



SEPT 2023

From the Desk of The Rev. Joe Pierjok

SPIRIT of GRACE

GRACE CHURCH, 820 Howard St, PO Box 596,
Carthage MO 64836

**COFFEE
HOSTS
SEPT**

Mark
Barbara
Zelma



Stay focused! As the new school year begins and the buzz of the excitement about new beginnings ramps up, don't forget to stay focused! Beloved, if you haven't noticed lately our world is going a bit crazy. I'm not claiming that it is right or wrong that its running amuck, just stating a fact that is important to keep in front of us. The world seems to be moving faster and faster and the rate and ways in which we can share and read/hear others thoughts, feelings and opinions is ever increasing. Through all of this it is my prayer that you will stay focused. Beloved, life IS crazy, but it is also beautiful, joyful and God is breaking into our lives all around us. During the month of August, we have heard Jesus ask the question over and over, do you have life? In other words, what are you focused on? You see, we can choose to allow the news, Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, or any other platform pull us into fear, hate, loneliness, depression, and the list goes on and on. What our news cycle often glosses over is that God is breaking in everywhere. Strangers helping strangers, people of privilege standing up and aside for those who have been downcast for so long, love blooming, relationships building, all of these holy things are very rarely reported to us. So, we need to stay focused. We need to stay focused, as Christians you and I, through our baptism and confirmation, have chosen to live a different kind of life. I know this is going to come off wrong to some who read this, but try to stick with me. We have taken a vow to live a life dedicated to living, worshiping, respecting, and loving God. Where do you think that you can find God every day? Beloved, God is all around you. God is in the air, the trees, the bees, your neighbor's dog, and especially in the people that are all around you. That's what we must stay focused on. We must train our hearts and minds to see and enter the divine experience that God invites each of us into at every moment of every day. The things we do, say, read are all ways in which we live life, but God's deepest desire is for you, and I is to HAVE Life! We need to stay focused that God is all around us and IN us. You and I are the hands, feet, and heart of God right here in this world. Ask yourself if you are focused on God, on your vows as a Christ follower, or are you instead focused on the world and trying to "save" or "convince" it of something? You see, when we lose focus on what our lives are to be about, we begin to think that we are in control, yet each of you reading this knows that that is impossible because you and I are not God. Oh yes, a bit of God lives in each of us, but without one another and a shared focus we are just noise makers and not Kingdom builders. Wherever you find yourself in this wonderful life we share, please, **STAY FOCUSED!**

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kate Lasley, George Laytham
4 Sharon McClellan, Michael Goolsby, Brad White, Carter Thompson, Chase Thompson
5 Marsha Delaney, Ruth Hartman, Brayden Waggoner 6 Caleb Stiles
7 Bella Figueroa 8 Jeff Dymott
10 Antony Cordova 11 Stacey Chapman
12 Ida Ruth Locarni
13 Stephan Beimdiek, Mike Thompson, Beth McDaniel, Gabriel Speck
14 Erick Alvarado
15 Tyler Harwell, Lida McCulloch, Heriberto Alvarado
16 Carole Pryor, Sally Stuart
17 Anita Flanigan, Finley Cook
18 Karen Riley, Larry Hartman
19 Robin Blair, Fr Collin Larimore, Paige Rhymer, Owen Sawyer
20 Terry Chilton
21 Debbie Putnam, Shania Figueroa
22 Genesis Alvarado 23 Melissa Stremke
25 Chester White 26 Kirsten Saiz
27 Gaye Dally, Chuck Edds, Allie Rhymer
28 Chalaine Bell, Glenda Erwin, Ashley Rouse
29 Van Ellis, Dr Paul Toma, Joni Nelson
30 Steven Nelson, Christina Ptasinski

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Mel & Julie Anderson, Larry & Marcia McGuire, Jason & Ceri Otero
5 Clif & Emily Kester
8 John & Pam Schaffer
10 Max & Cheryl Hill
12 Steve & Sherry Erwin
15 Bill & Libby Wilson
20 Steve & Betty Goodman
21 Gary & Pam Borland
28 Maurice & Nancy Ranz,
29 Justin & Alexis Slates
30 Michael & Heather Anderson

VESTRY

Adult volunteers are desperately needed for the youth programs this fall. Unless more volunteers come forward, Sunday School will have one class for all elementary aged children and one class for junior high and high school students. Wednesday evenings will have one class for lower elementary, one for upper elementary, and one for combined junior high/high school.

