

**GRACE** GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1535 NE 17TH AVENUE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 503.287.0418 WWW.GRACE-MEMORIAL.ORG

115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
of the  
**Parish**  
The 2023 Annual Report



**January 28, 2024**

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church  
Portland, Oregon

# Annual Meeting of the Parish



## AGENDA

January 28, 2024

Chaired by Charles A McGee II

Opening Prayer	The Rev. Martin Elfert
Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting [Vote required]	Alicia Lehrle
Report of the Vestry & Convention Nominating Committee and election of person to serve on the Vestry & Delegates to Convention [Vote required]	Charles A. McGee II and Kevin Walsh
Rector's Report	The Rev. Martin Elfert
Financial Report and Presentation of the 2024 Budget	The Rev. Martin Elfert and Warren Burkholder
Acceptance of reports as printed [Vote required]	The Rev. Martin Elfert
Recognitions	The Rev. Martin Elfert
Other business	
Trivia Questions	
Blessing and adjournment	The Rev. Martin Elfert



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# Grace Memorial Episcopal Church

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# 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2023

## Opening

Fr. Martin Elfert opened the 114th Annual Meeting with a prayer in song at 11:50am. The meeting was a combined meeting of participants in the parish hall and participants via Zoom. Fr. Martin's resplendent clerical garb brought an added festive spirit to the meeting.

## Minutes of the 113th Annual Meeting

Co-Sr. Warden Kevin Walsh welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting; Charles McGee, the other Co-Sr. Warden, was unable to attend the meeting.

Martin asked for any corrections or comments to 113th Annual Meeting Minutes. There were none, and Mary Bryant moved to accept the minutes as presented. Jessica Jones seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed to accept the minutes as presented.

## Report of the Vestry and Convention Nominating Committee and election of persons to serve on the Vestry and Delegates to Convention

Kevin shared the slate of new Vestry members and Convention Delegates and noted both he and Roosevelt Carter have offered to serve additional 3-year terms. The new Vestry members are Jennifer Yeast (3-year term), Stephen Weeks (1-year term), Yetunde Laniran (3-year term), and Myra Clark (1-year term). He explained the 1-year terms are to complete terms for Vestry members who left the Vestry during 2022 and will bring the Vestry up to twelve members. Sr. Petra (Holly Puckett) cycled off the Vestry, Daniel Jones resigned due to his move to Seattle, and Sammi Harvey resigned because of grad school conflicts; all were warmly thanked for their service. A motion to accept the slate of Vestry members was made by Sharon Loomis-Malin and seconded by Sally Fraser. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed to accept the slate as presented.

Kevin also announced the proposed delegates to the General Convention. The delegates are Matt Haines, Evelyn Prater, Jeff Ewen, Deb Pratt, and the alternates are Myra Clark, and Sibby Tower. A motion to accept the General Convention delegates was made by Yetunde and seconded by Debbie McDuffee. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed to accept the delegates as presented.

## Rector's Report

Fr. Martin thanked all for sticking with the church during a hard year caused by an unexpected level of fatigue. He thanked the Vestry for being respectful and faithful as well as challenging when needed. He also gave thanks to the clergy and lay preachers who share the work with so many amazing voices. Kris Doty was thanked in her new role as Parish Manager. The Co-Sr. Wardens, Kevin and Charles, were thanked for their leadership, The Rev. Dr. Liz Klein for her energy and service, and Sue Jensen, noted as the best Music Director in all of Christendom, for all her creative work, which went far beyond her job description. To conclude his report, Fr. Martin enlisted the help of family members Phoebe and Miriam to sing a litany of woes and hope to the tune of Stand by Me.

## Financial Report and Presentation of the 2022 Budget

Treasurer Curt Germundson was ill but attended via Zoom. In his place, Fr. Martin noted there was a well-attended meeting last Sunday, open to all, to closely review the 2023 budget. The new budget is a "stretch" budget with new items including an honorarium for Evelyn Prater who has volunteered for the last 3 years as the online verger. Also, staff benefits are continuing to be improved, and building maintenance is not being deferred thanks to the efforts of the Building and Grounds Committee. Paul

Parker moved to receive the budget as presented. There was some discussion as to whether a portion of the budget was missing from the Annual Report, but it was concluded all the information had been presented correctly as well as being discussed in depth at the budget meeting last Sunday. Marcia McKean seconded the motion, and the motion passed to receive the budget as presented. Kevin added his thanks to Curt for presenting the budget information in an understandable way.

### **Reports**

Reports from each ministry are in the Annual Meeting Report, and Martin asked for a motion to accept the reports as presented. Keri Beck so moved, and Deb Pratt seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the reports were accepted.

### **Recognitions**

Fr. Martin announced the Hale McMahon award, which is presented for service in the greater community and is awarded this year to Tim and Mary Bryant for all their work with the Friday Feasts. Tim and Mary, along with new son Bobbie, accepted the beautiful, engraved clock and thanked all who had participated and helped make the Friday Feasts possible.

The Angeline Berry Award is presented for service to the Grace community, and Fr. Martin praised all the work done by this year's recipient, Nancy Entrikin, and said it would be harder to name the committees and projects Nancy does not participate in rather than the ones she does! Her wonderful ongoing work with the Grace Development team, Chapel renovation committee, and Building and Grounds committee are just a few.

In addition to earlier recognitions, Fr. Martin thanked Daniel Jones, Sammi Harvey and Sr. Petra (Holly Puckett) for their service on the Vestry.

### **Other Business**

Kevin thanked Nancy for her work on the Chapel renovation project and noted half of the new chairs have already been sponsored.

Martin said the Pride flag, which had disappeared from its place on the north side of the church, was returned by a neighbor. The Episcopal Church flag is still missing and presumably making a squirrel's home all the more comfortable.

### **Trivia Questions**

The ever-popular trivia quiz was presented by Fr. Martin and enjoyed by all participants.

### **Blessing and Adjournment**

Deacon Liz Klein moved to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Sally Fraser. There was no discussion and the motion passed. Fr. Martin adjourned the meeting with a song at 12:45pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Alicia Perkins Lehrle, Clerk*

# Rector's Report

We are in a three-steps forward, two-steps back moment as a society – and by extension as a parish. Societally, the extraordinary achievement that is the Covid vaccine has given us the liberty, safety, and capacity to gather that we dreamed of in 2020: and serious illness, enduring symptoms, and even death from Covid remain. The internet has allowed folks with common struggles and common enthusiasms to connect with one another across distance: and it routinely isolates us from our immediate neighbor. Our ecological progress is remarkable, once intractable problems such as acid rain now solved: and this fragile earth, our island home, gets hotter every year.

In our small way, our church mirrors this push and pull.

Here at Grace our Sunday attendance is up markedly from a year ago: and it has not yet matched our baseline from February of 2020. We hosted a marvelous and energizing Art Camp this summer: and multiple members of our staff and leadership team endured seismic griefs. 13 new pledgers joined us in 2024: and meeting our church's budget still involves looking for coins in the Parish Hall couch.

Maybe because of the steps back, I am choosing to celebrate the steps forward when they come. When I led Church School (a ministry which we relaunched in 2023) a few weeks ago, thirteen children participated. And then, when I led Church School again more recently, there were now fifteen children. This is a remarkable testament to the work of the Church School leadership team. And it is a remarkable testament to you and the skill with which you welcome children into our community.

Earlier this year, we welcomed Lara Halsey into our community as our Curate. Lara's many gifts include her capacity, shaped by her days at L'Arche, to hold prayerful room in conversation for grief, for anger, for joy, for celebration, for all sorts of big feelings. I am so enjoying working with her – and so looking forward to our shared ministry in the year to come.

And, when Lara pitched hosting a special dinner for folks who were new to the parish, I realized that the list of folks who were new to or wondering about the parish included more than forty names.

Those three examples are by no means a complete list. See, within this booklet, evidence of the remarkable work of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, of the Finance Committee, of the Altar Guild, of your dedicated, faithful, and wise Vestry.

Maybe a different way of saying that I am choosing to celebrate the steps forward is that I am choosing to continue to celebrate Jesus – and to continue to celebrate you. Jesus keeps on showing up in so many beautiful and unexpected ways. And, in the imitation of Christ, you do likewise: you show up with your ideas, your energy, your curiosity, your choice to serve, your kindness.

I'm grateful, now and always, to be church with you. Grateful that, in spite of everything, we keep on stepping forward into God's Kingdom.

*Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Martin Elfert*

# Curate's Report

I have been at Grace now for three months. It has been a beautiful and whirlwind experience. Much of my time has been focused on getting to know the people of this community and the way things work here, every church is unique.

A key goal named for my time here is developing a newcomer's program. It is a special reality that Grace has many new people and visitors. As we arrange ourselves into a new normal post-quarantine this is a priority. An initial achievement has been planning a Newcomer's welcoming dinner for anyone new since 2020. This dinner was held on January 21st. My hope is that after this big dinner we will have quarterly smaller dinners that help plug newcomers into the community sustainably. Particularly the goal is to help them get to know other parishioners better and feel more comfortable in the larger community. Also, to inform them more organically about the myriad of ways and degrees to which they can become involved in all aspects of parish life, from altar guild to coffee hour to building and grounds to volunteering with the kids!

Additionally working with Reverend Martin, Deacon Liz and other leaders of the church I hope to help streamline our newcomer process, from what to do when we see a new face to how to encourage and empower new leaders at every level. I have been meeting with local ecumenical leaders and will continue to expand my outreach so that I can continue to improve the process.

Another focus has been forming the Pastoral Care Committee. Grace is blessed with the gifts of many different and compelling individuals who have independently been performing pastoral care throughout our parish. The goal of the committee will be to form a group of people to support each other and provide guidance and training. We have met twice already and by the time of this meeting will have met three times. In that time much has been shared about the hopes of what sustainable and consistent pastoral care at Grace could look like. We have updated the prayer request form to include requests for prayers in the case that someone wants prayers but does not want their need for prayers announced in church. This is important as sometimes you might want support but do not want to talk about what's going on or are just tired of answering questions. The PCC will also receive further training around boundaries and develop a procedure for requesting a pastoral care visit that utilizes all resources equally.

