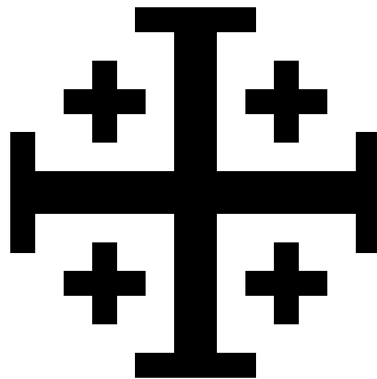


GRACE GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Annual Meeting of the Parish

January 26, 2014



The Annual Report – 2013

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church
Portland, Oregon

Annual Meeting of the Parish



AGENDA

January 26, 2014

Opening Prayer	The Rev. Esme J.R. Culver
Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting [Vote required]	John McAllister
Recognitions	The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider
Report of the Vestry Nominating Committee and election of persons to serve on the Vestry [Vote required]	Paul Parker
Financial Report and Presentation of the 2014 Budget	George Fleming
Acceptance of reports as printed [Vote required]	The Rev. Stephen Schneider
“The State of Grace”	The Rev. Stephen Schneider
Other business	
Blessing and adjournment	The Rev. Stephen V. 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 27, 2013
Minutes

Opening Prayer

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 11:40 am after an opening prayer by the Reverend Stephen Schneider.

Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting

The minutes from the January 29, 2012 Annual Meeting were read and approved as submitted, by unanimous vote as moved by Charlotte Cresswell and seconded by Martha Humphrey.

Recognitions

The Reverend Stephen Schneider thanked all who provided leadership in the past year, singling out the Vestry, the Grace Foundation and Grace Institute Boards and the Altar Guild.

The Angeline Berry Award this year went to Bobbi Anderson, who was honored with her family in attendance, for her many years of service in a far reaching number of activities. Outgoing Vestry members who were honored were George Fleming, former Senior Warden and Treasurer, Lee Ann Snyder and Martha Humphrey.

Report of the Vestry Nominating Committee

George Fleming reported that the following names were placed in nomination by the Vestry Nominating Committee to serve as the Class of 2016: Paul Parker, Karen Talus, and Tom Westarp, with Maya Crawford renewing for a second term. There were no additional names in nomination from the floor and the slate was put forth in a motion by Joan Cheston and seconded by Larry Snyder. The motion was approved unanimously.

Financial Report for 2012 and the Presentation of the 2013 budget

Maya Crawford, Treasurer, and George Fleming, Senior Warden, presented the financial report for the year ending December 31, 2012 and the budget for 2013 as submitted by the Vestry. The Balance Sheet includes the value of all properties. The Financial Actuals showed a net income of \$1,450.79. Budget 2012 and 2013 were included as attachments as well as a Special Funds Report.

The reports were accepted with a unanimous vote.

Special Presentation

The Reverend Stephen Schneider introduced Ellie Martin to the Parish as Grace's new Administrative Assistant and Communications Coordinator. Ellie was recognized for her excellent efforts.

State of Grace

The Reverend Stephen Schneider reported on highlights of the past year. Four specific goals were defined and discussed. The Auction Committee was recognized. The website for Grace and Grace Institute were discussed.

Closing

With a prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
John McAllister*

The State of Grace

The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider, Rector

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”
-- Proverbs 29:18a (King James Version)

This verse from Proverbs—as I first received it in the King James translation of the Scriptures—has been a *lodestar* throughout my adult life. Whether seen from the standpoint of an individual person of faith or an entire faith community, vision is the dynamic engine that gives shape and direction to the spiritual life and human life more broadly.

Grace has been a community of vision from the very beginning. The woman who founded Grace, Angeline Berry, was every inch a visionary. She had the vision for an “Irvington Church” here on the corner of Northeast 17th and Weidler and provided the \$5,000 needed to purchase the property. She then had a vision that this fledgling “mission” be rapidly acknowledged by an act of Episcopal Diocesan Convention as a fully recognized “parish” (and she prevailed in this endeavor over the initial objection of the Bishop who thought Grace was moving too fast). Angeline Berry was a civic visionary as well, helping to found both the Humane Society and the YWCA.

Over the years other lay members and clergy have been the visionaries who helped this move forward as changes took place in the City of Portland and the immediate neighborhood.

When I arrived at Grace in October of 1994 I inherited the vision of an Interim Priest, Fr. John Bright, a Search Committee and Vestry who had a vision—all evidence to the contrary—that this parish which was declining in numbers and struggling to survive in a dramatically changing neighborhood could be a thriving parish once again.

“Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your own.” (Jeremiah 29:7)

These words from the prophet Jeremiah have been a source of inspiration and guidance during these past two decades. We have together been guided by lay and clergy leaders to organize our vision around being “a parish for all people in the heart of the city.” While not neglecting global outreach, our urban vision incorporates inclusivity, music and the arts, compassion and justice, health and healing, education and Christian formation. Most recently, our visioning has begun to concretely address the witness of our church as a physical presence in the city by seeking to enhance the beauty, utility and stewardship of our campus.

A Church for the 21st Century

Grace’s mission plan, *A Church for the 21st Century*, adopted in November of 2009 and amended in June of 2012, sought to capture in words our vision of seeking the welfare of the city. 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 of our community.

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)

This past year, Martha Humphrey took on the work of leading our Welcoming Team, building on the pioneering efforts of Lee Ann and Larry Snyder. Also during the year, under the leadership of Suzy Jeffreys, the Vestry instituted *Vestry Hosts* to help visitors to Grace more easily find their way into the life of our community. Work has begun to create an online, password protected, membership directory to provide current members with a way to deepen their ties and relationships as a community of disciples and friends.

During the year we continued to welcome new members into the life of Grace through baptisms, confirmations (with a special visitation by Bishop Hanley) and through public services of welcoming.

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 include planning for a global mission trip to Peru in 2014. A Rite 13 program was held for middle school youth that involved special classes, a challenge course, a celebratory dinner and a Rite 13 Service on Sunday morning, June 9.

