

## DIRECTORY

### GRACE CHURCH

Franklin Ave,  
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Millbrook, NY 12545  
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Mon.-Fri 9-4  
[www.gracemillbrook.org](http://www.gracemillbrook.org)  
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Grace Notes Articles  
[jwsweeny@optonline.net](mailto:jwsweeny@optonline.net)

### VESTRY

**Wardens:**  
Kathryn Calame, Class of 2018  
Barbara Rudy, Class of 2020

**Clerk:**  
Pam Freeman, Class of 2019

**Treasurer:**  
Cathy Shanks

**Members:**  
Lynda Boissey, Class of 2018  
Evelyn Garzetta, Class of 2019  
Nanci Kryzak, Class of 2020  
John Lacey, Class of 2017  
Richard Lucal, Class of 2022  
Kristen Martin, Class of 2020  
Kyle Van De Water, Class of 2020  
Beth Willis, Class of 2019

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Calkins,  
Rector

[calkins@gracemillbrook.org](mailto:calkins@gracemillbrook.org)

Cindy Schmoke, Secretary

Dr. Peter Muir, Organist and  
Director of Music

David Swift, Facilities Manager

John Lacey, Lisa Lacey, and  
Betty Rae Nittiskie, Sunday  
School Coordinators

Evelyn Garzetta, Director,  
Grace Latino Outreach (GLO)

Abby Nathanson, Director  
Engaging people in Change  
(EPIC)

### TASK FORCES AND PROGRAMS

**Outreach:**  
Chair: Robin Capers

**Latino Outreach:**  
Chair: Evelyn Garzetta,  
Kathryn Calame, Walter Ca-  
dette

**Fundraising:**  
Robin Capers, Brenda  
deMartine, Pam Freeman,  
Janelle Styles

**Lay Server Schedulers:**  
Joan McGilvray, Evelyn  
Garzetta

**Hospitality Committee:**  
Lynda Boissey, Evelyn  
Garzetta, Jean Hayes,  
Katherine Mustello, Betty Rae  
Nittiskie, Hollie Sturges

**Finance Committee:**  
Barney Calame, Larry  
Graham, Cathy Shanks

**Stewardship Committee:** Lin-  
da Hogan, Lynn Kasin, Beth  
Willis

**Buildings & Grounds:**  
Denis Freeman, Bill Hogan,  
Ron Mustello, John Rudy, Joe  
Garzetta

### ALTAR GUILD

Jean Hayes,  
Directress

Susan Quigley,  
Flower Chairperson

Betty Rae Nittiskie,  
Secretary

# Grace Notes



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Grace Church, Millbrook, NY

## RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

THE REV. DR. MATTHEW CALKINS

### Patience

Patience is a virtue  
Possess it if you can;  
Seldom in a woman  
Never in a man.

My mother is fond of quoting this poetic proverb. I am not so sure patience is so rare or gender-biased, but it is certainly a virtue. Indeed patience is listed right behind love and joy in Paul's virtue list in Galatians chapter 5. Bringing up the end—or crowning the whole—is self-control, as I mention in my sermon on *Wise Women*, included in this month's sermon selections.<sup>1</sup>

Patience is also an attribute of God. "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, **slow to anger**, abounding in love" (Psalm 103:9; see many other versions throughout the Bible).

Consider then that being made in the image of God means abounding in love and joy, slow to anger (patient)

(Continued on page 2)

<sup>1</sup> "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23



and understanding of others (compassionate). We are created to be persons of grace and power, including the power of self-control.

How do we become such persons and raise our children to be such persons? It is a question not just for our personal happiness but for the good of the world. For we daily see the disastrous consequences of hate and resentment, impatience and lack of self-control.

“Rome was not built in a day”—another proverbial saying; it takes time and patience to accomplish any great task. How is self-improvement different? Yet we modern Americans, conditioned and catered to as consumers, demand results immediately and most conveniently. One click and the purchase is made; it arrives the following day or two. That way we can add on many other tasks and purchases. We are more productive, perhaps, but since shallow gratification fails to deliver true love and joy, and actually weakens patience and self-control, what follows is cynicism and addiction, always looking for more and never finding enough. And since many are unable to pay to play what appears from the glossy deceit of ads to be such a fun and blissful game—hate and resentment must follow.