I have already learned so much about the realities of being clergy. There has been enormous support and guidance about learning to preside from Martin, Liz, and Susan as well as from the altar guild and choir and the helpful and forgiving members of Grace! Before Grace I had never sung a Eucharist in public. I can feel myself improving slowly but surely. Warren, Kevin, Roosevelt, Kris, Martin, Demetria, and Anson have all in different and remarkably interesting ways gotten me started on my journey to understand church finances better. Soon Warren and I will begin a regular meeting schedule to dive deeper into what I might need to know when I someday lead my own parish.

Marcia, Schuyler, and I have taken over as the leaders of the Outreach Committee and we are excited about how well we seem to be working together so far. Schuyler and I want to find new ways to utilize the space that is Halsey House for the betterment of the community at large. Steps are being made to bring back Friday Night Dinners, although they might end up being Sunday Night Dinners.

My biggest joy has been learning and serving within the Grace Office and volunteer teams. Each person in the office has guided and advised me consistently, and it can't be overstated the joy of having such a present and committed team. I have worked at a church where I was alone most of the time and the busy joyfulness of Grace Memorial is all I hoped it would be and more.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev Lara Halsey*

## Deacon's Report

2023 was a busy year for this Deacon at Grace Memorial.

I assisted Ann Crockett in leading the Sacred Ground Addendum, sessions 10-12 during Lent 2023. I then wrote and guided a liturgy at the end of Sacred Ground that was both a reconciliation and commissioning liturgy to encourage all of us in the lifelong work of dismantling racism.

I helped develop the Grace Racial Justice and Environmental Action Team. This group is made up of individuals that care deeply about racism and creation care. This has been and continues to be meaningful work for me. Rev. Judith Meckling and I put on a Racial Justice Coffee Hour to try to encourage others to learn more about Racism and Racial Justice. We talked about Sacred Ground, Dismantling Racism class through the Absalom Jones Center and Doctrine of Discovery Classes.

We developed a Racial Justice Book collection for adults and children at Grace Memorial. It is the Anne North Racial Justice Library. We have over 75 books. It was an interesting process to support our laity in developing this library and helping us all learn more about racism and racial justice.

I have enjoyed supporting the Grace Racial Justice and Environmental Action Group and building collaboration with St Michaels and All Angels, especially to promote clean energy and energy conservation to address climate change.

I enjoyed working with The Rev. Dan Carlson on Adult Education. Before he left, we started a Wednesday evening deep dive on the readings for the next Sunday. We have transitioned this to be reading the lectionary for the following Sunday, especially the Gospel, using lectio divina. I encouraged our clergy and lay leaders to adopt Living Well Through Advent 2023 Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind. I have also enjoyed supporting Gwen Harvey, a lay leader with a passion for Bible study, especially with women.

I enjoy preaching, pastoral visits and trying to help build community at Grace Memorial.

I continue to support the Grace Safety, Security and Health Team as well as the Outreach Team. The Safety group put on several de-escalation trainings for the people at Grace. We are developing a Grace Emergency Response Team.

I am especially concerned about the Israel Palestine War. I was asked to sponsor 2 resolutions at our diocese convention. I enjoyed working with the Palestinian Human Rights Task Force and learned a lot in the process. I pray for peace and advocate for peace with our senators and representatives. We are planning a presentation by Dr. Mark Braverman called Beyond Ceasefire: The current Landscape and Future Horizon for Palestine and Israel on January 19<sup>th</sup> from 10-Noon at Grace Memorial.

I completed the Bexley Seabury course Exploring the Doctrine of Discovery this October. I encourage others to take this course. I am working on building relationships with indigenous people at NAYA. I am in the process of developing a land acknowledgement for Grace Memorial with people from NAYA.

I am trying to support the Rev. Lara Halsey as the curate for Grace Memorial, especially in the development of a Pastoral Care Team. I continue to encourage regular clergy meetings to discuss liturgy, projects, collaboration, and pastoral needs in our congregation.

I have enjoyed my work with the Diocese Commission on Ministry. We need more Deacons. I am seeking ways to support our Deacons and especially our Deacon retreats. I put on a Resiliency Training for our Deacons in January, which was fun and well received. We are planning another retreat at Grace Memorial on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

My husband and I continue to volunteer with our Neighborhood Emergency Team and care for our neighbors and friends. Hope to collaborate with the Sullivan Gulch Neighborhood Association to bring more services for the homeless to NE Portland, around Grace Memorial in 2024.

My gifts are appreciating others' gifts and encouraging them to use their gifts. I am especially interested in helping people know the love of God, the power of prayer and the power of beloved community. I will always seek and discern ways to bring the hopes, concerns and needs of the world into the church and assist the people of the church to go out and meet those needs and concerns.

*Praying for Peace,  
Elizabeth Klein Deacon at Grace Memorial*

## Recommendation for New Vestry Members

### **Nomination Process**

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The 2024 slate for the Vestry and Diocesan Convention comes after several months of work by the Nominating Committee.

The committee consists of two current Vestry members, one or two parish members who currently are not on the Vestry, and the Rector. Outreach began in the fall through announcements encouraging people to apply. These were made on Zoom, in the Grace Notes, in the Sunday bulletin, and by telephone.

Each person completed a short application indicating why they want to serve and what skills and background they can offer.

As a result of this process, the Nominating Committee recommended the following Slates to the Vestry. The Vestry approved the proposed slates, which will be voted on by the full parish at the Annual Meeting.

## Recommendations

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The Vestry recommends that the following parish members be elected to the Vestry by the Congregation:

- Stephen Weeks (3 years)
- Nora McLaughlin (3 years)
- Cameron Denney (1 year)
- Lisa Westarp (3 years)
- Sam Schifferdecker (3 years)

## Vestry Candidate Information



### Stephen Weeks

My wife Denise and I started coming to Grace over twenty years ago. Our daughter Lily was baptized here. I have served on the Grace Institute Board for two terms and on the search committee that hired Martin. I have contributed in other areas of life at Grace, as an usher, a lector, and a volunteer at Friday night dinners. Two years ago, I retired from my position as Chair of the Theatre Department at Lewis & Clark College, and I find I have more time to be of service to other institutions. I hope to be of use in supporting and furthering the missions of Grace, including the build-out of the campus.



### Nora McLaughlin

I found my way to Grace in 1994, having visited many churches after arriving in Portland that January. Raised in California, I came to Portland to work at Reed College, after serving at Cal State Long Beach, the University of Redlands, and Johnston College. I retired from Reed in 2021, and continue to devote my energies to family, friends, music, volunteer work, travel, and my garden and two dogs. At Grace I serve as a lector and help with the lunch program, have served on the vestry and other committees, and enjoyed working on Friday Feast preparation. I appreciate that Grace is a community with deep ties and commitment to the broader community and to the spiritual life of its members.



### Cameron Denney

A 5<sup>th</sup> generation Oregonian, I am a retired Elementary School Counselor. During my 15 years working with PPS students, I helped them learn non-violent problem solving, empathy and other vital life skills. I served on the Equity team, led the Student Support Committee, and spent a lot of time on school climate, particularly working to make recess a safe space for all students.

I joined Grace about 25 years ago, finding it to be a warm, welcoming community and the right path for my continued spiritual development. I immediately joined the choir for several years, having always found music to be my most direct path to the Holy. I rejoined the choir upon retirement in 2016, when the challenges of parenting and working had lessened. I served briefly on the Vestry during Father Stephen's time, and a full term more recently. I have also served a term on the board of the Pacific Youth Choir. Other relevant experience includes living in a co-housing community for seven years. This community made all decisions by consensus, as opposed to majority vote, which led to long, sometimes difficult, but always fascinating conversations — and creative solutions most of the time!



### **Lisa Westarp**

Lisa is a fourth-generation Episcopalian with a keen interest in Anglican history and liturgy. Originally from Houston, she and her husband, Tom, have been members of Grace since 1999, when their first child was born.

Lisa delights in running, reading, riding her bicycle, lingering in coffee shops and bookshops, and advocating for transportation policies and practices that make cities workable and fun for people on foot and bikes and public transit. She has professional experience as a publicist and writer for nonprofits, most recently for Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Lisa serves on the Altar Guild and as a lector at the 8 o'clock service. She cherishes her Grace family and looks forward to deepening her relationship with it.



### **Sam Schifferdecker**

I am thrilled to embark on the journey of joining the church vestry, driven by a deep sense of community and a passion for contributing to the spiritual well-being of our congregation. Having been an active member of our church for a couple years, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that the vestry has on fostering unity, guiding spiritual growth, and making crucial decisions for the benefit of our community. The opportunity to serve on the vestry aligns perfectly with my commitment to creating a nurturing and

inclusive environment where individuals can strengthen their faith and find support in their spiritual journeys.

Furthermore, my enthusiasm for joining the church vestry is rooted in a desire to actively participate in the decision-making processes that shape the direction of our faith community. I am eager to bring my skills in communication, organization, and teamwork to the table, contributing to the overall success of the vestry in fulfilling its responsibilities. This role represents not only a chance to deepen my connection with fellow parishioners but also a commitment to the continued growth and vibrancy of our church. I am excited about the opportunity to play a meaningful role in guiding our community towards a future filled with faith, compassion, and shared purpose. I would like to personally thank Christine Swanson, Jessica Skinner, Father Martin and his family, Jeff Ewen, Charles McGee and Matt Haines for inviting me into this community and helping get me to this point to be able to actively serve this community through the vestry.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nominating Committee Members:  
Charles A. McGee II, Kevin Walsh, and Fr. Martin*

# From your Senior Wardens

I am writing this during our Artic Blast, safely ensconced in our warm den, right next to the furnace that keeps humming along, and I am typing as fast as I can while the winds howl outside, and the lights keep flickering on and off. January in Oregon is always a tricky month!

Your Vestry meets monthly, on the third Tuesday, hybrid in-person/Zoom, as we have been doing since the end of the Summer.

Thank you to everyone who continues to help keep Grace Memorial Church a vibrant community of worship and ministry. Father Martin Elfert, Reverend Lara Halsey, Deacon Dr. Liz Klein, Sue Jensen, Evelyn Prater, our amazing Altar and Flower Guilds, Ushers, Crucifers, Acolytes, Sacristans, Readers, Healing Ministries, and more! Each of us contribute to our continued growth.