For adults—through the growing Benedictine Community, The Catechumenate, Bible Study offerings, Adult Classes and Grace Lectures offered this past year by Nigel Nicholson ("Christian Art and the Art of Eastern Mystery Religions"), David Galaty ("The Language of Science and the Language of Religion") and D. Corbet Clark ("The God of Old"). Grace also offered the 43rd National Theological Conference of Trinity Institute via high-speed streaming video on the theme, "The Good News Now: Evolving with the Gospel of Jesus."

For families—through the second year of our revived and growing Grace Family Camp tradition that was held on Labor Day weekend at the Cedar Ridge Conference and Retreat Center in Vernonia.

This year Retreats and Quiet Days played an increasingly important part in the life of Grace. This past year the Annual Women's Retreat was held at the Alton Collins Retreat Center and a new Men's Retreat led by Fr. Corbet Clark at the Bishop's Close, as well as a Lenten Quiet Day at the Bishop's Close, a Catechumenate Retreat at the Bishop's Close and a Benedictine Community Retreat at Mt. Angel Abbey.

This year we initiated a parish "Conversation on Race" which included a sermon by The Rev. Alcena Boozer and two Coffee Hour Forums with Mother Boozer, LeRoy Patton and Charles McGee III.

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 persons with developmental disabilities. As a result of this partnership almost 100 young adults attend weekly classes at Grace in music, theatre and the visual arts during the school year. During 2013 Grace continued a two-year partnership agreement with PHAME, serving as a non-profit incubator for this growing program and providing office (Grace House) and program space in the Parish House and Sanctuary.

During 2013 we continued our valued partnership with the New City Initiative, now a separate non-profit building a bridge between religious congregations and homeless individuals and families making transitions off the streets.

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

Grace is best known in the wider community through Grace Art Camp, the major program of our own affiliated nonprofit, Grace Institute. Under the leadership of Mother Esme Culver, the Camp Director, Grace Art Camp served 1,250 youth this past summer focusing on the Yangtze culture of China and offering summer employment experiences to a large number of artists and youth (see Mother Esme's report on Grace Institute).

The Grace Community Center Auction was memorable due to a power outage and what became Grace's (and maybe Portland's) first candlelight auction. Under the creative leadership of Vestry members and a team of other hard-working volunteers, the auction was a huge success, providing support for our community outreach efforts through the Grace Memorial Community Center.

Concerts during the year included our own sponsored "Music at Grace" concert on the Prudence Edwards Denney Steinway Grand Piano featuring keyboard virtuoso Byron Schenkman. The highly acclaimed 45th Parallel returned to Grace to give a concert here, along with a new choral group, Vir Men's Ensemble. Solid Brass offered a concert that was a fundraiser for the Mark Bosworth Scholarship Fund.

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. Again this past year, a highlight was our annual invitational show, featuring a diverse range of Grace parish artists.

In 2013 the Grace Community Center continued to host a wide range of organizations, including the ten 12-step meetings that consider Grace a home.

Grace was also, once again, the site for the Blessing of the Portland Rose Festival.

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 Dinner, under the faithful leadership of Hale McMahon and hosted in partnership with Westminster Presbyterian Church, continued to feed both body and soul. At the end of 2013, Hale concluded some of his responsibilities, moving to the position of dinner Host and communicator and passing along kitchen coordinator responsibilities to Eddie Miller. A brief documentary on our Friday Dinner, *Soul Food*, was premiered during 2013.

The 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. Ann retired at the end of 2013 as coordinator, although she will continue to be involved in a limited way with the program.

We are most grateful for the many years of faithful leadership given by both Hale and Ann leading these two important ways we address hunger in the community.

During the summer months we raised funds to assist in the Summer Meal Program with a new community partner—Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon.

Under the leadership of Mother Esme, Global Grace—a growing and evolving partnership between Grace Parish and Grace Institute—fostered global mission consciousness through creative exchanges, resource sharing and constructive engagement. This was reflected in the first International Grace Art Camp held in Chwele Village in Kenya.

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

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 most months. In addition, each Thursday morning there was a Eucharist at 9:30 am and each Thursday a service of Evening Prayer at 5:30 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. In July we continued the new tradition of a Summer Courtyard Eucharist.

The Grace Campus

Junior Warden Dan Heuvel and the Buildings and Grounds Committee continued to help repair and improve the physical appearance of the Grace Campus. Along with a variety of other significant contributions, Frank Schramling gave tirelessly of his time to maintain and beautify the campus gardens and grounds.

A special project during the year was the spectacular transformation of the Women's Restroom led by Curt Germundson and Connie Sullivan with significant help from Dan Heuvel, Susan and Eric Germundson. Partial funding for this project came from the Women of Grace.

The Campus Master Planning Committee, under the leadership of Paddy Tillett, made significant progress during 2013 toward the creation of an action plan for presentation to the Vestry and the congregation in 2014. With the endorsement of the Vestry and funding from the

Memorial Fund and Grace Institute a colorist and an architect were engaged to develop plans for the enhancement of the exterior of the church and the remodeling of the Parish House to address the adequacy of the kitchen and accessibility issues. This work will also propose a way to transform the west face of the Church and Parish House.

A memorial gift was received in 2013 to make possible the remodeling of our North Transept (where the door leads out to Northeast Weidler) into a small chapel. This small chapel, where our healing ministry takes place on Sunday mornings, will include a devotional Icon with a base for candles, some very limited seating and an Aumbry for Holy Oils. The remodeling will also improve the lighting for our stained glass window so that it is more clearly visible at night.

Digital Grace

During 2013 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. "Cooking with Grace" recipes have been added to the website, an online directory is being developed and a Twitter feed will be added to increase access to current information.

We also launched our Grace Memorial YouTube Channel that now includes two of our Grace Lectures and the *Soul Food* documentary.

Finance and Stewardship

The Vestry continued to take steps during 2013 to improve our financial system by refining our budget format and accounting system with the arrival of our new Business Manager, Allie Mount, and with significant help from Curt Germundson.

In the fall of 2013, under the guidance of our guest stewardship leader Leigh Wilson, we continued to build upon the fresh approach to stewardship begun in 2011.

Diocese of Oregon

During 2013 the Diocese of Oregon concluded their Mutual Ministry Agreement with Grace. During 2013 we continued to assist a number of congregations in initiating signature ministries (following our Grace Art Camp model of ministry sustainability).