Patience then is a good virtue to cultivate this Advent. After all, we are waiting for the return of the King ascended two thousand years ago. He promised to return in glory. He sent the Holy Spirit to comfort and guide us while we wait. Clearly, God is working on a longer time frame than lifetimes and civilizations. So we had better commit ourselves to waiting with expectant hope for salvation in the end—new creation and eternal life—but consider that in the meantime—the in-between time—we have been given the gifts of the Spirit. And they are sufficient to our happiness and flourishing, if we but put them into practice and train ourselves. And remember, as Jesus told his disciples, God is with you always, even to the end of the ages. Patiently calling and loving, forgiving and challenging. Waiting for us to grow up into the stature of Christ.

See you on Sunday, Matt+



## Grace Church Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 17, 2017 – 4:00 pm

We will be having our Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm this year. Practices will begin on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall on the second floor. They will be held during our regularly scheduled Sunday School class time. All children are welcome to participate! The more angels and animals the better! Volunteers are also always welcome!

After the pageant, we will have cookies and hot chocolate in the Parish Hall! Come one come all... experience the real meaning of Christmas!

## PJ's and Books for Christmas

Dear Parishioners,

The preschool is sponsoring a collection of new pajamas and books for Grace Smith House. Grace Smith House is a private not-for-profit domestic violence agency, which provides both residential and non-residential services to victims of domestic violence and their children. **They have a particular need for pajamas and books for youth ages 10 - 18.** A bin labeled MCP PAJAMA AND BOOK DRIVE will be available in the Parish Hall for you to leave your donations from now through December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for considering contributing to this worthwhile cause. Questions? Please contact Deborah at 677-5325.

## Cleaning and Greening of the Sanctuary Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 am – Noon

Supplies provided – but if you have some rags and a bucket to help us clean, please bring it along. Long-handled dusters would also be helpful. Doughnuts and Cider, Friends, Fellowship and Fun also provided!

Any questions, call Lynda @ 677-5174



## *CHRISTMAS AT GRACE CHURCH*



**Sunday, December 17 - 4 p.m.**  
Christmas Pageant followed by Refreshments

**Sunday, December 24 - 5 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Family Service

**Sunday, December 24 - 8:45 p.m.**  
Traditional Christmas Eve Service  
with Carols and Choir

**Monday, December 25 - 10 a.m.**  
Christmas Day Service

### Stewardship Report: Giving with Grateful Hearts

Consecration Sunday has come and gone—and thanks to all who contributed to the potluck lunch, to the speakers who gave their warm testimonials during the services for the past few weeks, and to the stewardship team led by Kathryn Calame and Barbara Rudy who planned and prepared the informational materials and charts.

As of November 30<sup>th</sup>, we have received \$ in pledges. This is comparable to earlier years and shows us on track to reach our goal of \$170,000 if—and this is an important if—those who have pledged in the past, as well as new individuals and families send in their pledge.

Sooner is better than later, as the finance committee under new chairman Kurt Barnes, will be meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> to prepare a draft budget. The Vestry

will then review the budget in light of the stewardship campaign results. So, our plans depend on you, members of Grace. Please support the mission and ministry of this wonderful church.

### Millbrook Community Festival Choir

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Lyall Memorial Federated Church**

Children's Choir, guest soloists and orchestra. Admission is free. Donations are appreciated. Everyone is welcome!

### Christmas Eve Servers Needed

#### December 24, 2017 5:00 PM Service:

Acolytes: Samantha and Kaitlyn Muller In need of 2 additional  
Chalice 1: Jane Meigs  
Chalice 2: Barbara Rudy  
Reader: Beth Willis  
Ushers: In need

#### December 24, 2017 8:45 PM Service:

Acolytes: In need of 4 Acolytes  
Chalice 1: ML Ball  
Chalice 2: In need  
Reader: Paula Wilson  
Ushers: In need

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to serve for either of the Christmas Eve Services.

# Calendar and Prayer Cycle

# December 2017




### Sunday Service Schedule:

8:00 Holy Eucharist  
 8:45 - 9:00 Rector's Forum  
 10:00 Family Service & Holy Eucharist  
 - Sunday School 11 am - 11:35 am

