially" gathers the second and third Saturdays each month to sew, quilt, crochet and knit projects officially sponsored by the Guild. The group also gathers most other Saturdays to continue its outreach work, to work on individual projects or to learn. There are several components to the Guild that make it integral to the life of our parish and an example of the many different and creative ways we do ministry and outreach at Grace Memorial.

We make blankets to give to those who need them.

Since 2003, we have been making quilts and blankets to give to Bradley Angle House, a program that provides shelter and related services for women and children escaping domestic violence. After a special blessing during the 10:00 am service on December 9, 2012, fifty new and unique quilts and blankets were presented to Bradley Angle just in time for Christmas. (In 2011, the Guild presented 37 quilts.)

We sponsor the quilt project for Grace's annual Grace Art Faire & Holiday Bazaar.

This quilt project is a multi-faceted work of art involving collaboration and creative challenge. It is raffled off at the December Art Faire. The 2011 opportunity quilt – "The Japan Quilt" – began as a prayerful response to the earthquakes and tsunamis in Japan. Half of the proceeds, approximately \$600, were sent to assist ongoing recovery efforts in Japan through Mercy Corps and its Japanese partner, Peace Winds.

In 2012, the annual quilt project featured beautiful stars within a secondary optical illusion and was based on 1 Corinthians 15: 41b – "...one star differs from another in glory." The long-arm quilting was contributed by master quilter Pat Roche. The star quilt was unveiled to the Parish in November as part of a Grace Gallery show "The Art of the Quilt." Revenue from the raffle will be used to support a variety of outreach programs critical to the life of the parish and the communities we serve. Our 2013 quilt, which is just underway, will feature a dynamic variation of the flying geese pattern in blues/greens and their color complements.

We treasure our relationships with one another.

As we begin our tenth year we find that getting together to work on outreach quilts, joint projects or on our own tasks in the company of others who represent a wide range of age groups is a great blessing and joy! We meet most Saturdays in the Mason Burnham Room at Grace, and we have had the pleasure of welcoming several new members this past year. St. Mary's welcomes women of all ages and skill levels to join us, and, if you are a beginner, we will teach you what you need to know.

In 2012, our work was greatly assisted by donated materials. (We do welcome donations of 100% cotton fabric, and we believe there is almost no such thing as ugly fabric.) Cash donations were used to purchase additional supplies such as thread, quilt batting and backing fabric.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mariann Koop-McMahon, Co-coordinator
Ann Schneider, Co-coordinator*

Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry

I would like to thank everyone in the Grace Community for all the generous food donations throughout the year. Special thanks to the children pre-K through 6th grade, and the Labyrinth Guild for their continued support.

The Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry serves low income and homeless individuals Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. This year we gave out:

- 1,342 lunches (up 212 from 2011)
- 534 socks (up 334 from 2011)
- 120 gloves
- 100 hats
- 7 sweaters

The lunch program has three regular volunteer members who each work one day per week. We have a very small list of substitute volunteers who fill in when needed. We would welcome more people for regular rotation or for the substitute list.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Heuvel*

Welcoming Committee

Committee Members:

Bindhu and Cary Newell, Brandon Stauffer, Claudia Frahm, George and Judy Fleming, Larry and Lee Ann Snyder, Michael Liljenwall, Peggy Panarella, Sally Fraser, Yetunde Laniran, Father Stephen Schneider, and Mother Esme Culver.

The welcoming committee has had a productive year, culminating with the introduction of our new name tags. Special thanks for this project are again due to Committee members Michael Liljenwall and Brandon Stauffer for layout and assembly. We are making name tags for children and they will be on the kiosk with the adults. The good news is that nametags are being used!

Photo Directory Updates

Michael has taken photos of most new members. He will work with Brandon to design an update insert for the existing directories. The new photos and contact information will be incorporated into the master file so new directories will be up to date.

Coffee Hour

Yetunde Lanarian is now heading coffee hour and has been invited to become a member of the welcoming committee. We have a new coffee making system which is much improved. It was purchased with the "kitchen upgrade" funds.

Ushers

Sally Fraser has graciously consented to take over the Head Usher role from Larry Snyder and is also a new member of the Welcoming Committee.

*Larry and Lee Ann Snyder
Co-Chairs*

Just Arts Ministry

The Just Glass Arts program continues to evolve and explore new options as Grace moves forward in its journey with those experiencing homelessness. Over the past summer we engaged in a series of classes culminating in a successful December art show. Artists were asked to depict times in their lives when they were happy and when they felt challenged. The art was created over a series of classes in the summer and a number of the artists joined in the opening night of their show at the Friday Community Dinner. Nancie Mann did an excellent job of teaching the classes and coordinating the display.

We will continue to look for new creative avenues to explore - perhaps a labyrinth walk or ceramics arts - throughout the rest of the year.

*Regards,
Robb Beck*

Grace Foundation

The Grace Foundation had another successful year working with the new investment manager, Trillium Asset Management.

As in the past, the Foundation has assisted the Grace Institute by funding specific projects to support Institute programs and efforts. The foundation approved the Institute's written proposal in the amount of \$24,000 for seven different projects.

A new approach to the memorandum of understanding between the Parish and the Foundation was approved.