We continue to reach people through our In-Person/Hybrid worship services. Many people have learned about Grace through our hybrid services and now attend in-person on Sundays. We will be utilizing our on-line service tomorrow as a safety opportunity during this inclement weather!

We continue to offer our State of Grace meetings, the last Sunday of every month. We inform, educate, ask, and answer questions of those gathered, following the 10AM service.

Thank you to Deacon Liz and Jeff Ewen and the rest of the Safety Team, who continue to strive to make our campus a safe and secure place. Be sure to read their report!

In April, we said goodbye to our Curate, Dan Carlson and his wife, Kim. He moved back to Ohio to be closer to his parents. He was recently ordained and now is the Priest-In Charge parish at the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In September we welcomed our new curate, the Reverend Lara Halsey and her husband Schuyler, who are living in the Halsey House. Special thanks to those who helped spruce the house up for them.

Grace Institute put on another successful camp this summer. They used the newly renovated Chapel for their Glass Studio. It is wonderful to see that space utilized in creative ways!

Many thanks to Myra Clark and Charles McGee, our Gala Co-Chairs, for their wonderful vision, leading us in our successful in-person Gala in November. It was a great success! Well-done to everyone who helped in this amazing opportunity to celebrate. Special thanks to Zane Barlow, Yetunde Laniran, Deb Pratt, Carol Snead, Kate Fuqua, and all the volunteers!

The Building and Grounds Committee continues to do great work and you can see it wherever you look. The landscaping is much improved, our Chapel received a wonderful refresh, we have a new hot water heater, and a roof that doesn't leak!! Thank you to David Waldow, our Junior Warden, the Building and Grounds Committee, and all of our volunteers!!

Thanks to Sue Jensen, our Organist/Choirmaster, for her continued work toward keeping our worship at a high level with her liturgical music expertise, our wonderful bulletins and keeping our home page and website fresh and current! Thanks to our choral scholars. It's nice to hear their voices in our talented choir.

Special thanks to Yetunde Laniran for coordinating the Coffee Hour and thanks to those who volunteer to host every Sunday!

It is great to have our Church School back up and running. Thank you to our teachers and volunteers: Fr. Martin, Rev. Lara, Rachel Bliss, Elyssa del La Cruz, Jennifer Yeast, and Charles A. McGee II.

As we finish our third year as your Senior Wardens, we want to thank our fellow Vestry members for 2023: Keri Beck, Roosevelt Carter, Myra Clark, Andrew D'Antonio, Sally Fraser, Yetunde Laniran, Bindhu Newell, Calvin Richardson, Stephen Weeks, David Waldow (Junior Warden) and Jennifer Yeast. Thanks also to Rev. Martin, Rev. Dan, Rev. Lara, Deacon Liz, Curt Germundson (former Treasurer) Warren Burkholder (current Treasurer) and Vestry Clerk Alicia Lehrle who's diligent notetaking makes our work understandable for future generations. For more information about Vestry activities, see the minutes posted on the Grace Memorial website.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Walsh (Rector's Advisor) and  
Charles A. McGee II (Vestry Chair)  
Co-Senior Wardens*

# Treasurer's Report 2023

## GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH Financial Report of Parish

To the Parish Members

You will find in the following four pages the year end financial statements for 2023 and the Budget for 2024. These reports are intended to answer most of the questions around our financial activities for 2023 and plans for 2024. The tables starting below report the Financial Position of the Parish at year end for 2023 and 2022. Of note are the following:

1. Current Assets increased by \$18,105 in the last year.
  2. Fixed Assets increased by \$58,475 from 2022, most of which was replacement of the roof of the Parish Hall.
  3. There was a small increase in total Liabilities \$5,801.
  4. The Equity, the difference between Assets and Liabilities, increased by \$74,971.
  5. Our Total Restricted and Reserved Funds increased by \$71,751.
  6. We will be collecting and reporting Pledge Giving Payments that are received either before or after the year they were intended on a separate line. This will let us better understand some of the unexpected swings that are related to the calendar year end.
  7. We expect that the Campus Use Income will decline in 2024 and be closer to 2022 actual rates.
  8. Investment income is now reported only for the actual interest and dividends received. Unrealized gains on investments are no longer reported
  9. Total Expenses, reported on page 4, rose \$42,714 in 2023 from 2022.
  10. Our Total Personnel Expenses are the largest factor driving the 2024 budget increases.
  11. The 2023 Actual was less than budget but a significant increase over 2022. There are changes already being considered on how to find the best balance between expense and income. Not recognized in these reports is that we have been blessed with two special restricted gifts that cover almost all of the expenses for our Curate.
  12. This budget includes a more conservative view of new or increased incomes and gives recognition to increasing expenses.
- Please don't hesitate to ask or call me if you have questions.

*Warm regards,  
Warren Burkholder, Treasurer  
wsburkholder@gmail.com*

**GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Statement of Position**  
**For Year ended December 31, 2023**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
1010 General Checking & Savings	\$137,813	\$127,551
1200 Account's Receivable		-\$330
1300 Total Investments	\$341,629	\$334,117
Other Current Asstes		
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$479,442</b>	<b>\$461,337</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
1510 Buildings	\$504,825	\$450,000
1530 Furniture Fixtures and Equipment	\$130,397	\$126,747
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$635,222</b>	<b>\$576,747</b>
<b>T0total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,114,664</b>	<b>\$1,038,084</b>
<b>LIAIBILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilites</b>		
2000 Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0
2110 Payroll Liabilites	\$1,722	\$0
<b>Custodial Accounts</b>		
2122 St Mary's	\$1,562	\$1,312
2123 Women of Grace	\$14,279	\$10,486
2124 Daughters of King	\$0	\$310
2125 Pass-through gifts	\$1,372	\$1,027
2126 Labyrinth Guild	\$1,940	\$1,940
2128 Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$1,233	\$1,233
2120 <b>Total Custodial Accounts</b>	<b>\$20,386</b>	<b>\$16,308</b>
2130 <b>Canonical Offerings</b>	<b>\$217</b>	<b>\$217</b>
<b>Totsl Current Liabilites</b>	<b>\$22,326</b>	<b>\$16,525</b>
2410 Furnace Loan	\$13,805	\$17,997
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$36,131</b>	<b>\$34,522</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>\$1,078,533</b>	<b>\$1,003,563</b>

**GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Position continued**  
**For Year ended December 31, 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>LIAIBILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilites</b>		
2000 Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0
2110 Payroll Liabilites	\$1,722	\$0
<b>Custodial Accounts</b>		
2122 St Mary's	\$1,562	\$1,312
2123 Women of Grace	\$14,279	\$10,486
2124 Daughters of King	\$0	\$310
2125 Pass-through gifts	\$1,372	\$1,027
2126 Labyrinth Guild	\$1,940	\$1,940
2128 Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$1,233	\$1,233
2120 <b>Total Custodial Accounts</b>	<b>\$20,386</b>	<b>\$16,308</b>
2130 <b>Canonical Offerings</b>	<b>\$217</b>	<b>\$217</b>
<b>Totsl Current Liabilites</b>	<b>\$22,326</b>	<b>\$16,525</b>
2410 Furnace Loan	\$13,805	\$17,997
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$13,805</b>	<b>\$17,997</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$36,131</b>	<b>\$34,522</b>
<hr/>		
<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>-\$34,108</b>	<b>-\$32,500</b>

**RESTRICTED FUNDS**

3110 Birthdays, Anniv, Spec Occasions	\$2,050	\$1,879
3145 Chapel Maintenance	\$2,922	\$3,000
3170 Homeless Ministries	\$4,500	\$4,500
3190 New Ministry Development	\$3,618	\$3,618
3220 Grace Retreats	-\$832	\$1,000
3240 Art for West Wall	\$27,726	\$27,726
3320 Maintenance Reserve	\$13,237	\$17,737
<b>3101 Total VESTRY Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$53,222</b>	<b>\$59,460</b>
<hr/>		
3119 Associate Rector/ Curate	\$46,323	\$10,837
3140 Capital Improvement	\$54,570	\$54,570
3141 Grace Commons	\$38,420	\$38,680
3150 Audio Visual	\$12,639	\$0
3152 Food Pantry (Sack Lunch)	\$300	\$0
3182 Piano Maintenance	-\$480	\$0
3183 Organ Fund	\$19,000	\$6,500
3230 Niche Purchases	\$6,500	\$6,500
3360 Memorials	\$29,184	\$15,459
<b>3204 Donor Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$206,456</b>	<b>\$132,546</b>
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED AND RESERVED FUNDS</b>	<b>\$280,065</b>	<b>\$208,314</b>
<b>Equity Less Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$443,311</b>	<b>\$426,816</b>
<b>Total Uncommitted Liquid Assets</b>	<b>\$236,855</b>	<b>\$294,270</b>

**GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**2024 Budget and 2022 and 2023 Actual Incomes**

	<u>2024 Budget</u>	<u>2023. Actual</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Actual</u>
<b>INCOMES</b>				
4011 Easter & Christmas	\$4,000	\$2,522	\$4,000	\$4,729
4021 Pledge Giving	\$257,000	\$252,691	\$270,000	\$223,323
4022 Loose Plate & Unrestricted	\$5,000	\$5,528	\$4,500	\$3,451
4023 Other Unrestricted Donations	\$25,000	\$19,740	\$30,000	\$50,410
4024 Non-Current Year Giving	\$12,000	\$8,000		
4050 Restricted Donations	\$60,000	\$30,520	\$50,000	\$600
4090 Release from Reserves	\$50,000	\$47,466	\$60,000	\$39,918
4111 Community Auction	\$45,000	\$45,011	\$45,000	\$41,775
<b>4000 General Support</b>	<b>\$458,000</b>	<b>\$411,477</b>	<b>\$463,500</b>	<b>\$364,206</b>
41132 PHAME	\$43,000	\$46,288	\$21,000	\$43,668
41134 Grace Institurte	\$46,000	\$46,312	\$36,000	\$30,875
4100 Other Rental Income	\$8,000	\$14,118	\$8,000	\$14,281
<b>4113 Campus Use Income</b>	<b>\$97,000</b>	<b>\$106,718</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$88,784</b>
4120 4120 Music Income	\$3,500	\$3,832	\$2,500	\$1,100
4130 4130 Parish Life Income	\$2,000	\$57.00	\$2,000	\$10
4140 Altar & Flower Income	\$4,000	\$700.00	\$4,000	\$2,410
<b>4100 Other Income</b>	<b>\$9,500</b>	<b>\$4,589</b>	<b>\$8,500</b>	<b>\$3,520</b>
4300 Investment Income	\$2,500	\$14,784	\$12,500	\$2,373
4202 Grace Foundation	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
<b>4300 Investment Income</b>		<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$23,284</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$575,500</b>	<b>\$546,069</b>	<b>\$558,000</b>