An undesignated bequest of \$91,908 was left to the church. In accordance with long-standing policy, 10% was automatically transferred to the Perpetual Trust. The Vestry voted to transfer \$10,000 to the Education Scholarship Fund, \$5,000 to St. Nicholas-Noel to help them with unexpected repairs to their rectory, and \$5,000 to St. Matthew's-Ozark, which is experiencing financial difficulty. The remaining funds will be allocated after Vestry members have had time to pray about outreach ministries. If you have a suggestion, please talk with a Vestry member!

A bid from Pearson-Kelly was accepted to install a video intercom doorbell system. The Vestry also voted to sponsor the Maple Leaf Festival Quilt Show and the new Chamber Music Series at Pitt State. Our name and logo will be included in promotional materials for both events. The annual Stewardship drive will begin in late September with a breakfast, the date is tba. Please be thinking about your pledges for the upcoming year!

We are down \$55,000 for the year in our budget. As we are beginning to plan for the 2024 budget we ask that you try to stay current with your pledge. Thank you, Grace, for your faithfulness!

The PARISH PRAYER LIST

St Luke's: Louise Barton, Tom Huntley,
Mary Lambert

Oak Pointe: Nancy Frerer, Richard Goolsby,
Lida McCulloch

Wildwood: Helen Moss

Moberly: Eric Adams *OKC:* Kay Graham

Lockwood: Edith Walters

College View: Roger & Sherrie Stinnett

Parishioners: Delores Arner, Ann Carter,
Chesney Family, Terry Chilton, Gaye Dally,
Marilyn Kelley, Frank Lane, Bill McNew,
Karen Rouse, Steve Wampler, Andrew
White, Vincent Wilkowski, Hans Ytell

Current: Bob Bennett, Tiffany Bennett, Jim
Bracht, Alyson Brown, Pete & Carole
Butkus, Sue Butler, David Crough, Heather
Dabney, Addison Daniel, Terri Dant, Mary
Daugherty, Kay Gesaman, Julie Giblin, Cin-
dy Hoover, Dave Johnson, Robert Johnson,
Bob Karraker, Tammy Larimore, KC Lovin,
Don Meadows, Terry Michael, Chelsea Mi-
ley, Mary Moss, Claude Newport, Ginia
Oehlschlager, Nick Platt, Leigh Salyer, Jack
Sandridge, Joe Sandridge, Morgan Schott,
Murphy Seim, Suzy Seim, Brenda Weir,
Lynn Yankie, Nate, Yulia

Our Seminarians,

Katie Mansfield & Jory Mertens

SAINT'S MASS

14 Holy Cross, 6 pm

21 St Matthew, 6 pm

29 St Michael & All Angels 10 am

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Victor Tolle, father of Michael, died Aug 1
John Huntley, brother of Kathy Parker &
Jeanie Slates, died Aug 4

TRANSFER of MEMBERSHIP

Jenny Martindale from St Paul's,
Henderson KY

MAILING ADDRESS

CHANGE or NEW

Scott Stone, PO Box 198, Oronogo
MO 64855

Roger Martin, & Eileen Greenwood,
204 Rock Rd, Loma Linda MO
64804

Lola Grace Chapman, 1001 E
Madison St, S803C Blair Shannon,
MO State Univ,

CONGRATULATIONS...

