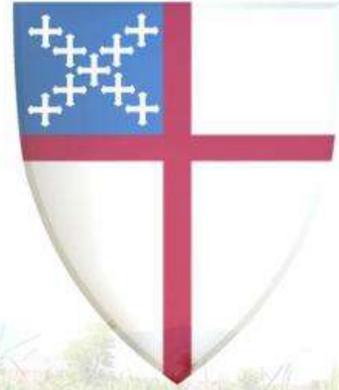


Grace in the Desert Episcopal Church



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2004 Spring Gate Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89134

E Mail: info@graceofsummerlin.org
Website: graceofsummerlin.org

(702) 838-7444 (Office)
(702) 838-7222 (Fax)

Emergency Pastoral Care
Rev. Angela Anderson
(702) 301-1273

One More Step Closer to a New Normal

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, we will begin having services without having to follow many of the COVID protocols that have been in place since we began in-person services again late last year, as mentioned in my email on Saturday May 15th.

For those parishioners who have been fully vaccinated, there will be no requirements for distancing or mask-wearing. (I mistakenly said in my Saturday email that the ushers will ask if you have been vaccinated—they will not. Instead, your decision to not wear a mask because you have been fully vaccinated will be based on the “honor system.”) For those of you who have not been full vaccinated, you must continue to wear masks and keep a 6 foot distance from the closest parishioner.

Books of Common Prayer and Hymnals will once again be in the pews for our use, and we will be able to sing the hymns assigned as shown in the Service Bulletin. Also, we will be able to once again pass the Peace at the appropriate time in the service. We will also serve coffee in the Parish Hall after the service.

While the numbers of parishioners who may attend our services is

not restricted, the Diocese is requiring Grace to continue to take reservations for services for the purpose of contact-tracing in case a parishioner were to contract COVID-19. If you contract the disease after attending a service, you must notify the Grace in the Desert office so that we may notify the Diocese and the county Health Department, and you must not attend church again until you have had a negative COVID test.

We are hoping to begin having our Sunday 8 a.m. spoken Eucharist service resume on June 6th. Therefore, starting on Wednesday, June 2nd, when the click on the link to register, you will be able to choose between the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

I mentioned a request in my email last Saturday and this request continues: we are in desperate need of additional ushers for our services, so if you feel a calling to volunteer for this ministry, please contact Ra Simmons (rabilsimm@gmail.com) or Walt Kadyk (wskadyk@gmail.com).

I hope you are as excited as the Vestry and I are about these changes.

***Sign-Up Link for 10:30 Service
for Sunday, May 23, 2021
PENTECOST SUNDAY***

The link to sign up to attend the 10:30 service this Sunday is:
<https://bit.ly/3ynhtrq>

***Reminder Memorial Service for Jan Rowell
on Saturday, May 22, at 11:00 a.m.***

The Memorial Service for our beloved Jan will be held at Grace on Saturday, May 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

All Covid precautions regarding seating will be in effect. The link to reserve a seat at the service (on Saturday we are still restricted to 60 attendees, including clergy) was sent out yesterday. In case you missed seeing it, it is repeated here, there may still be room available. If you have already signed up it isn't necessary to do so again.

<https://bit.ly/3uKHwqp>

Christian Adult Education Community via Zoom

Please join us on Sunday Morning, May 23rd from 8:45– 9:30 a.m. for lively discussion and fellowship. We are beginning our six week series on the blessings of growing older. The book that we will draw on is Joan Chittister's, *The Gift of Years*. You do not need to purchase the book to attend this series. You will be provided with an outline which will include readings and bible passages. Starting this week I will post the Outline on the Website with this Event in the left-hand column. You will receive an appropriate Zoom link closer to the meeting so that you can join up. Please send your email contact information to Susan Cooper, susan@recooper.com. You needn't attend all meetings to enjoy a lively discussion.

**Nevadans for the Common Good
Action in Support of Renters
Sunday, May 23rd | 3:30pm to 5:00pm
St. Anne's Catholic Church - School Gymnasium
1813 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas**

Join us for this important meeting with Clark County Commission Chair Marilyn Kirkpatrick to hear the challenges facing many renters in our community and how we can work together for solutions.

NCG has been working to build a relationship with Clark County Social Services to address the backlog of applications for rental assistance as well as the potential wave of evictions as the state eviction moratorium expires. We need to demonstrate to our elected leaders that this is an important issue to the community and NCG. Please join us on Sunday.

Sign up with your core team, or at ncg.lasvegas@gmail.com

Administration of Prayer List

Deacon Cammie Houpt is now responsible for administrating the Prayer List. If you wish to add someone to the list please contact Dcn. Cammie at cammiehaupt@gmail.com.

Altar Flowers

Now that in-person worship has resumed, our Flower Guild is also being reactivated. If you would like to give flowers to commemorate a loved one's birthday or anniversary; in memory of a loved one; or in thanksgiving for your own or a loved one's health or recovery from illness, please contact Mamie Hechter, the Flower Guild's facilitator and floral designer, at mhechter@cox.net.



A calendar has been posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for the rest of the year for any one who wishes to signup.

STILLPOINT CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

STILLPOINT SPEAKER SERIES

FR. GREG BOYLE: THE POWER OF EXTRAVAGANT TENDERNESS

The past year brought disconnectedness. The humbly famous Fr. Greg Boyle draws us back together and closer to our true nature as compassionate, inclusive, beloved beings by sharing wit, wisdom, and powerfully healing stories.

Hear Fr. Greg Boyle, Founder of Homeboy Industries, the winner of the \$2.5 million, 2020 Hilton Humanitarian Prize. Peter Laugharn, president and CEO, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, states, "The Jury's selection of Homeboy Industries speaks to the power of standing with people who have been systemically marginalized, creating space for them to heal and invest in their future, with the intention of ending the socio-economic inequities that impact communities."

Join Stillpoint on Zoom as Fr. Greg shares wit, wisdom, and powerfully healing stories that leave no one outside the circle of compassion and community. Click the tickets link for full details and FREE registration (freewill donations accepted).

Fr. Greg is the founder of Homeboy Industries — the world's largest gang rehab and community re-entry program — and a New York Times best-selling author with a third book on the way, *The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness*. His work with those often seen as *the other* tells us something about hope and how to be for *one another* right now in this transitional, transformational time.

GET THE BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE

Participate in Stillpoint's Speaker Series event from the best seat in your house, your house of worship, your spiritual home, or wherever you and Zoom go together. It will make you laugh, make you misty, and definitely call you to consider what matters most.

FREE REGISTRATION

WHEN: 10 am, Sat, May 22, 2021

WHERE: ZOOM; register now and receive Zoom link/materials a few days prior to the event

FR. GREG BOYLE @ STILLPOINT'S SPEAKER SERIES ZOOM, FREE

Click here for [Tickets](#)