**GRACE MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**2024 Budget and 2022 and 2023 Actual Incomes**

	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2022 Actual
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>5000 Program Expenses</b>				
5021 Adult Education	\$600	\$353	\$650	\$617
5023 Youth Group	\$500		\$1,500	\$72
5053 Music Expenses	\$19,000	\$18,529	\$10,850	\$16,534
5055 Altar & Flowers	\$2,500	\$1,562	\$3,500	\$5,320
5084 Other Parish Life	\$2,900	\$8,811	\$2,500	\$7,867
<b>5000 Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$29,255</b>	<b>\$19,000</b>	<b>\$30,410</b>
<b>6000 Personnel Expenses</b>				
6010 Rector	\$134,746	\$131,732	\$128,023	\$124,676
6020 Other Clergy	\$56,498	\$43,078	\$80,000	\$67,568
6090 Lay Staff	\$184,222	\$160,932	\$169,030	\$89,431
6100 Payroll Taxes & Benefits	\$34,874	\$31,397	\$28,500	\$19,568
<b>6000 Total Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>\$410,340</b>	<b>\$367,140</b>	<b>\$405,553</b>	<b>\$301,243</b>
<b>6200 Contracted Services</b>	<b>\$1,900</b>	<b>\$4,043</b>	<b>\$1,900</b>	<b>\$2,350</b>
<b>6300 General &amp; Administrative</b>				
6305 Merchant Bank Fees	\$4,000	\$3,808	\$4,000	\$5,783
6307 Printing & Reproduction	\$14,000	\$13,741	\$15,000	\$23,402
6309 Office Expense	\$5,000	\$4,861	\$15,000	\$4,096
Other General & Admin	\$15,550	\$10,816	\$15,380	\$10,582
<b>6300 General &amp; Administrative</b>	<b>\$38,550</b>	<b>\$33,226</b>	<b>\$49,380</b>	<b>\$43,863</b>
<b>6500 Fundraising</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$7,082</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$3,566</b>
<b>7000 Occupancy</b>				
7010 Utilities	\$26,800	\$33,682	\$27,550	\$26,853
7020 Furnace Loan	\$700	\$853	\$1,005	\$1,005
7030 Insurance	\$11,000	\$10,695	\$775	\$9,401
7041 Operating Supplies	\$5,900	\$5,631	\$9,500	\$6,640
7043 Service Calls	\$2,500	\$7,510	\$7,510	\$21,928
7044 Organ & Piano	\$3,000	\$1,403	\$900	\$564
7060 Building & Grounds	\$14,000	\$13,388	\$450	\$15,776
7070 Technology	\$8,000	\$8,651	\$5,000	\$6,824
All other Occupancy	\$4,500	\$5,180	\$6,500	\$7,569
<b>7000 Occupancy</b>	<b>\$76,400</b>	<b>\$86,140</b>	<b>\$59,190</b>	<b>\$96,560</b>
9010 Diocesan Assessment	\$45,001	\$45,001	\$51,184	\$51,180
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$605,191</b>	<b>\$571,887</b>	<b>\$585,624</b>	<b>\$529,173</b>
<b>Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$29,691)</b>	<b>(\$25,818)</b>	<b>(\$27,624)</b>	<b>(\$61,790)</b>

# Junior Warden Annual Report

A Buildings and Grounds Committee (B&GC) has met throughout the past year once a month. This committee has been instrumental in identifying, organizing, and prioritizing needs for the campus. Several issues have been addressed and completed over the past year. Some of these are highlighted below (which will also be similarly identified in the B&GC report as well)

## Completed

- Roof replacement over Sacristy and Parish Hall.
- Organized additional Halsey house improvements for Lara Halsey and family.
- Lighting improvements in Nave for increased controllability and eye comfort.
- Wall repaired in Vestry adjacent to window water damage.
- Lower Interior Nave wall repair at water damage – NE corner.
- Chapel remodel completed.
- Organized campus work party in October.
- New tankless hot water heater installed to replace failed hot water tank.
- Increased security to minimize gate and landscape shed unwanted access.
- Kitchen stove refinish.

## Ongoing

- Interior repairs to water damaged walls in Sacristy and Parish Hall.
- Nave audio/sound improvements.
- Upper Interior Nave wall repair at water damage – NE corner.
- Kitchen ceiling and floor repair/ replacement.
- Nave hall re roof.
- Halsey house water damage repair from Ice storm.
- Sump pump installation in Vestry basement.
- Concordia Art installation in Parish Hall.
- Automatic exterior locking panic hardware on egress doors from Nave.
- Window trim installation in Vestry room.
- New flooring in Vestry room.

*Respectfully submitted,  
David Waldow, Junior Warden*

# Safety, Security & Health Committee Report

The focus of the Safety, Security & Health Committee is to assess safety and security conditions on the Grace campus and make recommendations for improvement consistent with our mission and maintaining Grace as a welcoming and supportive environment.

During 2023 the Committee:

- Presented two de-escalation training sessions (including a summary hand-out), one primarily focusing on ushers and greeters and a second session during “State of Grace” meetings after the 10 am service. We were originally scheduled to have representatives from Portland Street Response do the training, but changes within that program led to a suspension of public training sessions. Based on our attendance at previous Portland Street Response sessions, we decided to proceed with in-house training.
- An Emergency Procedures Quick Reference Guide, with bullet-point summaries of what to do in key emergencies and a list of Portland emergency and assistance telephone numbers and websites, was created and posted at key locations on the Grace campus.
- Our new Campus Steward, Lukas Sherman, continues to provide an important security presence during Grace services and other events. Ushers have been trained in use of our walkie-talkies, and Lukas is in communication with them during services.
- We have coordinated with PHAME and Grace Institute to enhance safety and security procedures on the Grace campus and will continue to do so in 2024.
- In September, a visitor entered the Weidler St. door during the 10 am service and began video recording the service and congregation. As Grace currently has no policy regarding recording of services and events, the Committee developed a recommended policy to restrict recordings, with exceptions allowed as granted by Grace Clergy or the Vestry. Based on feedback from the Grace community, the Committee is preparing a modified policy that will be presented to the Vestry in 2024.
- Partially in response to the September incident, the Committee agreed to move forward with development of an Emergency Response Team, composed of volunteers from the Grace community, that would be charged with dealing with medical emergencies, fire and other events that might require evacuation of the premises. The Committee will present its recommendations at the February State of Grace meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Ewan*

# Buildings and Grounds

Buildings and Grounds had a productive 2023. We are probably most proud of the renovation of Grace's chapel. It is so rewarding to see the many uses it is being put to today. There are so many people to thank: people who chipped in to do some of the hard work of cleaning and painting, moving things, replacing outlets, and scheduling contractors. People who generously contributed money to cover costs allowing us to do all the work without taking any money from the church budget.

The person who guided us through the project with a steady hand was Dave Shelman. With his help we believe we stayed true to the original design and feel of the chapel while making it a place that works for today's need for more flexibility.

Another large project was accomplished on campus clean-up day. The area between the Halsey and Grace houses was cleared of years of built-up debris. Gravel was put down to allow it to be a place to store Art Camp's summer cones and outdoor items which will take pressure off Frank's shed.

David Waldow took on the task of getting a new roof on the Parish Hall. This involved permitting and organizing the time schedule with the church and with the roofing company. The roofing company also fixed the drainage problems in the Sacristy and so far, it looks as though this ongoing problem has been resolved along with the leaks in the Parish Hall.

Other maintenance/improvements completed:

- New on demand water heater.
- Furnace repair.
- Stove cleaning.
- Dog Poop Station on Weidler.
- New LED Lights from Energy Trust of Oregon. Thank you, Kris Doty, for organizing this.
- Long term gas leak in the kitchen repaired.
- Many other smaller issues were also dealt with.

We lost Dave and Kathleen Shelman from Buildings and Grounds, but they are still available to help out with tasks around the church. We have, however gained a new member. Stephen Weeks joined the committee recently and is already involved in a project to see if the Diocese can help us out with some of the improvements we would like to make to improve safety.

If anyone reading this is interested in the upkeep of our beautiful campus, please let us know. 2026 is the 100-year anniversary of the Sanctuary being built and we are going to be very busy the next two years getting everything up to snuff. If you like hands on tasks, please join us. It's a great group and WE GET THINGS DONE! Not always as fast as everyone would like, but we keep marching forward.

Nancy Entrikin  
David Waldow  
Martin Elfert  
Kevin Walsh  
Stephen Weeks

Sally Fraser  
Ashley Klump  
Kris Doty  
Lukas Sherman

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Entrikin*

# Altar Guild

In 2023, Altar Guild continued to emerge from pandemic conditions and welcomed new members.

Altar Guild responsibilities on a weekly basis entail preparing the sanctuary for Sunday services, setting up the items and elements for celebration of the Eucharist, clearing the altar after Sunday services, cleaning the vessels and linens, and storing everything appropriately for the next week. In addition to the two Sunday services and the Thursday service we also occasionally serve at other times including holidays and special services.

We are thankful for the continued commitment of Demetria Keck, who primarily serves the 8AM Sunday service and the Thursday service in the Chapel. The other altar guild members currently include Cathy Gibson, Carol Maroten, Folake Akande, Lisa Westarp, Gillian and Wolf Weisgram-Sieveking, and Jennifer, Genevieve, and Xaxier Yeast.