Birth of Michael Worthen DeYoung,
parents Julia & Creighton DeYoung,
Great Grandparents Jim & Biffie
Creighton, born July 22

SAVE the DATE

6 Youth Groups, 6:30 pm

7 Episcopal 101, 6 pm

8 Father Joe Pierjok's Installation, 6 pm

10 Youth Groups, 9:30 am

12 Knitters, 6 pm

13 St Martha's Guild, 11 am Taste of
Italy

15 Encore Noon

17 Stewardship Mtg 9:30 am Breakfast

19 Vestry, 5:30 pm

21 Episcopal 101, 6 pm

24 Vestry meets with Parishioners, 9:30

26 Knitters, 6 pm

La fe en Dios se practica en comunidad espiritual.

La sociedad incrédula en la que vivimos regularmente afirma que la fe es un asunto privado. Esto no es cierto. Verdaderamente, la fe es un asunto personal tal como Jesús le dijo a Nicodemo: “Tienen que nacer de nuevo” (Jn. 3:7). Sin embargo, una fe personal no es una fe privada. La verdadera fe se vive en comunidad espiritual con los demás. En el Antiguo Testamento, la comunidad de fe era la nación de Israel. En el Nuevo Testamento, es la iglesia, una nueva comunidad en Cristo que trasciende el género, raza, y estado (Gál. 3:28). Vivir en fe en Cristo es vivir en comunión con la iglesia.

La iglesia es la casa de Dios. Pablo, al escribirle a Timoteo en Éfeso, llamó a la iglesia “la casa de Dios, que es la iglesia del Dios vivo, columna y sostén de la verdad” (1 Ti. 3:15). En la salvación nacemos de nuevo y somos adoptados en la familia de Dios. Pero un niño recién nacido necesita formar parte de un hogar para alimentarse, tener compañerismo, y protección. La iglesia es el hogar de la fe (Gál. 6:10). Más que eso, es la casa de Dios. Rechazar a la iglesia es rechazar los medios de cuidado que el Señor ha provisto para sus hijos redimidos.

La membresía de la iglesia brinda seguridad de salvación. Un cristiano es aquel que ha profesado una fe salvífica en el Señor Jesucristo. No obstante, para que haya una verdadera seguridad, esa profesión personal debe hacerse delante de la iglesia. En las cartas del Nuevo Testamento, las dos marcas esenciales de la verdadera conversión son la fe en el Señor Jesucristo y el amor por todos los santos. La comunión cristiana es tan esencial para la verdadera seguridad como la fe personal. El amor por los santos demuestra fe en Cristo.

“Nosotros sabemos que hemos pasado de muerte a vida porque amamos a los hermanos escribió el apóstol Juan. El que no ama permanece en muerte” (1 Jn. 3:14).

La iglesia está espiritualmente unida a Jesucristo. En los Evangelios, Jesús le dijo a los que serían sus discípulos que lo siguieran. Sin embargo, la relación actual entre Cristo y sus seguidores es mayor, más profunda, y más alta que ésta: “Cristo en ustedes, la esperanza de la gloria” (Col. 1:27). Ninguna otra religión se expresa de esa forma sobre la relación entre su líder y sus seguidores. Esta es la unión espiritual entre Cristo y la iglesia; estamos en Cristo y Cristo está en nosotros. Esta unión espiritual con Cristo es lo que nos une como iglesia. La presencia permanente del Rey Dador de Vida reside dentro de cada uno de nosotros y nos ha hecho uno en Cristo.