### Weekday Services:

Healing Service: Wednesdays at 10 am  
 Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:45 am  
 Caregivers Support : Thursdays at 1 pm  
 ESL: Thursdays in Parish Hall / Fridays in  
 Choir Room: 6 – 9 pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 9 am - Noon "Greening" of the Church <i>Lindsay</i> <i>Lindsay</i>
3 <i>Lucal</i>	4 <i>Lynch</i>	5 <i>Maggiacomo</i>	6:30 pm Women of Grace <i>Mandy</i>	6 <i>Martin</i>	7 6 pm ESL	8 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL <i>McGilvray</i>
10 <i>McIver</i>	11 <i>McNeil</i>	12 <i>McNulty</i>	13 <i>McWilliams</i>	14 <i>Meigs</i>	15 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL <i>Mendoza</i>	16 <i>Meyer</i>
17 4 pm Christmas Pageant <i>Mott</i>	18 <i>Mueser</i>	19 <i>Muir</i>	20 <i>Muller</i>	21 <i>Mustello</i>	22 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL <i>Muth</i>	23 <i>Nathanson</i>
24 8 am Sunday Service Christmas Eve Services at 5 pm and 8:45 pm <i>Neville</i>	25 <b>Christmas</b> Service at 10 am <i>Nittiskie</i> 	26 <i>Noonan</i>	27 <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. J. Page</i>	28 <i>K. Page</i>	29 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL <i>Palmeiro</i>	30 <i>Pearson</i>
31 11:30 am - 3 Lunch Box <i>Podmaniczky</i>						



## Millbrook Library Holiday Silent Auction

### Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

Save the Date: Special Opening Preview Party Friday, December 1st — 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Mingle with friends and family. Browse and bid on the silent auction items while enjoying delicious wine, cider, and refreshments.

Don't miss out on this great holiday gift shopping opportunity beginning the evening of the Millbrook Parade of Lights!

Items will be on display in the Gallery area of Millbrook Library. Come in to register for a Bidder Number during the Preview Party and any day through December 16th. Place your bids on some amazing items donated by local area businesses & Library advocates.

Save the Date: Silent Auction Closing Party Saturday, December 16th, 3:30 to 5:00 pm Join the silent auction closing fun. Place final bids on your favorite items, enjoy enticing refreshments, and have a great time.

A complete list of auction items will be available in the Library and on the Library website by the end of November.

The Friends of Millbrook Library 2017 Holiday Silent Auction Admission is Free — All proceeds will support funds for Millbrook Library equipment, programming, and services. For Information Contact: [friends@millbrooklibrary.org](mailto:friends@millbrooklibrary.org)

## Women of Grace

Women of Grace will meet on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Parish House to bake cookies for the Bazaar. We invite anyone who might enjoy the fun and fellowship, to join us as we create yummy cookies and enjoy a casual pizza "working" dinner.

# St. Nicholas Bazaar

## at Grace Church Millbrook

Saturday, December 9, 2017  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

*fine handmade crafts  
& holiday cookies*



*Cookies sold by the pound  
&  
fine artisans  
offering handmade crafts, locally  
produced yarn, silk scarves,  
paintings, specialty foods,  
Christmas tree ornaments and  
skirts, unique bird houses, hand  
painted glasses, jewelry, pottery  
and more.*

*Vendors please contact [somerscapers@aol.com](mailto:somerscapers@aol.com) or 845-416-5321*

**3328 Franklin Ave., Millbrook, NY, 845 677-3064**  
**[www.gracemillbrook.org](http://www.gracemillbrook.org)**

## Sunday School News

**“Children are not the church’s future, they are its present.” Father Matt**

In November, the children’s choir, under the direction of Heather Holohan Guarneri, sang a spirited version of “When the Saints Come Marching In”.

In November, we continued our lessons from “The Path Family Storybook”. In one lesson, the children learned about Moses and made candles representing the burning bush. In another lesson, the children fought the Battle of Jericho.....boy can they be quiet when they want to march around that wall until it comes tumbling down! You should have heard the music they made as they walked and ran around that wall to make it come tumbling down. The lesson about Samson ended in a lively race, using balloon muscles and learning what the real source of Samson’s strength was (do you know?)

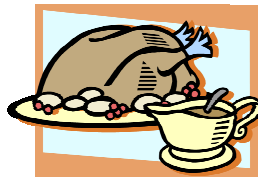
We are making plans for the Christmas Pageant. Many thanks to Dawn Galente for taking the lead role in directing the pageant again this year. The pageant is being co-directed by Dawn, Jonathan Shanks, Heather Holohan Guarneri and members of the youth group. It will be held on Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 pm. All children are welcome to participate. Hot chocolate and cookie will follow in the Parish Hall. Anyone who would like to volunteer to make some cookies for this, please let Betty Rae know.

Betty Rae Nittiskie

## Food of Life Pantry

Please consider donating to the Food of Life Turkey fund for Thanksgiving and Christmas this year. Checks can be made out to "Food of Life Food Pantry"

Mail to: St. Thomas Church  
40 Leedsville Rd.  
Amenia Union, NY 12501



Thank you for considering helping the Food of Life Pantry!