We are actively looking for new members and plan to have a meeting/training February 4 for anyone interested in serving.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Yeast*

## Ushers – Ministers of Hospitality

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. Ushers participate in the life of Grace, greeting and welcoming people to our service, remembering the words of the Gospel, "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35) Hospitality is a critical component to strengthening our worship community.

Ushers greet members and encourage newcomers to share in our service, our fellowship and in the life at Grace. While this is a designated role of hospitality for ushers on Sunday, it is shared by all throughout the Grace congregation in all of its activities.

In addition to welcoming and seating all comers to the service, ushers provide bulletins so all can follow and participate in the service. They present the elements of bread and wine, take and gather the collection and present this offering of the people in the name of the congregation. Ushers guide those who wish to participate in the Holy Eucharist, which brings us into the presence of Christ and the presence of Christ in one another. They arrange for communion in the pew for those unable to come to the altar rail. A few simple security, set up and clean up responsibilities are also included.

Anyone interested is welcome to the ministry and can be paired with an experienced usher to learn the responsibilities. Written guidelines also provide detailed instructions. If you are interested in serving or have questions about this ministry, please contact Sally Fraser, Father Martin or other clergy, or leave your name and contact information at the office, letting them know you have questions or would like to serve. A copy of the guidelines is available to anyone interested.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Fraser*

# The Guild of St. Mary at 20 years

Working with the support of the Women of Grace (Episcopal Church Women or ECW), the Guild of St. Mary gathers three or more days each month to sew, quilt, crochet and knit projects for outreach. Members also gather to work on individual projects and to learn new skills. Anyone interested in learning how to make a quilt, figure out a tricky crochet stitch or make a prayer shawl is most welcome to come and visit or attend one of our learning workshops.

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. We make quilts and blankets to give to those who need them. Since 2003, we have been making quilts and blankets to give to Bradley Angle House, which provides shelter and related services for women, children, families, and members of the LGBTQ communities escaping domestic violence. More recently we have also been sending blankets and quilts to Rose Haven and the Refugee Program at Catholic Charities.

In 2023, 17 quilts and 9 crocheted blankets were designated for Bradley Angle House. Earlier last year, approximately 20 polar fleece blankets were delivered to Rose Haven, which assists women and children with insecure or no housing, and another 10 were sent in December. The refugee program of Catholic Charities will receive 24 quilts and 9 blankets from St. Mary's Guild from last year's work.

We also sponsor a quilt project for Grace's annual Grace Art Faire and Holiday Bazaar. This quilt project is a multi-faceted work of art involving collaboration and creative challenge. It is raffled off at the Grace Art Faire and Holiday Bazaar. In 2023, the annual quilt "Light in the Darkness" featured a design inspired by Grace Art Camp's 2023 chosen culture – India – featuring mandalas in colorful batik fabrics.

As members of St. Mary's Guild, we treasure our relationships with one another. Having just completed our 20th 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 range of age groups is a great blessing and joy! We meet most Thursdays and the second Saturday of each month in the Mason Burnham Room at Grace.

St. Mary's welcomes those of all ages and skill levels to join us, and, if you are a beginner, we will teach you what you need to know! It is also a very welcoming place for mothers and daughters. In the summer 2023, our yearly productivity was greatly aided by air-conditioned workspace at the home of The Rev. Judith Meckling and Jo Ann Fricker. Thank you!

In 2024 we plan to offer a new "Pray. Learn to Quilt. Laugh. Eat. Repeat Workshop" to help us jump start our work. (Watch for our 2024 schedule!)

Since 2003, our work has been greatly assisted by donated materials. We do welcome donations of 100% quilt weight cotton or 100% cotton flannel of at least half a yard of usable fabric. Homespun yarn by Lion Brand is welcome for prayer shawls. Cash donations, including an annual generous \$250 to \$500 grant from ECW, are used to purchase additional supplies such as thread, and quilt batting as well as backing and finishing fabrics.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mariann Koop-McMahon*

# Church School

In May 2023, we re-launched church school with vibrant success. There are approximately 35 children who participate in our church school. Each week, there are about 5-12 children in attendance. Many of you, our Grace Memorial church family, have volunteered in our church school, and we are so thankful for you! Your service enables us to build community and minister to the children of Grace. With the help of our adult volunteers, our children in church school reflect on the week's reading through Illustrated Ministry lessons. We sing, dance, pray, paint, build, and ponder. We have also had the opportunity to engage in Grace's ministry to the hungry as the children helped prepare sack lunches. We look forward to the continued growth of this ministry in the upcoming year.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Church School Volunteers*

## Grace Racial Justice and Environmental Action Team

The Grace Racial Justice and Environmental Action Team was started this year. After many of us took the Sacred Ground course, we continued meeting to decide how to act on the issues we had studied. The new group decided that the justice issues that were most important were race and climate.

We started the Anne North Memorial Library as a resource for anyone to learn more about racial and other justice issues, so we can address them throughout our society and world. The library includes materials about race and class in the United States and other justice issues, such as those affecting the Palestinians.

The library is in the glass case in the hallway near the Parish Hall. Please browse the books and check out any that interest you. It's easy to stop by on your way to coffee hour.

We also work on climate issues. We started with a talk about the climate crisis at coffee hour. Now we offer the chance to sign petitions for issues related to reduction in greenhouse gasses and adapting to the changing climate. Typically, these happen at the coffee hour after the ten o'clock service on the second Sunday of the month.

We will continue our work this year. If you are interested in joining, please contact Deacon Liz, Ann Crockett, or Bill Cassidy.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Cassidy*

# Holy Land Ministry

The Holy Land Ministry held a fundraiser, with the goal, of giving a Palestinian Scholarship to an Episcopal Technological Vocational Training Center (ETVTC) student. The drawing raised \$3000 which was used to sponsor three students. Maria, Celine, and Taleen were selected by Giovanni Anbar, Headmaster of ETVTC. Regular updates were given keeping the congregation informed of the students' progress and well-being.

Jo Bronson gave presentations at St. Michael's All Angels Episcopal Church, All Saints Episcopal Church, and Grace Memorial Episcopal Church. The story was told of her humanitarian work when she travels to Ramallah, Palestine twice a year.

Rev. Dick Toll arranged to have Mark Braverman of Kairos Palestine speak at Grace on Friday, January 19, 2024 giving an update on the current situation in Palestine and how we got here. Due to the Arctic Blast, we had to cancel the presentation.

Deb Pratt will be organizing "Bearing Witness" class to be taught in 2024. The class will focus on the humanitarian work done by the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) who sponsor 18 schools, 4 medical clinics, and 2 hospitals in the Holy Lands.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Members of the Holy Land Ministry: Rev. Dick Toll, Deb Pratt, and Jo Bronson*

## Women of Grace

The Women of Grace (WOG) includes all women who attend Grace Memorial Episcopal Church. Women of Grace is connected to the Oregon Episcopal Church Women, referred to as ECW. We have continued to pay our annual dues to the ECW of Oregon so we can participate in their activities. The church office will post information about ECW events in the e-notes.

The Holiday Bazaar has been Women of Grace's main source of income since the 1940s. A special thanks to all of the fabulous volunteers. At this year's Bazaar we had some returning artists and some new artists which helps to keep things fresh. The food booth sold 42 cases of jams, chutneys, etc. The Holiday Bazaar and Art Faire made over \$5800.00 this year. This is the highest profit ever!

The Leadership Team meets annually and decides how to distribute the funds. In the past the focus has been on parish programs and Grace Institute scholarships along with a larger project every couple of years such as remodeling the nursery bathroom or repainting the inside of the Halsey house. This year's proceeds will follow the same formula.

The Holiday Bazaar Leadership Team met and has decided to continue the event for the benefit of Grace Institute. There will also continue to be funds for the Grace pianos and St. Mary's Guild.

The current Women of Grace Leadership Team is retiring. At this point it will be important for someone to step up and take over running the Women of Grace/ECW if people would like that group to continue.

Again, we hope someone has an interest in taking over the Women of Grace/ECW and finding some new activities to encourage membership. After many years this leadership team is stepping down from the Women of Grace.

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

## Grace Gala, 2024 Celebrate and Renew

**This year's gala, "Celebrate and Renew" re-established the mission and intent of the community center, focusing on supporting our partners' missions by making their rents as affordable as possible.** This orientation has been a bit lost over time and re-focusing the gala renewed its purpose and meaning.

The Gala was an unqualified success, especially coming back to an in-person event after being online during Covid. It centered on the recommendations made to the co-chairs by past Gala teams. This included Kristin Greene, Amy Starr Thomas, Sharon Loomis-Malin, and Carol Snead. Their observations made clear the following: 1) It is imperative to simplify the Gala, 2) the Gala has become too expensive relative to the time and energy and amount of money raised, 3) the event is too expensive for everyone to attend, 4) the event needs to be more family friendly, and 5) it needs to maintain the spirit of fun as the community gathers in common cause to exercise the mission of the gala and the parish.

The Gala Core Team of Myra Clark and Charles McGee, co-chairs; Deb Pratt (Food Chair), Zane Barlow (Chair, decorations, and technology), Carol Snead (technology support) and Yetunde Laniran (food and overall support), met weekly and carried out the following steps to address these recommendations:

- 1) **Re-focused the event** on the mission of the parish with an opening video statement (thank you Fr. Martin!) from Fr. Stephen Schneider, who founded the Community Center. Brought home the impact on our partners who use the building by utilizing personal testimonies from them.
- 2) **Simplified the Gala** by offering hors d'oeuvres in a happy hour setting instead of a sit-down dinner, shortened the event, sold Golden Tickets instead of having a Silent Auction (which has been problematic for some years), and emphasizing the paddle raise (this has always raised the greatest amount of money for the auction) while still having a smaller live auction. Used online payments and credit card registration as has been done in the past.
- 3) **Lowered the expense** of the Gala for attendees by cutting ticket prices in half; tickets were made available for those who couldn't afford to pay. Offered a variety of contribution levels. Kept food costs down as much as possible, given the rise in costs the past few years.
- 4) **Made the event more family friendly** by providing a Kid's Program with experienced leaders, a meal and which ought be cost-free for those parents and legal guardians attending the event. This was thanks to a generous, anonymous donation.
- 5) **Kept the spirit of fun** through developing the theme, the church and gala websites, the happy hour concept, decorations, music, MCs, selling Golden Tickets, and written weekly updates both printed and online. Allowed time for mingling before and after the event.