In Appreciation

I am most grateful to the leadership provided by the Vestry of our parish. Our two Wardens, Senior Warden Maya Crawford and Junior Warden Dan Heuvel, have given a full measure of their energy and wisdom to the leadership of the parish. Retiring from the Vestry this year are Cathy Gibson, John McAllister (our Vestry Clerk), Nancy McCusker, and LeRoy Patton. 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 (Patty Walhood, Interim President) and Grace Foundation (Larry Snyder, President).

This year we welcomed the amazing Allie Mount to the Parish Staff as our Business Manager. Joining with energetic Ellie Martin as Communication Coordinator and Administrative Assistant the Parish Office is in capable hands. I also want to thank the other members of the staff of the parish who have served us faithfully during the year: Keaka Loo (Sexton), and Jill Hartley (Nursery Coordinator).

Our organist and choir director, Susan Jensen, offers us the best of the Anglican tradition of sacred music. We are all inspired by her love of music and her care for those who make music at Grace.

I continue to be deeply grateful for the leadership given to our community by our gifted Associate Rector and Director of Grace Institute, the Rev. Esme J.R. Culver. Carrying two full-time jobs, she tirelessly ministers to our parish family through pastoral care, preaching, the nurturing of faith formation while also giving leadership to the growing programs of Grace Institute.

During 2013 we continued to benefit from the presence of The Rev. D. Corbet Clark, D.Min. and The Rev. Stephen Whitney-Wise as Priest Associates. During the year we also welcomed an additional Priest Associate, The Rev. Richard Toll who had a history at Grace going back to the beginnings of his priesthood. On November 5 our own beloved Bishop William B. Spofford entered the larger life of God. We gave thanks for his life and witness in a Celebration of Life at Trinity Cathedral with The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori presiding. We miss his presence among us.

A Concluding Personal Word

Beyond the world of Grace, and yet consistent with Grace's commitment to "seeking the welfare of the city," in 2013 I became President of the Board of Trustees of Pioneer Courthouse Square, after many years serving on their board. I also continued as Vice-President of the Board of Directors of Holladay Park Plaza, a sister institution in our neighborhood and home to many in our parish family.

I am grateful again this year for the support of Ann and the members of my family. This includes our youngest family member, two-year old granddaughter Cecilia Grace Branam who continues to inspire me by her boundless energy, relentless capacity for discovery and the gift of wonder.

Finally, I continue to be deeply honored to serve as your Rector.

*Faithfully,
Stephen V. Schneider*

Associate Rector's Report

The Rev. Esme J. R. Culver

With humility and gratitude, I entered into my eighth year of ministry at Grace in July, 2013. I give thanks to Fr. Stephen Schneider, the Vestry and to the Grace congregation, for your continued support of my work. 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.

This year allowed continuation of ongoing work as well as opportunity for creative development of program and unfolding ideas for the future, including but not limited to: assigned preaching and presiding opportunities, creative liturgical opportunities, such as Youth Day and the Longest Day Mass, funerals, continuing care for various pastoral concerns throughout the parish, providing spiritual direction and vocational or discernment direction, attending various parish business meetings including Vestry and other parish-related committee, participating in parish business meetings including Vestry and other parish-related committees, coordinating lay ministers for Grace including Grace Acolyte Guild and chalice bearers, carrying responsibility for a wide variety of faith-formation, programmatic events and parish-related events on and off campus.

In addition to my pastoral call, it was my pleasure this year to provide leadership to several wonderful groups, programs and events:

- The Grace Women's Retreat, *Looking for Love in all the Right Places!*, a retreat theme based on C. S. Lewis' *The Four Loves*, at Alton Collins Retreat Center held April 19 – 21.

Special Note: I give special thanks to the Women of Grace committee, 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, which meets on Thursday evenings in three groups, St. Hildegard of Bingen, St. Gregory the Great and we added a new group of eight parishioners, St. Scholastica, to its roster. (See "The Benedictine Way" report)

Special Note: I give thanks and appreciation to Peggy Panarella for her wonderful leadership of the St. Hildegard group and to the group which is entering its fifth year for its wisdom and faithful walk.

- The Grace Catechumenate, which meets from January to Pentecost, brought together a wonderful group of eight deeply committed parishioners, all of whom are currently moving forward in a variety of ministries and study. (See "The Catechumenate" report.)
- "The Bible Workbench." A bible study group which meets each Sunday at 9:00 am continues to grow, to be well attended and offers lively discussion and fellowship via the Sunday lectionary study.
- 2013 Youth Faith Formation for Middle School included Rite 13, a program developed by the Episcopal Church for Middle School Youth that focuses the 4 S's: self, society, spirituality, and sexuality. Rite 13 culminated in a liturgical ceremony that served as a rite of passage similar to a Bar Mitzvah or a Bat Mitzvah. The liturgy was designed to welcome teenagers (and their parents) to the journey of becoming adults, and to celebrate publicly, and in the midst of our worship, God's gift of adulthood. The Rite 13

liturgy recognizes the holy power of creation that God gives to each one of us, and it serves to acknowledge the changes that happen to youth. Rite 13 participants were involved in several preparation sessions, a weekend retreat, a team building exercise, a liturgical ceremony and formal dinner for their family and close friends.

Youth Faith Formation continues with a small group of middle school and high school youth. Youth meet twice monthly with program and activities closely following the liturgical year. The first meeting of the month is devoted to study and discussion (all questions welcome!) The second meeting is more service oriented. 2013 saw Grace Youth walking dogs for Oregon Dog Rescue, adding assistance to projects planned at the 2013 St. Nicholas party and helping light our first Grace Youth Christmas trees placed in the sanctuary this year. At the close of the year, four members of the youth group began a new ministry as acolytes in the Grace Acolyte Guild. I am deeply grateful to be able to work with our wonderful young people who fill my heart with joy and I am thankful for their enthusiastic and involved parents!

- Grace Family Camp held August 30 – Sept 1 at Cedar Ridge Retreat Center. The theme of this year's camp, "The Lion's World" created a host of opportunities for channeling one's inner characters from C. S. Lewis' *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Other Activities during 2013:

- My work as Director of Grace Institute and Grace Art Camps continued in 2013 (See "Grace Institute" report.)
- I completed my second year of a three-year term as Chair of the Mission and Ministry Committee of Diocesan Council.