Trustees for 2012:

Bobbi Anderson

Maya Crawford

Charlotte Cresswell

Sally Fraser, Secretary

Nicole Peterson, Treasurer

Larry Snyder

Stephen Schneider

Gary Tuck, President

*Prepared for the Foundation by,
The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider*

Grace Institute

2012 was a highly successful year for Grace Institute. Through God's Grace and the generosity of Fr. Stephen Schneider and the Grace Institute Board, I am given creative freedom to continue to shape Grace Institute into a unique arts entity. This work is not accomplished alone but through excellence at all levels: artists, counselors, volunteers and a dedicated administrative staff.

Grace Art Camp:

In its 16th year, Grace Art Camp 2012, PERU! established the outcomes we have been working toward...building stronger relationships between the camp and the parish. This was the year of Rojo the Llama and Napoleon the Alpaca. The strains of beautiful Andean Flute music underscored with the toe-tapping rhythms of the Peruvian folk story greeted us each day of camp and sent us out in the world with happy hearts. This was the largest camp to date, bringing 1,180 children onto the Grace campus. I am blessed to work with an outstanding staff without whom it would be difficult indeed to accomplish all we envision. *My deep appreciation goes especially to Mariann Koop-McMahon, Program and Administrative Coordinator Manager, and Linda McQuery, Business Manager. I am also deeply appreciative of the wonderful participation by parishioners who happily volunteer as part of our security team, as studio assistants and offered their services in a variety of other ways. I hope they had as much fun being there as it was for us to spend time with them in the camp.*

Spring Camp:

Spring Camp is designed to annually introduce young campers to classic stories of renewal and creation. We brought the story and myth of *The Green Man* to life as we introduced this new camp to our camp roster. The camp proved to be very popular and will become a regular feature at Grace during Spring Break.

Bridges to Peace and Understanding An Arts for Peace Camp:

For the second year, we brought together Christian, Jewish and Muslim artists to teach Muslim, Jewish and Christian children how to interpret "listening to each other" through art. This camp is profoundly different from the other camps and has created a community of artists, children and parents that is particularly cohesive and passionate about the work. Bridges to Peace and Understanding Camp will also join our regular roster of camps.

Grace Institute Art Classes and Workshops

Grace Institute brought several art classes to the community, especially during the Advent season in preparation for Christmas. A year-round series of classes utilizing the glass studio as well as other classes in high-demand creative arts were launched in 2012 and are in progress as we enter 2013. A new workshop series: *Techniques For Mastery* was created for launch in spring 2013.

A Revitalized Web Site:

We launched a new, revitalized Grace Institute web site www.grace-institute.org which brings all the camps and events into a graphically exciting and easy to navigate format.

A New Market Place for Grace Institute Art:

Planning and preparations for a new Grace Institute (GI) marketplace on the Etsy site will culminate in the launching of the site in early 2013. Sales of Grace Institute artwork created by Grace Institute artists will benefit the artists, Grace Institute and Grace Institute outreach projects.

Grace Institute Outreach:

Our outreach efforts, both locally and abroad, continued with 2012, PERU! With grateful thanks to the Grace Memorial Episcopal Church Foundation, we continued to invite and offer scholarships to children from less-advantaged means to participate in camp this year. In addition to campers, these donations, as well as generous donations offered by individuals and families, made it possible for young people who have shown leadership capabilities elsewhere, the opportunity to train as counselors in the camp. Two young people who started into this training program in 2011 are now employed as highly valued counselors in the camp.

Carrying forward the acceptance and participation in our cultural outreach fund-raising projects of the last two years, campers, counselors, staff, volunteers (and yours truly), made bracelets and bracelet making kits from the gorgeous alpaca wool hand carried from Peru especially for the camp. \$5,000 was raised and a check presented to Mike Safley, Founder of Quechua Benefit, for Casa Chapi, a children's orphanage in the Colca Valley of Peru. Quechua Benefit is building a children's village in that area. For more information about Casa Chapi and the Quechua Benefit work go to www.QuechuaBenefit.org

Back to Africa:

Following up on 2011's Tales of the Serengeti outreach plans begun at Chwele Village in Kenya, a team of Grace Institute artists and counselors (some from Grace Parish) are preparing to work with a similar Kenyan team with the goal of producing an art camp or festival event in at the Chwele Community Center in Kenya. The purpose of this is to create an economic development opportunity for the village, to exchange ideas and techniques, to create a relationship between Grace and Chwele Village and to allow for future connections between the people of Kenya and Portland. This event is scheduled to happen in 2013.

Participation in Grace Community Center Auction:

Many of our Grace Art Camp artists donated their time, talent and art to our Grace Community Center Auction this year, furthering the nurture of our strengthened relationship between Grace Institute and Grace Parish. As Grace Institute moves the camp into stronger real-world connections to particular cultures it embraces. Grace Parish is able to develop those same connections as possibilities for its own global outreach.

As the Executive Director of Grace Institute, it is my dream that programs and events will emerge from Grace Institute and Grace Parish as part of a holistic Global Grace program which will continue to strengthen the relationship between both and create connections for the people of Grace with the world. Come join us, take a class, volunteer at camp and enjoy this amazing organization you have created, Grace Institute!

With great appreciation to the Grace Institute Board of Directors:

Kari Stanley, President
Jeannie Lynch, Secretary/Treasurer
Cathy Gibson
The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider
Amber Lamadrid (ex officio)

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Esme J. R. Culver+
Executive Director
Grace Institute*