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

**A NOTE FROM THE ALTAR GUILD:** *Although our wish is to accommodate everyone’s memorial, Christmas bulletins are finalized and printed well in advance of the holiday. To make sure your memorial is printed in the Christmas bulletins, **the Parish Office needs to receive it no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>**.*

We welcome donations in any amount for the many colorful poinsettias and wreaths in memory of your loved one or as a thanksgiving.

Please include payment with this form & make your check payable to:  
**“Grace Church - Christmas Flowers”**

**Please print clearly**

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In loving memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

*and/or*

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Check/cash enclosed for: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## December 2017 Service Schedule (Revised)

If you are unable to serve, you are responsible for finding your own replacement. Schedule changes after the 15th will not be in Grace Notes. For any questions regarding the schedule, please call the Lay Server Schedulers, Joan McGilvray at 635-3021 (email [bmcgilvray4@gmail.com](mailto:bmcgilvray4@gmail.com)) for the 8:00 service or Evelyn Garzetta at 518-789-0793 (email [evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com](mailto:evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com)) for the 10:00 service. Thank You!

	<u>December 3</u>	<u>December 10</u>	<u>December 17</u>	<u>December 24</u>	<u>December 31</u>
<u>8:00 am Service</u>					
Usher	Betty Rae Nittiskie	Bruce McGilvray	Kyle Van De Water	Maurice Neville	Jean Hayes
Reader	Elliot Lindsley	Valerie La Robardier	Beth Willis	Kathryn Calame	Elliot Lindsley
Chalice	Beth Willis	Joan McGilvray	Valerie La Robardier	Brenda de Martine	Beth Willis
Coffee Hour	Betty Rae Nittiskie	Karen Whitton	Brenda de Martine	Cathy Shanks	The Calames
<hr/>					
<u>10:00 am Service</u>					
Usher 1	The Rudy Family	The Wilson Family	Susan Quigley		The Garzetta Family
Usher 2	Tommy Martin, Belinda Lopez		Lori Whiteley		
Reader	Lori Whiteley	Marian Thompson	Juana Lopez		Joe Garzetta
Acolyte	Sophia Lucal	Emily Grasseler	Isabella Lucal		Ben Lacey
Chalice 1	Ida Leung	Lynda Boissey	ML Ball		Jane Meigs
Chalice 2	John Lacey	Barbara Rudy	Lisa Lacey		Lynda Boissey
Server 1					
Server 2					
Coffee Hour	The Kasin Family	The Martin Family	Grace Latino Outreach		The Garzetta Family
<hr/>					
<u>Readings</u>					
First Reading	Isaiah 64:1-9	Isaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalms	Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18	Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13	Psalms 126	Canticle 3	Psalms 147
Epistle	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	2 Peter 3:8-15a	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	Romans 16:25-27	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
Gospel	Mark 13:24-37	Mark 1:1-8	John 1:6-8,19-28	Luke 1:26-38	John 1:1-18



# January 2018 Service Schedule

If you are unable to serve, you are responsible for finding your own replacement. Schedule changes after the 15th will not be in Grace Notes. For any questions regarding the schedule, please call the Lay Server Schedulers, Joan McGilvray at 635-3021 (email [bmcgilvray4@gmail.com](mailto:bmcgilvray4@gmail.com)) for the 8:00 service or Evelyn Garzetta at 518-789-0793 (email [evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com](mailto:evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com)) for the 10:00 service. Thank You!

	<u>January 7</u>	<u>January 14</u>	<u>January 21</u>	<u>January 28</u>
<u>8:00 am Service</u>				
Usher	Kyle Van De Water	Maurice Neville	Betty Rae Nittiskie	Jean Hayes
Reader	Beth Willis	Valerie La Robardier	Kathryn Calame	Elliot Lindsley
Chalice	Valerie La Robardier	Beth Willis	Brenda de Martine	Valerie La Robardier
Coffee Hour	Karen Whitton	Brenda de Martine	Betty Rae Nittiskie	The Calames
<u>10:00 am Service</u>	<i>To be determined</i>			
Usher 1				
Usher 2				
Reader				
Acolyte				
Chalice 1				
Chalice 2				
Server 1				
Server 2				
Coffee Hour				
<u>Readings</u>				
First Reading	Genesis 1:1-5	1 Samuel 3:1-10(11-20)	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalms	Psalm 29	Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17	Psalm 62:6-14	Psalm 111
Epistle	Acts 19:1-7	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Gospel	Mark 1:4-11	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:14-20	Mark 1:21-28