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,
The Rev. Esme J. R. Culver*

From the Senior Warden

It has been an honor, privilege and pleasure to serve as your Senior Warden this past year. I have enjoyed acting in this capacity and appreciate all of the people whose service makes our Church the wonderful community that it is.

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:

- Strategic planning around our Campus Master Plan. The Vestry was guided by the results of several years of work done by the Campus Master Plan Committee. Our strategic plan encompasses four hallmarks:
 - Utility – accessibility, improved kitchen, flexible community use area;
 - Identity – new “Livery” for church, with particular focus on exterior west wall, revision of landscaping, including parking lot, reader board;
 - Stewardship – redevelopment of our entire city block so that it is being utilized at its highest and best use;
 - Momentum – dedication to moving forward.
 - We have only just begun the work for what will be a multi-year process. The Vestry engaged a professional colorist and architect to help us create a design. We look forward to sharing preliminary renderings in the near future.
- Hired Ellie Martin, Administrative Assistant & Communications Coordinator, and; Allie Mount, Business Manager. I have had the opportunity to work closely with both of these talented staff people and can report that we are lucky to have them as part of the Grace community.
- We oversaw our third year using the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program. This model encourages a prayerful approach to stewardship and has been a successful means of fundraising for Grace. It is not too late to make a 2014 Pledge if you have not done so already. If you have questions please ask me.
- Continued collaboration and communication with Grace Institute and the Grace Foundation. Our Parish is unique in that we have relationships with our own homespun non-profit and foundation. I encourage you to learn more about the great work of Grace Institute and the Grace Foundation.

It is difficult to fully express my sincere appreciation of our devoted Clergy who work tirelessly to meet all the spiritual, business, and demanding needs of our church and parishioners. They are a true asset to our Church, the broader city, and the world. We are truly blessed to have them here at Grace. I would like to personally thank Father Stephen and Mother Esme for your tireless devotion to Grace and for all of the guidance you provided me over the past year.

I also 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.

While I will no longer be the Senior Warden, I look forward to my final two years on the Vestry. Grace is a special place filled with interesting and engaged people. With God's help we will rise to the challenges and opportunities that await us.

*Respectfully submitted,
Maya Crawford
Senior Warden*

From the Junior Warden

As seems to be the case with most years, it feels like there is more work that needs to be done around the Grace campus than there was at the beginning of the year. Such is the nature of trying to maintain heavily used, but aging facilities.

Probably the most visible projects that were completed during 2013 include:

- **Women's Restroom Remodel**
Thanks to a generous donation from Women of Grace, we were able to remodel the women's restroom including a new counter and sinks, new (and an additional) toilet, new lighting, paint and a beautiful tile floor. Many thanks to Susan Germundson and Connie Sullivan for taking the initiative to get this started and for the hard work of installing the floor and doing much of the painting. Equal thanks goes to Curt Germundson for his many hours of hard work on demolition and construction.
- **Sacristy Upgrade**
A memorial donation made it possible for us to finally upgrade the cabinets in the vesting sacristy. While we were at it, we were also able to repair ceiling leaks, paint, modernize the lighting and electrical service, install new heat and replace the carpet.
- **Parking Lot Improvements**
The parking lot was re-striped and re-configured to create a better traffic flow. New signage was installed which has greatly reduced the growing problem of unauthorized use of the parking lot. We were also able to make some paving repairs and removed a hedge on the south end of the lot to improve visibility at the Halsey street entrance and exit.
- **Sanctuary Lighting**
All of the sanctuary lights in the altar and choir areas were replaced and re-directed to provide better and more even lighting. The choir also purchased additional task lighting for their use.

A partial list of other lesser tasks completed include removal of the old storage shed, minor plumbing and electrical repairs, painting, carpet cleaning, hanging the centennial "Tree of life" tapestry, furniture repairs and a variety of other routine maintenance tasks.

As we look forward to 2014 we will see the inaugural efforts of the new Custodial Volunteer Program in which members of the Grace congregation are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time on a regular basis to tend to basic custodial tasks that simply are beyond the ability of our part-time sexton to stay on top of. A group of volunteers have already offered to participate with organizational support offered by Curt Germundson. There are sure to be opportunities for everyone who might be interested in getting involved as the program gets going late this month.

Thanks to a pair of memorial gifts, we will also finalize and implement improvements to the north transept area of the sanctuary including improved lighting, installation of an icon and an ambry, painting and better definition of the space as a smaller worship space.

The Halsey House will receive concentrated attention to bring it into a better state of restoration. Helen Miller has generously offered to lead this project. The house is already proving to be useful as a good location for various parish and community meetings.

A major focus for 2014 will be the campus master planning process that is already underway. Areas of focus include accessibility, kitchen modernization, expanded and improved community gathering space, general appearance of the campus including paint and creating a more

welcoming presence to the west. We will be working closely with the Campus Design Team and architects to provide schematic drawings and preliminary cost estimates for the congregation's review early in 2014. From there, we will refine the design ideas and begin the process of fundraising.

As always, thank you to everyone who helped out with suggestions, labor, moral support and prayers throughout what was a pretty productive year.

*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 primary 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 serve in teams to clean and straighten the Sanctuary, and then prepare the necessary items for the celebration of the Eucharist. On Sunday morning, the team sets up for the two or three worship services including weekly communion in the Chapel, holidays, baptisms, weddings, funerals, and memorial services, assisting the clergy with any special needs.

Our duties have expanded this year as we have worked to clean and organize the Sacristy. We have taken on the responsibility of maintaining the newly remodeled Opdenweyer Room. A new fundraising effort was successful that offered customized aprons for sale, which sacristans often wear as they serve at the altar. The Baptismal Font bowl was retined, and the new Advent Wreath was decked with greens and maintained by the Guild for the season of Advent. Co-Directresses met each month to plan, and both attended Liturgy Committee meetings throughout the year. The Guild members shared several potluck dinners as they prepared for the seasons of Lent, Easter, Advent, and Christmas.