With the season of Creation being now through the month of September and concluding with our Blessing of Animals on October 4th, I find it only appropriate to share the interesting and little known story of Saint Guinefort. This is one of my favorite stories in Christian tradition and I love sharing it around this time of year every year. Saint Guinefort, the saint that was never really a saint. In fact, the saint that never was - was not a human either. But that is getting *ahead* of the story. The story of Saint Guinefort is a folk lore story of the region around Lyon, France in the 13th century. This is a tragic story of a greyhound and a knight. Guinefort the greyhound was the beloved dog of its master, a knight who lived in a castle near Lyon. One day the knight went on a hunting trip and left Guinefort to watch over his infant child. When the knight had returned, the house was eerily quiet, and the nursery room of his child was destroyed where Guinefort was ready to meet his master with a mouthful of bloody teeth. The knight thought the worst had happened and that it was Guineforts fault, and struck Guinefort dead on the spot in a fit of rage. But then, a child began to cry and the knight found his child with the dead body of a snake next to him gnarled and mangled by dog bites. Guinefort had saved the child from the snake. In sorrowful realization of the mistake he had made, the knight took Guineforts body and placed it at the bottom of an empty well, stones covering it, and trees planted around it making a shrine for the greyhound. Soon, hearing of the heroic deeds of Guinefort, the locals began to visit this shrine and venerate Guinefort as a saint, especially the parents of sick children. This local folk following of Guinefort led to the church deeming the greyhound as a harmful legend. Early protestant churches pointed to “Saint” Guinefort as an example of the errors of the Roman Catholic Church and eventually the Roman Church adopted a similar stance on this cult following of Guinefort to squash the following once and for all. But this failed and the tradition of visiting Saint Guineforts Wood continued well into the 20th century with the last known veneration for a sick child occurring in the 1940s. Regardless of where you stand on the issue of Guineforts sainthood or lack thereof, the story of Guinefort is a powerful one for us all to remember. Be not quick to judge or assume the worst, for often it is then that we will be humbled. Not to mention this superb example of the powerful bond between humanity and Gods other creatures – a dog willing to stand between a deadly adversary and an innocent little child. I hope you enjoyed this story of Saint Guinefort and may God bless all those special creatures in your life. Saintly or otherwise.

VESTRY members will be available between services on Sunday, Sept 24, for any and all questions that you might have. This time is allotted for you, the parishioners, to know what is going on, in and around the church.

ENCORE

Encore will be Sept 15 at noon.
Be sure and add to your calendar!!
Program: Zach Hess—Hess Brother's Bike Shop
Chef: Sharon McClellan, \$5 at the door

VESTRY NOMINEES

Those interested in running for the Church Vestry 2024 should sign up in the Parish Hall.

Qualifications:

Be known to the Treasurer

Member in good standing

Taken communion at least 6 times in the past year

Sixteen years of age or older

About Vestry:

Vestry meets once a month on a Tuesday

Three year term—Voting for four

Sign-up until Oct. 15

Further questions contact Fr Joe

The Grace Players will be performing

“A Haunting We Will Go”

October 27 & 28

and

Nov 3 & 4

If you are interested in helping or have any other questions

please feel free to reach out to

Fr. Joe at

priest@gracecarthage.com

Ole World Market

Dec 1 & 2

**TEA & THEE LADIES
FELLOWSHIP**
Every Wed, 10 am

BIBLE STUDY
Every Thurs, 11 am
In-person or via Zoom (link sent weekly
to email list)

FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP
Every Thurs, 3 pm
Pull up a chair and make new friends!

MEN of GRACE FELLOWSHIP
1st & 3rd Sat, 9 am
Men of the parish are invited to join in
the fellowship and activities.

VESTRY
Tuesday, Sept 19, 5:30 pm

KNITTERS
Tues, Sept 12 & 26, 6 pm

FOLDING NEWSLETTER
Tues, Sept 27, 3 pm

GRACE GIFT SHOP
Hours: Tues. 9 am—1 pm
Thurs. 1—5 pm
Sunday Morning
Many NEW Items
RUTH HARTMAN 471-388-3955

NEEDED
Altar Guild Helpers
For more info call Debby Orr
417-850-3433

EPISCOPAL 101
Starting Sept 7, 6 pm
Classes will be every other Thursday
night through Nov 30.
Classes are for those NEW to the
Church or interested in
Confirmation.
Confirmation will be Dec 9, 5 pm.
Sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.
Call the office for more info.

FR JOE'S INSTALLATION
FRI, SEPT 8, 6 PM
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
All are Welcome

ST LUKE'S EVENT
2nd Sat, Sept 9, 1 pm
Fun, Crafts & Refreshments
Come out and enjoy the fun!

