

amazing

IN YOUR LIFE | IN OUR COMMUNITY | IN THE WORLD

# Grace

A monthly publication for members and friends of Grace Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek, California December 2019

## My Faith Journey

by Carol King



My parents were raised Catholic, so it was predictable that they would raise my brothers and me Catholic also. We were baptized as infants and attended parochial schools.

Dad claimed he listened to Sunday mass on the radio, but I doubt that as Sundays were the busiest day of the week for most golf professionals. It was mom who set the religious tone in our family by attending mass faithfully every Sunday. She also participated in pastoral visits with the nuns and was very active in Catholic Social Services.

I was married in the Catholic faith and when my son, David, was born, he was baptized Catholic. But when he was five, I walked away from the church, because I could no longer accept many of its doctrines.

Soon after that, David and I were invited to the Church of Christ. I liked it immediately. There was Bible study prior to the Sunday service and on Wednesday evenings. For a time I taught the Sunday preschool class. The sermons were enthusiastic, Bible-based, and thought provoking. And I was charmed by the old hymns from the south.

After many years, I allowed other aspects of my life to crowd out my church connection. I did, however, still have faith in God and continued to pray.

As my grandparents aged, I became concerned about their spiritual health. My grandfather had no church affiliation, so I encouraged him to join my grandmother's, which he did. My prayers were answered.

My grandmother was the first to become ill and hospitalized. I felt fortunate to have spent one precious hour with her alone before she died of a heart attack. Six months later, she appeared to my grandfather saying, "Where have you been? I've been waiting for you." He died three weeks later with his family and his priest by his side. God had answered my prayers.

When my father's health declined, I was extremely troubled about his spirituality. While he was hospitalized, I asked the nurse to add my dad to the visitors' register for a Catholic priest. Nothing more was said -- but to my surprise at dad's funeral the priest from the pulpit described his hospital visits with my father. He said that my dad "prepared well for his death." He also indicated that he too was a golfer. God answered my prayers by sending a *golfing* priest to my dad – one who could *truly* relate to him.

For more than ten years I was care manager for my mother and my aunt. During that time, I observed many kindnesses they each received from their caregivers and other ancillary staff. I thanked God often for those kindnesses to my loved ones. After their passing, it was time for me to focus on my *own* spirituality.

When researching churches, I was invited to a Rossmoor Friends of Grace gathering and was impressed by the event and the people I met. My neighbor, El Nungesser, then took me to Sunday services with her. I liked the well-prepared, lively sermons with wit delivered by Pastor Roger Reaber, the beautiful organ music, and the many opportunities for fellowship and Bible study. And I felt embraced by the welcoming congregation.

Recently when telling Associate Pastor Karen Hastings-Flegel about my appreciation for finding Grace Church, she responded, "Carol, I believe you have *always* been a Presbyterian at *heart*!" I think she is right.

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Insert .....Christmas Joy, Poinsettia Order Form

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 AM Sanctuary

11:00 AM Fellowship Time

Office Hrs. Tues - Fri 9-3

[gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com](mailto:gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com)

[gracewc.org](http://gracewc.org)

### PASTORS AND STAFF:

Assoc. Pastor/Music Director

Karen Hastings-Flegel

Pastors Emeriti

Charie Reid and Robert Williams

Parish Associate: Diana Barkley

Office Manager: Judy Williams

Treasurer: Linda Neyer

Asst. Treasurer: Geri Rentz

Financial Scty: Jennifer Wallace

Headshot Photos: Carol King

**All Articles must be submitted  
by December 13**

**to be included in the next issue.**

**NOTE: EARLY DEADLINE**



***A Few Words About Guest Preachers***

Grace Church is experiencing a period of refreshment when we are inviting a variety of speakers to our pulpit.

Special thanks to Geri Rentz who is booking our guests. This is a unique opportunity to learn more about what's happening beyond our walls.

Let's take advantage of both familiar and fresh voices to increase our understanding of God's word, to broaden our perspective about worship, and to enjoy a bit of a surprise every Sunday!

***December 2019 Sunday Guest Preachers  
10:00 AM in the Sanctuary***

Greg Ledbetter is an American Baptist pastor who served congregations in Vermont and California for 30 years. Greg is a 1984 graduate of the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley. **Pastor Greg will preach at Grace on two Sundays, Dec. 1 and 8**



**Enjoy Advent & Christmas hymn sing on Dec. 15** with Pastor Karen & the Choir. Learn some new carols & choose your old favorites. Enhanced fellowship time with hot chocolate & cider & holiday treats.



**Calvin Sodestrom** will preach on two December Sundays. He is the former head of Youth and Family Ministry at First Pres. Berkeley. **On Dec 22**, his sermon is entitled, *He Shall Be Their Peace*, based on Micah 5:2-5a.



**Dec. 24, Candlelight Christmas Eve**, will be a Service of lessons and carols with retired Grace Pastor, the **Rev. Charie Reid**. Her sermon, *Love Comes Still*, will be based on Isaiah 9:1-4, 6-7; Luke 2:1-20.