During this year our ministry welcomed Cynthia Doran as a sacristan. Demetria Keck took on the responsibility of serving each Thursday at the weekly communion service held in the Chapel. All of our members consider it a privilege to serve, care for the things that symbolize God's love and presence, and prepare for the worship space for Holy Eucharist services. We are looking forward to welcoming more new members in this wonderful ministry in 2014.

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

The Benedictine Way

Thursday evenings
5:30 pm Evening Prayer in the Chapel.
6:00 – 7:00 pm Group Meetings

The Benedictine Way at Grace continues to attract those of us who are interested in deepening our understanding of how ordinary people who live ordinary lives, and who wish to live life beyond the superficial, can learn from a model of spiritual guidance written 1500 years ago: A humble yet powerful piece of teaching and Christian formation: The Rule of Benedict. Many faithful Christian hearts have followed the Rule in the past and today, many more are beginning to find the clarity and wisdom of the Rule is as applicable to daily living today as it was long ago.

In 2013 The Benedictine Way added a new group, St. Scholastica, joining the original group, St. Hildegarde of Bingen and St. Gregory the Great. Each of these groups met together to study the rule and to share in its application to their lives. All the groups come together for evening prayer and join together for occasional community dinners. The Way sponsored a pre-Holy Week Quiet Day and, in keeping with St. Benedict's central theme of radical hospitality, held a parish wide invitational dinner once a year, and offered "Breakfast with Benedict" on the first Thursday of Advent and Lent.

On September 7, 2013, The Benedictine Way enjoyed a retreat at Mt. Angel, looking closely at the theme of "Stability" in our lives. The weather was wonderful, the birds abounded and we didn't want to leave!

I am deeply grateful to Peggy Panarella for her leadership of the St. Hildegarde group and for members of that long-standing group for their perseverance, stability and wisdom.

The Rev. Esme J. R. Culver
Associate Rector

Church School – Grace Story Works

Building on the experience of Grace Art Camp, Grace Story Works offers month-long explorations of Biblical stories for children in the second through the fifth grades. [Grace Story Works complements the *Godly Play* program for younger children led by Alicia Cash.]

Each month a biblical story is selected for the children to hear, think about, and then to explore in some way creatively.

We utilize the talents of many different parishioners and guests as storytellers, artists, and outreach guides. Here was our schedule in 2013:

January	<i>Epiphany – Following the star</i> – a print making project led by artist Julie Romberg
February	<i>The Good Samaritan and the Gift of Love</i> -- a fused glass project with artist Nancie Mann
March	<i>Jesus & The Lord of the Dance</i> – a music experience led by Susan Jensen and David Hall
April	<i>The Sower</i> – an outreach activity where the children created and delivered Easter floral baskets for homebound parishioners
May	<i>Pentecost</i> – A book arts project with artist Brandon Stauffer
June	<i>End of year Reflection and Labyrinth Walk</i>
September	<i>The Flood</i> – a graphic novel project with comic artist and painter Philip Barasch
October	<i>Food Labyrinth Project</i> with Sack Lunch volunteers Ann Heuvel and Shirley Johnson
November	<i>The Beatitudes and Living with Loss</i> – Reading <i>Badger's Parting Gifts</i> with storyteller Jan Rinehart and painting with artist Terrence Gasca
December	<i>The Christmas Story</i> —Creating the Grace Christmas Pageant under the direction of Stephen Weeks assisted by Nigel Nicholson with Alicia Cash and Riley West

Thanks to all the volunteers who made this year this possible.

*Sincerely,
Ann L Schneider
Story Works Coordinator-volunteer 2013*

The Catechumenate

**Epiphany to Pentecost
Sundays 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm**

The Catechumenate at Grace is a personal and communal process of faith formation and practice that finds its roots in the early church and focuses on spiritual development through the disciplines of worship, scripture study, prayer, understanding and living our baptismal vows. Every catechumen is provided with a sponsor to accompany them throughout this journey.

The Catechumenate, which meets from January to Pentecost, brought together a wonderful group of eight deeply committed parishioners, all of whom are currently moving forward in a variety of ministries and study. A Catechumenate Retreat was held on June 15, 2013 at the Bishop's Close. Bishop Michael Hanley came to Grace on June 16 at 5:00 pm for a special visitation service of Holy Eucharist honoring the catechumens, as they affirmed their faith, were confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church.

The Catechumenate is a period of training and instruction in Christian understandings about God, human relationships and the meaning of life, which culminates in the reception of the sacraments of Christian Initiation (The Book of Occasional Services, 2003 p.114.)

The Catechumenate at Grace reaches beyond preparation for baptism into opportunities for baptized persons to prepare for confirmation, reaffirmation of their faith, or reception into the Episcopal Church, a process of deep significance in the lives of members of the congregation and the parish itself. The Catechumenate creates for each catechumen a new and deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian and provides the congregation with a means of embracing the journeys of their fellow parishioners.

At Grace we explore the possibility of delving deeply into the life directions and ministries to which people are called. What is our spiritual journey? How do we define where we have come from? Where will the path lead us next? What is the Baptismal Ministry to which we are called in our covenant relationship with God? What is our Missional Ministry beyond our local congregation and the institutional structures of the Church? What is our Congregational Ministry, serving our local congregation inside the institutional structures of the Church?

Those interested are invited to speak to Father Stephen (rector@grace-memorial.org) or Mother Esme (esme@grace-memorial.org) for more information.

The Bible Workbench

**Sundays 9:00 am
Ella Brown Room**

“The Bible Workbench” is a bible study group which met each Sunday at 9:00 am and continues to grow, to be well attended and to offer lively discussion and fellowship via the Sunday lectionary study.

Each week we studied the Sunday lectionary which offers the opportunity for a deeper understanding of the Sunday service. We also received the lectionary materials for the coming Sunday and so we were well prepared for another great discussion time ahead.

Whether you know all about the Bible and who's who within, or know absolutely nothing about the Bible at all, this is a wonderful way to tiptoe or delve into its depths. We all learn together and there are no stupid questions.

All are welcome.....join us!

For more information speak to Mother Esme (esme@grace-memorial.org).