VESTRY MEET and GREET
Sunday, Sept 24 between morning
services. Attend with questions for
the vestry.

LITERACY COUNCIL
PLANT SALE
Sat, Sept 16, 7—11 am
Pansies & Mums

YOUTH GROUPS TO START UP
Wed, Sept 6 & Sun, Sept 10

MINISTERS of WORSHIP: AUGUST

Fri, Sept 1: 10 am

Sacristan: Sue Neely

Sat, Sept 2: 9 am

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

5 pm

Reader/Chalice: Michael Goolsby

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

XIV PENTECOST

Sun, Sept 3: 8 am

Reader/Chalice: Chuck Edds

Server: Chuck Edds

Prayers: Bill Putnam

Sacristan: Margaret Wampler

XIV PENTECOST

10:30 am

OT: Barbara Mountjoy

NT/Chalice: Elaine Wurst

Prayers/Chalice: Mark Sponaugle

Mentor: Elisa White

Server: AJ Rhymer

Cross: Connor Wilkowski

Torches: Lincoln & Barrett Cook

Sacristan: Cindy Chilton

AV: Tracy Wilkowski

Ushers: Austin & Jennifer Rhymer

Flower Delivery: Ann Ulmer,

Pat Brown

Wed, Sept 6: 6 pm

Reader/Chalice: Jon Haffner

Sacristan: Cindy Chilton

Fri, Sept 8: 10 am

Sacristan: Sue Neely

Sat, Sept 9: 9 am

Sacristan: Cindy Chilton

5 pm

Reader: Glenda Erwin

Chalice: Bill Putnam

Sacristan: Margaret Wampler

XV PENTECOST

Sun, Sept 10: 8 am

Reader: Ashley Rouse

Chalice/Prayers:

Server:

Sacristan: Margaret Wampler

XV PENTECOST

10:30 am

OT: Paige Rhymer

NT/Chalice: Austin Rhymer

Prayers/Chalice: Michael Goolsby

Mentor: Kirby Newport

Cross: Alana Harris

Server: Paige Rhymer

Torches: Brooklyn Rhymer &

Allie Rhymer

Sacristan: Debby Orr

AV: Jennifer Rhymer

Ushers: Max Hill &

Steve Erwin

Flower Delivery: Zelma & Julie

Wed, Sept 13: 6 pm

Reader: Regina Newport

Chalice: Jory Mertens

Sacristan: Margaret Wampler

Fri, Sept 15: 10 am

Sacristan: Sue Neely

Sat, Sept 16: 9 am

Sacristan: Margaret Wampler

5 pm

Reader/Chalice: Michael Goolsby

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

XVI PENTECOST

Sun, Sept 17: 8 am

Reader: Ashley Rouse

Prayers/Chalice/Server: Chuck Edds

Sacristan: Debby Orr

XVI PENTECOST

10:30 am

OT/Chalice: Ruth Hartman

NT: Regina Newport

Prayers/Chalice: Larry Hartman

Mentor: Elisa White

Servers: A J Rhymer

Cross: Connor Wilkowski

Torches: Barrett & Lincoln Cook

Ushers: Chris Orr & Tom Flanigan

Sacristan: Cindy Chilton

AV: Jim Wakefield

Flower Delivery: Diann Ferguson

Cathy Thompson

Wed, Sept 20: 6 pm

Reader/Chalice: Jory Mertens

Sacristan: Debby Orr

Fri, Sept 22, 10 am

Sacristan: Sue Neely

Sat, Sept 23: 9 am

Sacristan: Debby Orr

5 pm

Reader/Chalice: Bill Putnam

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

XVII PENTECOST

Sun, Sept 24: 8 am

Reader/Chalice:

Prayers: Shirley Gollhofer

Server:

Sacristan: Debby Orr

XVII PENTECOST

10:30 am

OT: Brian Jones

NT/Chalice: Michael Goolsby

Prayers/Chalice: Andy Lynch

Mentor: Elaine Wurst

Server: Tristan Lynch

Cross: Trenton Lynch

Torches: Peyton Lynch &

Carson Stremke

Ushers: Jim Wakefield &

Allie Rhymer

Sacristan: Cindy Chilton

AV: Mike Robertson &

Brooklyn Rhymer

Flower Delivery: Jeanne Goolsby

Wed, Sept 27: 6 pm

Reader: AJ Rhymer

Chalice: Austin Rhymer

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

Fri, Sept 29, 10 am

Sacristan: Sue Neely

Sat, Sept 30: 9 am

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

5 pm

Reader: Glenda Erwin

Chalice: Bill Putnam

Sacristan: Jeanie Slates

DAILY READINGS in SEPT 2023

Fri, Sept 1: *I Kings 5:1—6:1,7, Acts 28:1-16, Mark 14:27-42*

Sat, Sept 2: *I Kings 7:51—8:21, Acts 28:17-31, Mark 14:43-52*

XIV PENTECOST Sun, Sept 3: *Exodus 3:1-15, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28*

Mon, Sept 4: *II Chronicles 6:32—7:7, James 2:1-13, Mark 14:53-65*

Tues, Sept 5: *I Kings 8:65—9:9, James 2:14-26, Mark 14:66-72*

Wed, Sept 6: *I Kings 9:24—10:13, James 3:1-12, Mark 15:1-11*

Thurs, Sept 7: *I Kings 11:1-13, James 3:13—4:12, Mark 15:12-21*

Fri, Sept 8: *I Kings 11:26-43, James 4:13—5:6, Mark 15:22-32*

Sat, Sept 9: *I Kings 12:1-20, James 5:7-12, 19-20, Mark 15:33-39*

XV PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 10: *Exodus 12:1-14, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20*

Mon, Sept 11: *I Kings 13:1-10, Philippians 1:1-11, Mark 15:40-47*

Tues, Sept 12: *I Kings 16:23-34, Philippians 1:12-30, Mark 16:1-20*

Wed, Sept 13: *I Kings 17:1-24, Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 2:1-12*

Thurs, Sept 14: *Isaiah 45:21-25, Philippians 2:5-11, John 12:31-36a*

Fri, Sept 15: *I Kings 18:20-40, Philippians 3:1-16, Matthew 3:1-12*

Sat, Sept 16: *I Kings 18:41—19:8, Philippians 3:17—4:7, Matthew 3:13-17*

XVI PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 17: *Exodus 14:19-31, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35*

Mon, Sept 18: *I Kings 21:1-16, I Corinthians 1:1-19, Matthew 4:1-11*

Tues, Sept 19: *I Kings 21:17-29, I Corinthians 1:20-31, Matthew 4:12-17*

Wed, Sept 20: *I Kings 22:1-28, I Corinthians 2:1-13, Matthew 4:18-25*

Thurs, Sept 21: *Proverbs 3:1-6, II Timothy 3:14-17, Matthew 9:9-13*

Fri, Sept 22: *II Kings 1:2-17, I Corinthians 3:16-23, Matthew 5:11-16*

Sat, Sept 23: *II Kings 2:1-18, I Corinthians 4:1-7, Matthew 5:17-20*

XVII PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 24: *Exodus 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16*

Mon, Sept 25: *II Kings 5:1-19, I Corinthians 4:8-21, Matthew 5:21-26*

Tues, Sept 26: *II Kings 5:19-27, I Corinthians 5:1-8, Matthew 5:27-37*

Wed, Sept 27: *II Kings 6: 1-23, I Corinthians 5:9—6:8, Matthew 5:38-48*

Thurs, Sept 28: *II Kings 9:1-16, I Corinthians 6:12-20, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

Fri, Sept 29: *Genesis 28:10-17, Revelation 12:7-12, John 1:47-51*

Sat, Sept 30: *II Kings 11:1-20a, I Corinthians 7:10-24, Matthew 6:19-24*