As a fundraiser to support the rent paid by our partners for use of the space, this format was as successful as previous formats. We brought in \$44,710.50 after payment and credit card transaction fees. Other expenses totaled \$4550.80, making our total of what we brought in \$40,160.20.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Myra Clark and Charles McGee II, Co-chairs*

## Outreach Committee

On February 5<sup>th</sup> we had our initial meeting of the Outreach Committee. We discussed what we have done and want to do in our efforts to spread the Gospel and care for our neighbors.

Marcia McKean wrote the Outreach Committee's Statement of Purpose and we all agreed that it is what we want to happen through our work:

*We seek to further Grace's purpose of effecting transformational change in individuals, in our Portland neighborhoods, and in other communities near and far. Trying our best to be the hands of Christ in this world, we seek to use the resources we have to take compassionate and effective action.*

Below are the areas where we are currently serving our neighbors in need:

1. **Sack Lunch Ministry** – focuses on conversation, communication in addition to providing a meal, socks, gloves, hats, etc. We are now having quarterly in-gatherings of food for the Sack Lunch Ministry in February, May, August, and November. Avril is working with the children of the parish to prepare the meals that we give away during the week.
2. **Free Little Pantry** – providing free food, provided by GMEC and our neighbors.
3. **St. Mary's Guild** – giving home-made quilts, blankets and prayer shawls to those in need.
4. **Providing Church Spaces** – AA, NA, GA, Free Lunch Collective.
5. **Trinity Cathedral, Monrovia Liberia** – New Borehole Well project for the Cathedral and school.
6. **Palestinian Outreach Ministry** – Jo Bronson spearheaded the campaign to raise funds to sponsor three students in the Hospitality program at the Episcopal, Technological Vocational Training Center, ETVTC, in Ramallah, Palestine.

**The Friday Meal Project:** This stopped with the onset of COVID in 2020. Met with folks involved in putting on the meal and outlined the needs in personnel, time, and costs. Met with our church neighbors: Westminster Presbyterian, Central Lutheran, and Bridgetown Church. Currently these three communities are unable to partner with us. We are exploring new ways to continue this needed and much desired effort.

I have stepped aside as the leader of our Outreach Committee and am happy to pass the reins on to Marcia McKean, Lara Halsey, and Schuyler Halsey. They have some great ideas and will be sharing them with Grace at our next State of Grace meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that the next In-Gathering of food for the Sack Lunch Ministry is next Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the 8AM and 10AM Services.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Kevin Walsh, January 21, 2024*

# Music Ministry at Grace

I would like to extend a note of gratitude to all at Grace who have so loyally contributed their gifts of time, talent, and support to our Music Ministry for the Glory of God in our worship services and concerts.

It continued to be an extraordinary year in many ways for Music Ministry at Grace.

I am most grateful to our Grace Choir members and guest singers for their steady and unwavering support in contributing to the musical life of our worship services throughout the entire year – including the summer this past year. Special Thanks go to: *Phoebe MacRae*, who sings like an angel and is Shannon's sister twin; *Shannon Jones*, who sings like an angel and is Phoebe's sister twin; the esteemed triumvirate power altos: *Cameron Denney*, *Debbie McDuffee*, and *Kinnari Shah*; the soaring, experienced and vibrant tenors: *Rowan Clark*, *William Gao*, *Soren Cowell-Shah*, *LeRoy Patton*, *Andrew D'Antonio*; and the dynamic and polished basses *Kirin Cowell-Shah*, *Kevin Walsh*, and *Bob Hansler*! Your musicality, dedication and hard work allows us to sing challenging and inspiring music. Thank you!

With a generous gift, 2023 saw a significant investment into providing new choir cottas (cathedral style) for the Choir! The choir has not seen a vestment investment in over 25+ years, so this was a wonderful way to refresh and give a boost of support to our dedicated choir members. Thank you to *Cameron Denney*, who faithfully help to organize, wash, label and assign all our choir robes! This is a huge task, and I am grateful for you!

We continued to develop and grow our *Grace Choral Scholarship* program. Special noted thanks to *Soren Cowell-Shah*, *Malcolm Grant*, *Kirin Cowell-Shah* and *Rowan Clark*, *William Gao* (all students and former students) at Lincoln High School and *Catlin Gabel* who provided tenor and bass support to our choir program. We are so proud of this student involvement at Grace, and we are very grateful for our music donors who give support to this new program. Our choral students' enthusiasm, commitment and joyous participation has been wonderful to see in our services and has also provided a stable foundation for SATB singing in our choir.

Musical highlights in the year began with another lovely Epiphany Evensong at the first of the year accompanied by carols and melodies performed by *Gwyneth and Bruce Van Buskirk* on recorders and Renaissance guitar, followed by an Epiphany party where we enjoyed a beautifully decorated Kings' cake from the Helen Bernhard bakery. The talented and wonderful *Kim Taylor* (composer, songwriter, and wife of our former curate, Rev. Dan Carlson) provided many solos throughout the spring. A lovely quartet, including guest tenor *John Cox*, *Kevin Walsh*, *Cameron Denney* and *Phoebe MacRae* offered beautiful music for the dedication of our *Chapel of the Nativity*, and we had several musical offerings from our guest instrumentalists (notably *Adaiha MacAdam-Somer*, cello; *Jonathan Johnson* and *Daniel Schmidt*, trumpets; and *Phyllis Louke*, flute) throughout the Holy Week and Easter season.

During the second half of the year, musical highlights included special music for Stewardship Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, which included a new arrangement for choir and congregation of the gorgeous hymn, *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent*, by the new organist at Duke University, *Chad Fothergill*. The choir also sang the lovely *Missa Omnes Sancti*, a beautiful mass setting by the esteemed English composer, *Malcolm Archer*, composed for choir and two organs – which we have! Our portable organ - given as a gift to Grace from *Nan Bode*, the former organist at Ascension Chapel - we are now starting to enjoy this

lovely and versatile gift! I am incredibly grateful for the wonderful and talented *Robert Hansler*, former organist of the Episcopal Cathedral in Springfield, MA, who joined us on this occasion and who steps in periodically to sing in the choir and be a substitute organist for our services. Thank you, *Bob!*

And lastly, special thanks to *Kevin Walsh and Andy D'Antonio* who also stepped in to help sing throughout the year and at our Advent Lessons and Carols service in December.

In November, we introduced our new, once a month, Sunday evening service – *A Celtic Service* – on the second Sunday of the month at 5pm. It was very well-received, and we now have it a regular worship offering. Special thanks to *Phoebe MacRae and Kathleen Chapman* who was cantor and played flute helped us to explore music from the Celtic traditions.

Lastly, on the last Sunday of the church year, we had the special privilege of hearing Martin and Phoebe's oldest son, *Amiel Elfert* - an Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, CA and *Isolde Welby*, a soprano and a Choral Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, CA offer special music at the 10am service. Ami played *Les Bergers* (The Shepherds) from Olivier Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur, neuf méditations pour orgue*, (*The Nativity of the Lord, nine meditations for organ or The Birth of the Saviour*).

Thank you all for your wonderful, kind and generous support of the music ministry at Grace. If one common thread among our services can be identified, it is that Grace loves to sing God's praises, and we are blessed to carry God's joy in our hearts with praises and song!

*Musical blessings to you!*  
*Susan Jensen*, Choir Director/Organist

## Weekday Sack Lunch Ministry

*... Freely you have received; freely give.*  
*Matthew 10:8*

Grace continues its decades long tradition of distributing food, offering also a warm welcome and place of acceptance to anyone coming to our door. Our volunteers work from 11 AM to 1 PM, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, rain or shine, hot or cold, distributing healthy sack lunches, water, socks, gloves and toiletries. Our total annual 2023 numbers are up from pandemic years to approximately 895 lunches, 710 bottles of water, 320 pairs of socks, 85 pairs of gloves/scarves, dozens of toiletries and other items including shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. These numbers do not reflect many lunches and other items given to visitors to Grace outside volunteer days and hours.

Parishioner donations of food, water, toiletries, and funds make the program possible. The lunches are made up of nutritious, non-perishable items including pop-top cans of pork and beans, pop-top soups and stews, tuna and chicken snack boxes, granola bars, fruit and pudding cups, small packets of dried fruit and nuts, and packets of crackers and cheese. We strive to include protein, fruit, fiber, and calcium in each lunch that can be eaten immediately or later. Socks, so vital to hygiene for those living on the streets or without heat, are a popular item as are gloves, both of which we keep in good supply.

Many of our visitors are glad for a time of hospitality and conversation. Many are regulars. Several Street Roots Rose City Resource Guides were given again in 2023 to help identify services our visitors are seeking. Grace's Outreach Committee is exploring how to further guide people to needed services beyond our resources.

An increased volunteer base with new ideas and energy has strengthened this small but mighty ministry. Some days may have few visitors and others may bring 15 or more to Grace.

Grateful thanks to those who so generously donate food, water, and other items, to those who make the sack lunches, and to those who so faithfully distribute the lunches to people who come to us for a nutritious lunch and a place of welcome.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Fraser and Avril Johnson*

## The Little Free Pantry Ministry

Now in its third year, the free pantry provides a random selection of non-perishable food on a "Take what you need. Donate what you can" basis. Parishioners and neighbors donate the food in the pantry, located on the NE corner of the church at NE 17<sup>th</sup> and Weidler. Approximately one third to one half of the donations come anonymously from the neighborhood. The food disappears quickly and can be restocked several times a day or at longer intervals, depending upon when donations are received or placed in the pantry.

Donations may be placed directly in the pantry or left inside in the box across from the church office. Non-perishables are recommended to avoid spoilage. Apples and potatoes, however, have gone quickly and items such as bicycle helmets, toothpaste and brushes, and other donations have quickly found homes. Donated food items not suitable for the sack lunches find a home in the pantry. Favorite pantry items include boxes of cereal, large cans of stew or soup, tuna fish, spaghetti sauce, cake mixes. Individual or family size items are welcome.