The Daughters of the King

(Las Flores de Jesus – The Flowers of Jesus)

The Grace Memorial Chapter of the Daughters of the King (D.O.K) continued their work towards the Kingdom of God during the year, 2013-2014. It was an exciting year, filled with many spiritual experiences. It all began in February 2013, when Shirley Johnson, President, and Marsha Sharpe, Vice President, attended a "Servant Leadership Retreat" in Menucha, Oregon. We met D.O.K. from Hawaii, Alaska, and other parts of the U.S.A. We know God is pleased with the fellowship which has developed from that experience. Our board consists of five Daughters, including Jessica Jones, Daughters at Large representative, Louann Duchesneau, Secretary/Treasurer, and Arlyne Dudley served as advisor to the President. (I could not do it without Arlyne.)

We met three times during the year. Las Flores de Jesus met once a month on the second Saturday of each month, from 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm, at Grace Memorial. We have eight members and currently training another prospective member.

Throughout the year, under the guidance of Father Stephen, we performed two very important services, church mailings whenever needed, and two coffee hours. Individual members provided other necessary services as they occurred.

In September of each year, the Oregon Diocese Assembly of the D.O.K., has an annual meeting, held at various chapters. This year it was hosted by the "Lighthouse" chapter in Florence, Oregon, with Rev. Canon Neysa Ellgren as our guest speaker. Her title was "The Rule of Life," which was all about prayer.

Saturday, December 14, our chapter had its annual Christmas party. We were honored to have Mother Esme and Father Stephen in attendance. Marsha Sharpe had made some lovely Christmas cards for the "homebound members," which we all signed. Marsha Sharpe also provided us with a wonderful lunch and gifts. We shared our lunch with the "quilting ladies" downstairs.

We are excited about our chapter. We look forward to another year of prayer, service, and evangelism as we study and learn more about our King, Lord, and Jesus Christ.

*For His Sake,
Shirley Johnson*

Women of Grace

(Formerly Episcopal Church Women)

The Women of Grace, formerly 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 Women of Grace an active part of the Grace Community. We are continuing to pay our dues to the ECW of Oregon so we can participate in their activities.

Our leadership team met with Father Schneider and Mother Esme earlier in the year and had a conversation about how to let all women in the church know that this is a group for all of the women in our church. We decided to function with a leadership team as opposed to a board hoping to make things less formal. We would greatly appreciate feedback on how to make Women of Grace a group that more women of our parish will participate in.

In 2012 we added an event to our calendar. We had our first Mother's Day tea. We decided to make this a bi-annual event so watch for information on the upcoming 2014 tea.

Our main fundraising event continues to be the Holiday Art Faire & Bazaar held on the first Saturday in December. Last year it was held on December 7 and included 21 artists from our own parish and the wider Grace Community. A portion of the artists' sales goes directly to the Women of Grace account. A high point of the bazaar is the food booth where nearly all proceeds benefit Women of Grace. We also continued our tradition of having a wonderful lunch provided again this year by Marsha and Will Sharpe. The St. Mary's guild offered a beautiful quilt, which raised over \$1,000. It was lovely to see the quilt go home with Mother Esme, and no the drawing wasn't rigged! All of these together helped the Women of Grace to net a little over \$4,500. This annual event has been ECW's main source of income since the 1940s.

With funds raised, Women of Grace makes grants to parish programs and other organizations. Our 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 2013 the Women of Grace fundraising specifically supported Women's Retreat scholarships, Grace Art Camp scholarships, St. Mary's Guild and the Clergy Discretionary Funds. Our budget also allowed us to add some six-foot tables to the church and replenish some supplies for the kitchen.

One big project the Women of Grace were able to partially fund in 2013 was the complete remodel of the downstairs women's restroom. About \$6,000 from the ECW account provided a major portion of the funding to allow this dream to become a reality. Of course it could not have been completed without the help of Curt, Susan, and Eric Germundson, Connie Sullivan, and Dan Heuvel who spent countless hours, often late into the night, to make sure this was completed before the opening of Art Camp 2013.

Again, we would love to have all women of Grace attend the meetings. We would also appreciate feedback on how we can better serve the needs of all the women of Grace. Watch for a notice in the Grace eNotes about our Bazaar Evaluation Meeting coming in February.

*Respectfully submitted by the Leadership Team
Susan Germundson, Sharon Loomis-Malin and Connie Sullivan*

Friday Community Dinners

In 2013, Grace Episcopal Church and Westminster Presbyterian together served approximately 3,000 meals to low-income single people, families, older retired folks, the homeless, all of whom enjoyed the freshly cooked, wholesome food, socializing with friends and the pleasure of being waited on.

A dedicated group of volunteers, both members of Grace as well as “friends” of Grace, served the food, washed the dishes and cleaned 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. This year the list has expanded; we now have nine cooks:

Bob Zimmer
Dan & Ann Heuvel
Eddie Miller
Corbet Clark
Hale McMahon
Kelly & Dave Goodrich
Nora McLaughlin
Sally Fraser
Yetunde Laniran

On two different occasions, students from Oregon Episcopal School spent an afternoon preparing and baking apple pies. Our guests greatly enjoyed the pies and appreciated the fact that they were made by a group of young people.

Another special event resulted from the interest of a St. Mary’s Academy student and member of our congregation, Miriam Thielman. Miriam took a summer class in video documentation and chose as her topic the Grace Friday Dinners. She interviewed me and two men who have been coming to the dinner for many years, and then put together a short, charming story. It was shown one night at a local theater, along with films from other members of her class. We have video copies of this film for those who are interested.