**4:00 service will include Communion.**  
**7:30 service will include carols and special music with the Bell Choir & Chancel Choir**

**Dec 29—Herod and a Baby**, based on Matthew 2: 13-23. Sermon by **Calvin Sodestrom**.

***PW Uphold 60 Year Tradition:  
Advent Tea at Grace on Sat. Dec. 7 at 1PM***

As a gift to the community, the Presbyterian Women host an annual Advent Tea to ring in the Christmas season.



A musical program of holiday carols by the Northgate Madrigal Singers begins the event. After the presentation of an award to an outstanding woman of the church, all will enjoy a traditional English tea in the Oak Room.

The tables will be abundant with platefuls of finger sandwiches and delicious sweets served with coffee or tea. The room will be aglow with festive decorations.

The Advent Tea is the first of many memorable events at the church in December. These include several Sundays of special worship, a concert and candlelight services on Christmas Eve. The event is free and no RSVP is required and a welcome is assured.

***“Blue Christmas”  
Service December 21***



**Grace will hold its 4th annual “Blue Christmas” service on December 21 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary.

All are welcome, but this service is especially geared toward those who are mourning losses or feeling lonely at Christmastime. Held on the winter solstice or “longest night” of the year, this worship service acknowledges that the holiday season is not a cheerful one for everyone, no matter how strong their faith. We will include candlelight, prayers, reflective hymns and carols, and opportunities to share thoughts and to light candles in memory of someone or to accompany a specific prayer. The service is followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship in the Fireside Room.

***Christmas Brunch  
is coming fast!***

We will again have our annual Christmas Brunch on **Wednesday, 11 am, December 25th!**

Please sign up to come celebrate with us for a wonderful holiday meal. Food contributions will be gratefully accepted, but are not necessary. Any questions? Ask Geri Rentz or Susan Blair.



## Some Benefits of Church Membership

Member or not, we value you greatly!

However, there are certain advantages to YOU if you join the church. You become eligible to vote at congregational meetings (including voting yes or no on the Pastor Nominating Committee's choice for our next senior pastor). You become eligible to be elected an elder or deacon. If you are an elder, you can serve on a local presbytery or regional synod committee if you want to, and perhaps even become a voting delegate at General Assembly, which shapes the policies of the entire national Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) If you become an official Grace member, chances are that you will have an even greater sense of belonging. For some, it is a spiritual experience to be received into membership during worship. You will have a sponsor of your choice who will stand with you that day and later stay in touch to answer any further questions and be sure that you are comfortable. You will also be assigned a friendly and helpful deacon.



Please consider joining us for a  
**Membership Inquiry Class on Sunday  
 December 8 at 11:30 in the Sanctuary.**

## Adult Education Notes

**Wednesday 10 a.m. Bible Study on the book of Daniel continues in December**, concluding on the 18<sup>th</sup>; led by Bob Flegel (M.Div. Princeton); new-comers are welcome. Thank you to Sharon Lyons who led the group while Bob was on vacation in November.



**Sunday 11:30 a.m. adult education continues with our popular sermon discussion series.**

**Please save this date. On Sunday, Dec. 15, Bob Flegel and Karen Hastings-Flegel will present "Holy Sites of Jesus and Paul,"** a talk with photographs of holy places visited during their recent trip to Greece and Israel.

**Are you able to share your own faith journey with our readers?** We are looking for writers to share their stories on the front page of Grace in the World in 2020. Please contact the church office at 925-935-2100 or [gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com](mailto:gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com) if you can help out.

## Mission Study in Action.... How are we doing?



In the "worship" section of our Mission Study report we wrote: "We try to make every Sunday service meaningful and memorable, and **make an extra effort on holidays.**" We mentioned families lighting candles on the Sundays of Advent, our Chrismon tree, which is decorated with Christian symbols as ornaments, and poinsettias donated in honor and memory of loved ones.

We have a 60-year tradition of an Advent Tea to introduce the season, a gift from the Presbyterian Women to the community. Our music is especially glorious this time of year, performed by our own choir and bells, and at concerts we host. A special Blue Christmas gathering is held for those who are grieving. Mission giving includes the Christmas Joy offering and our Giving Tree which furnishes gift cards for families in need. We hold two Christmas Eve candle lighting services. A brunch is offered on Christmas Day, welcoming any who would enjoy holiday companionship. In this time of transition we are doing our best to maintain all these traditions, **putting in the extra effort**, and even preparing a new play, *The Fourth Wise Man*, for January.

Determined to increase visibility, we are **expending extra effort** to publicize all these December opportunities. In addition to this newsletter, Sunday bulletins, Constant Contact emails and Facebook, we will be placing extra articles in the Rossmoor News. A new resource, Nextdoor, will be tested.

Please join with us and **extend your own extra effort** to invite family and friends to visit Grace during this holy season.

*Reta Wilcox on behalf of the Transition Team*

## Men's Club Meeting Fri., December 13, 10 am to Noon

At our Advent season meeting, Men of Grace will share memories of past Advent and Christmas experiences that added repentance, hope and joy to their lives. What family holiday traditions built trust, faith and unity? What can Grace Church offer to these days of Advent? Sometimes called "little lent" in preparation for the birth of Christ, Advent has also been called a "foretaste of Easter".