According to the 2023 Point in Time Count, homelessness in Portland increased by 65% from 2015 to 2023, from 1,887 to 6,297 individuals. Countless others must decide between food on the table or payment of bills or rent. Others are simply uplifted by the generosity of strangers leaving something for someone else in an open church cupboard with no questions asked. Grace has received notes of appreciation from neighbors for offering this outreach. The experiment is working.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Fraser*

# Daughters of the King

Our Daughters of the King chapter, initiated April 18, 2004, faithfully ministered at Grace Memorial helping with our mass mailings, assisting with the yearly easter egg hunt, and with prayer, spiritual readings, and meditations. The Daughters of the King made the decision to disband this chapter as of July 31, 2023. We appreciate their service to Grace Memorial.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Walsh, Co-Senior Warden*

## Welcoming Ministry: Coffee Hour

Coffee hour after the 10 am worship at Grace is about inviting members and visitors to stay a little longer, getting to know each other better, and making the church more than an hour-long to-do in their day. The focus is to bring people together to strengthen the bonds of the church community.

How do you host a church coffee hour?

Hosting is simple! Bring simple snacks. Brew coffee. Set out food. Set out water. Clean up.

As we welcome back Coffee Hour Post Covid, we can use the gathering to:

1. Strengthening bonds

Coffee hour allows people to gather, strengthen friendships, and welcome strangers into the community.

2. Inviting visitors

Coffee hour is an opportunity to invite visitors to stay longer, get to know each other, and make church more than just a to-do.

3. Providing fellowship

Coffee hour can be a chance to foster fellowship among parishioners and guests.

4. Building community

Coffee hour can be a way to build community one cup at a time.

5. Spiritually nourishing

Coffee hour can be a time for congregants to nourish one another spiritually.

6. Embodiment of Jesus' welcome

Coffee hour can be a way to embody the welcome Jesus gives us to his realm.

Looking forward to more participation by the church community!

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Yetunde Laniran, organizer*

# PHAME

PHAME Academy is an arts organization for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, with over 140 students per year. We offer a multidisciplinary array of arts classes, including theater, dance, music, visual art, and technology classes – walking down the halls in Grace Church, you can hear us drumming, see our students learning digital photography, or experience some of the art we’re making every week! We operate M-TH at GMEC, in your parish hall, sanctuary, Opdenweyer room, and chapel, and our students have been grateful for over 15 years to call Grace their home. We also rent out office space in the Grace House next door. We are currently offering 30+ classes to students from around the country, as well as social gatherings, performance opportunities and workshops. We also have active partnerships with several other arts organizations around the region, including Write Around Portland, Artists Repertory Theater, Oregon Ballet Theater, Portland Art Museum, and the Portland Revels.

Thanks to the fantastic support and partnership GMEC has provide to PHAME over the last many years, we have continued to successfully grow and add more programs and students. Due to this growth, we are starting to outgrow our space at GMEC, and are actively pursuing acquiring a space of our own. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, we closed on a property on SE 12<sup>th</sup> avenue, and are about halfway through a capital campaign so we can afford to build out the space. Our goal is to move into our new space mid-year in 2025, but we hope to continue to have a long-term relationship with GMEC. Thank you for your friendship and support.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Jenny Stadler, Executive Director for PHAME*

## Grace Campus Usage

2023 was a year of transition and growth for the Parish as a whole. When I took a leave of absence last year, many of you stepped up to weather the storm. Since then, we’ve seen some dear people come and go, and still there is evidence that we are cultivating a sacred space.

Our campus is full of activity as usual. Our building partners and renters are flourishing, including several 12 Step Programs, Multnomah County, Friends of Mystery Book Club, as well as local concerts and fundraising events.

Grace Art Camp is masterfully adapting to many staff changes and I feel so lucky that they are such a huge part of this Parish. PHAME has expanded in-person classes and added Wednesdays to their weekly schedule. They are utilizing the newly remodeled chapel and have reported that it increases the amount of programming they can do because of accessibility. Universal Taekwondo, the Sack Lunch Program, The Little Free Pantry, and Tai Chi are all thriving as well.

For the upcoming year we will put some additional business processes in place for added clarity and communication. Our new treasurer, Warren Burkholder is proving to be a huge support to the office, and I look forward to working more closely with him on policies and procedures. Lastly, we are transitioning to a new platform called Subsplash that will include an app for easy access to sermons, bulletins, giving, and communicating with fellow parishioners.

A huge thanks to Curt Germundson, Kevin Walsh, and Lisa Freedman for their continued support and coaching. The Staff Retreat hosted and facilitated by Lisa Wynn was a notable bonding experience. There, we established many norms and agreements:

- Stay Engaged.
- Differences are welcome.
- Listen to inquire and understand.
- Expect non-closure and take note of issues we can circle back to later.
- Step back or step up.
- Clarify and commit to next steps – ask and don't assume, clear is kind.
- Designated safe place.
- Assume positive intent.
- Turn emotions into action items we can work on.

Thanks to Anson Jones for jumping into the role of Bookkeeper/Parish Assistant and to Lukas Sherman for being our Campus Steward. Anson and Lukas were hired while I was away and ended up taking on so much more work than expected. We have a great rapport in the office, and I can always count on them for support and encouragement. I'm so thankful for Lara and Schuyler who are willing to help when we need extra hands. For instance, they helped us cook soup for this meeting!

I also want to say thanks once more to those of you who took on extra work to allow for me to care for two loved ones last year. A special thanks to Susan Jensen, Liz Klein, Avril Johnson, Susan and Curt Germundson, Dan Heuvel, Demetria Keck, Cathy Gibson, Nancy Entrikin, Sally Fraser, Kevin Walsh, David Waldow, Phoebe and Martin Elfert, Dan and Kim Carlson, and to the parish as a whole. It has been such a pleasure getting to know so many of you more this last year. I am encouraged by this community, and I appreciate your continued support as we grow together in this coming year.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Doty, Parish Manager*

## Grace Memorial Episcopal Church Foundation

The Grace Memorial Episcopal Foundation (Foundation) is one of three interrelated nonprofit corporations: Grace Memorial Episcopal Church (Grace), Grace Institute (GI) and the Foundation.

The Grace Vestry is the governing body of Grace Parish and is the founder of Grace Institute and the Foundation. The Vestry provides continuing oversight to the missions of Grace Institute and the Foundation through its election of the Board of Directors of Grace Institute and the Foundation's Board of Trustees. Further, the Vestry approves any changes to the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of Grace Institute or the Foundation. The Foundation, a financial arm of Grace, manages a few small funds and the Watt Edwards Family Endowment given to Grace to benefit the Grace Institute Program under the terms of the agreement with the donor.

In 2023 the Foundation continued working with Trillium Asset Management as our investment manager. As of December 31, 2022, the Foundations portfolio was valued at \$1,079,494. The 2023 Foundation accounts increased by \$107,433 in 2023 the ending balance of \$1,186,927.

During 2023, grants to Grace Institute were approved by the Trustees and distributed, totaling \$45,000. The Foundation grants continue supporting Grace Institute, including specific projects and programs. In addition, the Foundation distributed \$8,500 to the Parish to cover operating services received.

*The Trustees of the Foundation support initiatives put forward by Grace Institute, which support these key objectives:*

- 1. Capacity Building: Where most funds are needed to incentivize donors.*
- 2. Cultural authenticity and a culture arts studio: Provide “culture keepers” with authentic Indian guest artists.*
- 3. Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Training and Mentorship Staff position: will provide hands-on situational essentials and enhanced training for all staff and artists.*
- 4. New Camp Logo.*
- 5. Funding to support 2 staff.*

The current Foundation Trustees are Yetunde Laniran, President; Warren Burkholder, Treasurer; Barbara Brecht, Vice President; Deb Pratt, Secretary; and Rev. Martin Elfert, ex officio. Sally Fraser and Curt Germundson remain on the board until additional members are added.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Yetunde Laniran, Warren  
Burkholder*



# Grace Institute's Annual Report

**In 2023, Grace Institute had its amazingly bright spots** – centered around our three seasonal multicultural Grace Art Camp programs. It also had its significant challenges. With creative out-of-the-box thinking among our core staff, GI Board and Advisors, key *Rock Star!* donors, professional teaching artists and essential volunteers, we weathered the difficulties and emerged strong.

**Change happens.** Fall brought the retirement of our beloved Executive Director Sharon Loomis-Malin in early October. Development Director, Kelley Wong, expanded her position and stepped into Sharon's role as Interim Executive Director. Amy Gray – Art Camp Director, and Ashley Klump – Registrar, Operations & Social Media Manager took on elements of the ED role as well. Those changes were quickly followed by the sudden vacancy of (and job search for) a Business Manager/Bookkeeper/HR Manager when Bookkeeper Kate Coffey moved to Bend. Gratefully, we hired an experienced Business Manager, Bookkeeper & HR Coordinator, Loren Johnson. Thankfully, Annie Rimmer-Weeks, former Business Manager, and GI Board Treasurer Leslie Mills were available to onboard Loren. Grace Institute now has a 4-person year-round part-time staff.

**Financial challenges** hit Grace Institute hard when we faced a shortfall of \$160,000. Although our Development Director applied for over \$300,000 in grant funding throughout the year, we realized \$79,000 of those requests. With anticipated funding from Oregon State's Summer Learning funds we received in the previous two years, we took a \$100,000 hit in anticipated revenue when the legislature chose not to include those state-wide dollars in their 2023 budget. This increased foundation grant competition all over the state; many non-profit summer learning programs failed due to the funding loss. Then several other GI requests to Marie Lamfrom, PGE, Collins, Hoover Family, and other Foundations were denied due to intense competition among arts organizations and a shift in alignment priorities.