Generous support for the Friday Dinners was shown at the auction last fall when the “paddle raise” resulted in donations of over \$7,500. 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*

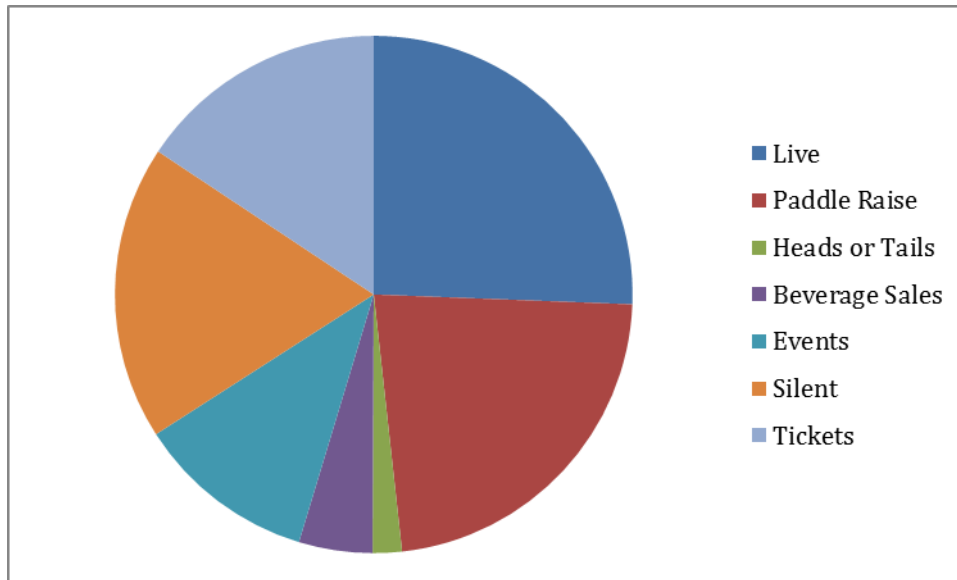
Grace Community Center Auction

The 2013 Community Center Auction will be remembered as one of the most special auctions, to date. On a night when most others would have cancelled or postponed their event, the Grace community was not dissuaded by what turned out to be the season's largest storm and subsequent power-outage. True to form, our guests took what might have been a difficult turn of events and created an evening even more magical than could have been planned. One hundred and forty-two guests came together to enjoy the first ever candle-lit auction and show support for our beloved Community Center.

This year we again followed the theme explored by Grace Art Camp: *Yangtze! Land of Dragons*. The food and decorations transported our guests to China, as they bid on art by campers and guest artists who participated in the seven-week summer camp celebrating folktales of the Yangtze.

Our Community Center is a venue for numerous enterprises: Grace Art Camp, PHAME Academy (a theatre program for adults with disabilities) and various 12-step groups to name only a few. We raised nearly \$35,000 for the Community Center this year, every penny of which will work to serve our neighborhood and community.

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers and members of the Auction Committee, the generosity of our local businesses and our faithful guests. Next year we don't plan on a power-outage, but a meal by candlelight might just become a new tradition.



Grace Memorial Community Center

During 2013, the Grace Memorial Community Center continued to cultivate partnerships with many local non-profits.

Four days a week from January until mid-June and mid-September until mid-December, Grace shared its space with PHAME Academy, Portland region's fine and performing arts organization serving young and older adults with developmental disabilities. PHAME students filled Grace with laughter and energy as they creatively expressed themselves through a variety of classes and workshops throughout the Grace campus while the PHAME staff used the Grace House as office space.

The Grace Memorial Community Center continued its partnership with local community organizations: Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association and New City Initiative.

12-step groups were also part of the Grace Memorial Community Center's dynamic with Women's AA, Overeaters Anonymous, Al-Anon 5+, and Gamblers Anonymous, to name a few.

Many other outside groups held meetings and events at Grace such as: American Field Service (AFS), Friends of Chamber Music, Oregon Writer's Colony, Liberia Bus Project, Portland Storytellers Guild, African Women's Coalition, and the Nigerian Community of Oregon.

The Grace Memorial Community Center also offered space for various religious groups including the Retired Episcopal Clergy and the Presbyterian Prayer Group.

Grace held a beautiful variety of concerts throughout 2013, thanks to Sue Jensen. The five concerts were: *An Evening* with Adam LaMotte and Janet Coleman; *Solid Brass Concert* with all proceeds benefiting The Mark Bosworth Scholarship Fund; *45th Parallel* with Adam LaMotte and Greg Ewer; *Wit and Wisdom: music of Bach, Haydn, Ginastera, and Scarlatti* with Byron Schenkman; and *Vir Men's Ensemble*.

Once again, the Grace Memorial Community Center continued to host a wide range of non-profit organizations, 12-step meetings and concerts enriching the Grace environment and allowing us to continue our mission to serve the larger community.

The Grace Labyrinth Guild

New Year's day Labyrinth Peace Walk:

For more than six years, the Grace Labyrinth Guild has offered the community the opportunity to begin the new year in a meditative walk for peace on the Grace Chartres labyrinth accompanied by live musicians. In 2013 the musicians were Laila Murphy and Licia Seaman. There is an opening ritual/reading and Jane Rickenbaugh, sacred dancer, led prayerful dances as the closing.

Linda Dodds provided the Labyrinth Walk orientation. The prayer tree hung with prayers for peace and healing.

Episcopal Peace Fellowship had literature for reflection on non-violent action. The Marketplace offered books and assorted labyrinth themed gifts.

This is always a cooperative effort of Grace Labyrinth Guild members, the Westminster Labyrinth Guild and the Labyrinth Network Northwest.

Holy Saturday afternoon we offered a labyrinth walk with readings and images of the Stations of the Cross available for reflecting on Jesus' journey toward Easter.

Sunday School Labyrinth Walk

At the last Sunday before summer, the classical labyrinth was set up for the children of Story Works and Godly Play to prayerfully think about what they had learned and to pray for their summer. Families were encouraged to seek out labyrinths on their various summer journeys by checking the www.labyrinthlocator.com.

Food Labyrinth

In October, the children of Grace Story Works in cooperation with the weekday Sack Lunch Ministry initiated the gathering of food from Grace parish for lunches and to build a Food labyrinth.

As an outreach effort, the reflection on food security is combined with the building the walls of the labyrinth out of everything from pudding cups to granola bars, cans of chili to cheese snacks. These donations help to fill the cupboards and to remind the parish of the ongoing need for food.

Preparations were made for the 2014 Labyrinth Peace Walk which was to honor Bishop Spofford, a peace pilgrim and someone who enjoyed walking the labyrinth.

We strive to integrate the labyrinth into the seasons of our Christian life as well as to welcome people of all faiths and walks of life to find healing, nurture, peace and inspiration through this ancient spiritual tool.

*Respectfully,
The Grace Labyrinth Guild*

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 the 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 concerts by the Portland Brass (in a wonderful fundraiser for the Mark Bosworth Scholarship Fund for Cycle Oregon); concerts by Janet Coleman and Adam LaMotte; our annual piano concert featuring this past year the terrific musician Byron Schenkman from Seattle; a concert by the *Vir Men’s Ensemble*; and Renaissance music by Bruce and Gwyneth van Buskirk at our Christmas Eve and Epiphany services.

A highlight for the choir this past year was a trip on the Portland Spirit on the Columbia in August. In celebration of our wonderful volunteer choir (some who have logged many, many hours) and my 20 years at Grace, a special gift allowed us all to have a fabulous trip on the Columbia --- seeing the historical sites along the Columbia Gorge.

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 helped to ring bells at special services.

A special THANK YOU to Patty Walhood who helped to keep robes and the choral library organized!

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

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

The Guild of St. Mary

Working with the support of the Episcopal Church Women of Grace, the Guild of St. Mary “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 15, 2013, forty-eight new and unique quilts and blankets were presented to Bradley Angle just in time for Christmas. (In 2012 the Guild presented 50 quilts to Bradley Angle.)

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 Grace Art Faire & Bazaar.

In 2013, the annual quilt “Light to My Path” featured a particularly challenging flying geese design, which was a foundation pieced by members of St. Mary’s Guild at Grace. From the beginning the interplay of light and dark spoke to the members of finding light and guidance, and Psalm 119: 105 became the scriptural reference: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” The group quilt was based on a traditional pattern and inspired by the work of designer Julie Niemeyer. The long-arm quilting was completed by master quilter Pat Roche. Revenue from the “opportunity quilt” was significantly up from last year and will be used to support a variety of outreach programs critical to the life of the parish and the communities we serve.

We treasure our relationships with one another. Have just completed 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 and returning members this past year for a total of 22 members. 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 2013, our work was greatly assisted by donated materials. (We do welcome donations of 100% quilt weight cotton fabric, and it is important to note that we believe there is almost no such thing as ugly fabric.) Cash donation, including a generous \$500 grant from ECW, were used to purchase additional supplies such as thread, quilt batting and backing and finishing fabrics.

*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 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, 360 lunches
- 258 socks
- 50 gloves
- 47 hats

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

Thank you to:

- Shirley Johnson
- Mollie Giles
- Tom Krause
- Eddie Miller

Substitutes:

- Gail Sutton
- Linda Dodds

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Heuvel*

Grace Foundation



The Grace Foundation had an unusually successful year working with our Investment manager, Trillium Asset Management. As of December 31, 2013, the Foundation's portfolio was valued at \$1,010,177.

As in the past, the Grace Foundation has assisted Grace Institute by funding specific projects to support Grace Institute programs and efforts. On December 13, 2013, the Grace Foundation approved Grace Institute's two funding proposals in the amount of \$36,190. The first request was to fund a grant in the amount of \$6,190 for a Parish House architectural study. The second proposal was for a \$30,000 grant for 2014 funding of Grace Institute programs for 2014.

Trustees for 2013:

Bobbi Anderson

Maya Crawford

Charlotte Cresswell

George Fleming (ex officio, Parish Treasurer)

Larry Snyder, President

Stephen Schneider (ex officio, Rector)

Kari Stanley

Jeremy Thiessen

Gary Tuck, Treasurer

*Larry Snyder
President*

Grace Institute

2013 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 and diverse 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 17 year, Grace Art Camp 2013, *Yangtze! Land of Dragons* continued to solidify the outcomes we have been building stronger relationships between the camp and the parish. Mirroring the success of 2012, the camp was filled to capacity, bringing 1,250 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.

***Special Note:** My deep appreciation goes especially to Mariann Koop-McMahon, Program and Administrative Coordinator Manager, Linda McQuery, Business Manager. None of this could be accomplished without their significant expertise and skill, not to mention their sense of humor! I am also indebted to a highly talented and experienced camp staff of artists and counselors and am 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 excerpts from Kenneth Grahame's classic story *The Wind in the Willows* to life in this second year of camp. The camp has established itself as a popular Spring Break event and will become a regular feature at Grace each spring.

Bridges to Peace and Understanding -- An Arts for Peace Camp:

For the third year, we brought together Muslim, Jewish and Christian artists to teach Muslim, Jewish and Christian children how to interpret through the arts the theme, "I see you...how do you see me?" Each morning of the three day camp, campers saw an enactment of a typical homemaker preparing for a special day: Hanukkah, Advent, and Eid al-Adha. 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* is growing rapidly and has become part of our regular roster of camps.

Grace Institute Art Classes and Workshops:

Grace Institute brought several art classes to the community, especially during the winter holiday season.

Grace Institute Outreach:

Our outreach efforts, both locally and abroad, continued with 2013 *Yangtze! Land of Dragons*. With grateful thanks to the Grace Memorial Episcopal Church Foundation, we continued to invite and offer scholarships to children from less-advantaged homes the 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.

Back to Africa:

Following up on 2011's *Tales of the Serengeti*, a team of Grace Institute artists and counselors (some from Grace Parish) worked with a similar Kenyan team to produce an art camp at the Chwele Community Center in Kenya during the last week of August. The camps ran simultaneously in Portland and Kenya, offering a very exciting start to this international outreach program. The purpose of this venture was 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 the Portland community. Grace Art Camp Kenya was a great success and proved to be a transformational experience for many of the Art Camp team as well as representatives from Kenya who will carry the program forward in Kenya in 2014.

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 the particular cultures that it embraces, Grace Parish is able to develop those same connections as possibilities for its own global outreach.

I extend heartfelt appreciation to the Grace Institute Board of Directors for their advice, encouragement and support. A special note of thanks and gratitude goes to Kari Stanley, President of the Board for the last several years during which time possibilities and vision became reality.

Current Grace Institute Board of Directors:

**Cathy Gibson
The Rev. Stephen V. Schneider
Karen Talus
Patty Walhood (Interim President)
Dale Walhood
The Rev. Stephen Whitney-Wise
Amber Lamadrid, CPA (ex officio)**

As the Executive Director of Grace Institute, it is my dream that programs and events will emerge from both 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!

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