Then fall brought the **Portland Public School's Teachers Strike** that impacted us on many levels: campers, artists and staff, finances. With the PPS decision to hold school during the beginning of Winter Break, which covers the same dates as our Winter Peace Camp, our team had to make critical decisions to hold camp or not to hold camp. With the advice and support of the GI Board, they encouraged us to try our mightiest to hold camp, which we did. We enticed those PPS families with three options: 1) get a refund, 2) defer to a 3-day minicamp at the same rate for Spring or Summer 2024; or 3) donate the tuition and get first dibs on a full-week of summer camp. We had families who chose one of those generous options. In the meantime, Amy and Ashley scrambled to fill the camp with non-PPS campers from private schools not affected by the PPS strike, cultivated families on the waitlist, and called schools and agencies about possible scholarship campers. We also added 5-year-olds to this camp, increasing our numbers. We were offered lemons – and made lemonade! While we cut back on the number of counselors and artists needed for fewer campers, we still had a comfortably full house during Winter Peace Camp – with many new happy campers (and their parents) onboard! We provided 17% of WPC families with scholarships, made possible by our Scholarship Reserve and Where Needed Most Funds. ***And gloriously through it all, we were able to draw on reserve buckets made possible through private donations.***

## Overview of Grace Institute's Programs

### **Spring Break Camp:**

Spring Break Camp 2023, much like 2022, took insights from a story set on the Irish Moors and invited 90 campers to visit the same 6 studio rotations, Theatre, Animation, Paper Arts, Glass, Visual Art, and Fibre arts. With 14 hired counselors and 8 artists we kept our ratio of 1:4 adult to youth which makes our program such high quality.

### **Summer Grace Art Camp:**

Serving 1286 campers, 2023 "Summer of India" was the longest running Grace Art Camp in history, with 9 weeks of programming and the most diverse, with more than a dozen hired Culture Keepers. An innovative move to be more intentional about cultural authenticity allowed us to hire a Culture Keeper for content development. Chelsea Dyapa, who trained with us and attended camp in an assessor role, became a resource for teaching artists, offering a lens on individual lesson plans. With suggestions to make them as deeply rooted in cultural authenticity as possible while also being youth best-practice centered, Chelsea's approach was personal and inclusive, offering a feedback loop for anyone interested and invested in best practice. Every artist who participated received acknowledgement of good work as well as possibilities for further development within their lessons. We were grateful for generous funding for training from the Mary and Pete Mark Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation and the Grace Foundation.

Other Culture Keepers included Portland Bollywood Star DJ Anjali on Mondays and Tuesdays for morning assemblies, special assembly and in our dance studio. Three families brought several generations to Grace, resulting in grandmothers in their 90s cooking traditional Indian recipes in the Culinary studios. We benefited from Henna artists, a mother and daughter team, every week and other dance performers as well.

In addition to the Indian Culture Keepers, we onboarded new Roster Artists in glass, ceramics, and visual art. It was a season of growth. While we mostly delighted in the dynamism and abundance of a growing community, we also experienced loss. Grace's animation studio and assembly have been run by Robert Randall for a decade, he left camp at the end of summer. Grace Ceramics lead artist, Dani Mitchell, also turned in her badge at the end of 2023 summer to pursue other endeavors.

### **Winter Peace Camp:**

We are proud to say we prevailed even in the face of many circumstances and had a wonderful Winter Peace Camp, all things considered. With the loss of the Glass Studio space, then the PPS Teacher Strike and loss of 50 plus campers from registration, plus 7 counselors from the 15-counselor workforce, we ended the camp with 83 campers and a full staff. Go Team! As a silver lining, we now have seeds planted for several mini-camps in 2024 by rescheduling our PPS campers from WPC to a future mini-camp.

WPC stories were performance centric, and we ended with a joyful, theatrical, musical performance for parents. The studios included music and dance, podcasting, theater, glass, sculpture, and visual art.

### **Seasonal Classes:**

In 2023, we offered four weekend art classes in December, all taught by our beloved Mariann Koop-McMahon. Designed for ages seven to adults, 50 participants developed their skills in fused glass design in *Glass Snowscapes* and two *Geo-Animal Ornaments* classes, and 3D collage in our new *Multimedia Seasonal Landscape Ornaments* class.

**Art of Recycling Festival:**

This fun, free event is typically held in November. We cancelled it in 2023 due to budget constraints, though we hope to hold it again in 2024.

**Scholarship Program:**

The Scholarship Reserve Fund is generously supported by several foundations and entities, as well as individual donors. Thank you very much for your ongoing support. We strive for a 10% scholarship award goal of all camp participants. The spreadsheet, below, shows nine years of comparison details.

**Grace Art Camp 2014-2023 Scholarship Comparison Report**

updated: 1/4/2024

Grace Art Camp Tuition	\$390	\$385	\$375	\$375	\$345	\$335	\$295	\$285	\$285
	2023	2022	2021	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>All Camps Scholarship Income Sources</b>									
Camps for Kids Scholarship Funding	\$ 1,560	\$ 1,540	\$ 2,125						
Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Scholarship Funding	\$ 1,170	\$ 1,155	\$ 1,000	\$ 750	\$ 690	\$ 670	\$ 530	\$ 500	\$ 550
GMEC Foundation (included in WNM fund 2021 & 2023)		\$ 12,500		\$ 16,300	\$ 17,600	\$ 12,500	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,000
Juan Young Trust	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000							
Kaiser Foundation matching funds					\$ 131	\$ 100	\$ 150	\$ 125	\$ 65
Kate Bennison Fund	\$ 3,555	\$ 3,850	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,450	\$ 3,350			
WNM / individual Donors (Reserves included for 2014-18)	\$ 8,000			\$ 3,360	\$ 3,213	\$ 3,402	\$ 170	\$ 600	\$ 2,400
Parent Donations w/ registration (2022 incl WNM funds too)	\$ 1,805	\$ 8,575	\$ 600	\$ 2,597	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,963	\$ 1,770	\$ 1,905	\$ 2,005
Scholarship Reserve Fund (2021 incl GMEC Foundation funds)	\$ 10,910		\$ 22,148	\$ 4,111					
Windemere Foundation (eligible every other year)	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,500						
<b>Total Foundations &amp; Other Sources</b>	<b>\$ 39,500</b>	<b>\$ 37,620</b>	<b>\$ 32,123</b>	<b>\$ 30,868</b>	<b>\$ 26,634</b>	<b>\$ 21,985</b>	<b>\$ 10,620</b>	<b>\$ 10,130</b>	<b>\$ 11,020</b>

WNM = Where Needed Most fund

Includes 3-Day Mini Camp(s)

Scholarships Awarded	2023	2022	2021	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>All Camps Agency Partners/Title 1 Schools</b>									
Black Excellence (2022: 1 is listed under IRCO)		13							
BPI camperships								2	2
Friends of the Children	1								
Holy Cross School (Hispanic comm)	22	8	8						
Human Solutions				4	3	10			
IRCO awards	1	1							2
JOIN			1	1					
Kairos-PDX	3	4		4					
Lincoln Park School (David Douglas SD)				3	11	9			
Local Hispanic Communities			8						
New City Initiative								1	
NW Catholic Counseling			2						
Oregon Dept of Human Services (ODHS)	8	11	8	14	5				
PPS Alder School / Greater Than (afterschool program)	13	5	1	3		4	3		
PPS Chapman School	8								
PPS James John Elementary	4	4	2						
Raphael House			2						
<b>Agency/Schools Scholarships Subtotal **</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>All other need-based scholarships awarded</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Total Scholarships</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Total GAC Seasonal Camp enrollees</b>	<b>1456</b>	<b>1193</b>	<b>1100</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>1253</b>	<b>1254</b>
<b>% Enrolled with scholarship</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Full scholarships	121	102	88	71	48	43	24	24	16
Partial scholarships	17	15	19	27	32	28	13	13	29
<b>Full GAC scholarships as % of Total</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>36%</b>

\*\*2023--Offered 70+ full scholarships through 14 local agencies, partners, Title 1 schools, and ODHS offices; 47 campers attended.

\*\*2022--We made 68 full scholarship offers through 12 local agencies, partners, Title 1 schools, and 5 ODHS offices; six entities responded.

\*\*2023 Scholarship Funds & Awards include 3 seasonal camps. Prior years include only summer GAC.

**We are extremely grateful to the GI Board of Directors, Advisory Team, and numerous volunteers** for their time, guidance, talent, and support. The 2023 Grace Institute Board of Directors include: Voting members Evelyn Prater (President), Alysson Enriquez (Secretary), Leslie Mills (Treasurer), Jan Burkholder, Cathy Gibson, and Peyton Snead. Non-voting members include Rev. Martin Elfert, Charles McGee (Vestry Liaison), Sharon Loomis-Malin (Executive Director, served through her retirement September 2023), and Kelley Wong (Interim Executive Director, served beginning October 2023). Artists' Representative Robert Randall served through summer of 2023. We will have a new Artists' Rep in 2024.

**Advisory Team:** Susan Germundson, former Board member and retired PPS teacher; and Habiba Addo, professional storyteller and long-time Art Camp artist.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
Kelley Wong, Interim Executive Director

# Board Members

## **Grace Memorial Episcopal Church Vestry:**

Kevin Walsh (2026), Co-Senior Warden,  
Charles A. McGee II Co-Senior Warden, Chair  
David Waldow (2025), Junior Warden  
Curt Germundson  
& Warren Burkholder Jr., Treasurers  
Alicia Lehrle, Clerk  
Keri Beck (2025)  
Roosevelt Carter (2026)  
Myra Clark (2024)  
Andrew D'Antonio (2024)  
Sally Fraser (2025)  
Yetunde Laniran (2026)  
Bindhu Newell (2024)  
Calvin Richardson (2024)  
Stephen Weeks (2024)  
Jennifer Yeast (2026)

## **Grace Institute:**

Evelyn Prater, President  
Alysson Enriquez, Secretary  
Leslie Mills, Treasurer  
Cathy Gibson  
Jan Burkholder  
Sharon Loomis-Malin (retired 2023)  
Kelley Wong  
Robert Randall (retired 2023)  
The Rev. Martin Elfert, ex-officio  
Charles McGee, Vestry Liaison  
Peyton Snead

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Deb Pratt, Secretary  
Warren Burkholder, Treasurer  
Barbara Brecht, Vice President  
The Rev. Martin Elfert, ex officio  
Sally Fraser  
Curt Germundson