Grace Men's Club invites others to join our support group that deals with matters of faith and service. Optional lunch follows at the Rossmoor Diner. Questions or suggestions may be directed to Bob Williams, 925-935-7377.

**Sunday, Dec. 1**  
**9AM Witness & Min.—C**  
 10AM Worship—S  
 11AM Fellowship—F  
 11:30 Play Rehearsal—S  
 11:30 Sermon  
 Discussion—L  
 7:30 AA—F

**Monday, Dec. 2**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 10AM Quilters—L  
 7PM Scouts—S, F

**Tuesday, Dec. 3**  
 7:30 SUBUD Group—F

**Wednesday, Dec. 4**  
 10AM Bible Study—L  
 11:15 Grief Support Grp—O  
 1:30 Parkinson's Voice  
 Class—F

**Thursday, Dec. 5**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
**3PM Discipleship—C**  
 3PM Tea Decorating—O  
 6PM Bell Rehearsal—S  
 7PM Choir Rehearsal—S  
 7:45 AA—F

**Friday, Dec. 6**  
 Tea Decorating—O  
 Chess School Break  
 7:30 PAS Concer

**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
 1PM Advent Tea—S, O

**Sunday, Dec. 8**  
 10AM Worship—S  
 11AM Fellowship—F  
 11:30 Sermon  
 Discussion—L  
 3PM Sierra Chamber—S  
 7:30 AA—F

**Monday, Dec. 9**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 10AM Needlers—L  
 7PM Scouts—S, F

**Tuesday, Dec. 10**  
**10AM Esther Circle—F**  
 7:30 SUBUD Group—F

**Wednesday, Dec. 11**  
 10AM Bible Study—L  
 11:15 Grief Support Grp—O  
**12PM Business—C**  
 1:30 Parkinson's Voice  
 Class—F  
**4PM Session Exec.—C**

**Thursday, Dec. 12**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
**1PM Worship & Ed. —C**  
 6PM Bell Rehearsal—S  
 7PM Choir Rehearsal—S  
 7:45 AA—F

**Friday, Dec. 13**  
**GITW early deadline for  
 January articles**  
**9:30 Susanna Circle—F**  
**10AM Men's Club—L**  
 4PM Chess School F, L

**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
 9-10AM Parkinson's  
 Breakout—S, F, L  
 10AM Parkinson's  
 Meeting—O  
 2-5 PAS Teacher Recital-S

**Sunday, Dec. 15**  
 10AM Worship/Carol  
 Sing—S  
 11AM Special Christmas  
 Fellowship—F  
 11:30 Sermon  
 Discussion—L  
 3PM Christmas Concert  
 with the Ashmoleans—S  
 7:30 AA—F

**Monday, Dec. 16**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 10AM Quilters—L  
 7PM Scouts—S, F

**Tuesday, Dec. 17**  
 7:30 SUBUD Group—F

**Wednesday, Dec. 18**  
 10AM Bible Study—L  
 11:15 Grief Support Grp—O  
**12PM Business —C**  
 1:30 Parkinson's Voice  
 Class—F  
**7PM Session Meeting—L**

**Thursday, Dec. 19**  
 9:15 GITW Folding—F  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 6PM Bell Rehearsal—S  
 7PM Choir Rehearsal—S  
 7:45 AA—F

**Friday, Dec. 20**  
 4PM Chess School F, L

**Saturday, Dec. 21**  
 3PM Blue Christmas—S  
 Special Worship

**Sunday, Dec. 22**  
 10AM Worship—S  
 11AM Fellowship—F  
 11:30 Sermon  
 Discussion—L  
 7:30 AA—F

**Monday, Dec. 23**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 10AM Needlers—L  
 7PM Scouts—S, F, L

**Tuesday, Dec. 24**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
 4PM Worship with  
 Communion—S  
 7:30 PM Worship  
 with Special Music—S

**Wednesday, Dec. 25**  
 Office is closed  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 11AM Brunch—F

**Thursday, Dec. 26**  
 Office is closed  
 7:45 AA—F

**Friday, Dec. 27**

**Saturday, Dec. 28**

**Sunday, Dec. 29**  
 10AM Worship—S  
 11AM Fellowship—F  
 11:30 Sermon  
 Discussion—L  
 7:30 AA—F

**Monday, Dec. 30**  
 9:30 Parkinson's  
 Exercise—O  
 10AM Quilters—L  
 6:30 Scout Parents—L  
 7PM Scouts—S, F

**Tuesday, Dec. 31**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**Wednesday, Jan 1**  
 Office is closed  




*Calling all new and  
 returning church  
 officers to the Elders  
 and Deacons Retreat  
 Sat. Jan. 4  
 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

Led by Pastors Charie  
 and Karen; devotions,  
 officer training, joint and  
 separate meetings, and  
 lunch. Please save this  
 date.

**Key to Rooms**

- C—Conference Room
- F—Fireside Room
- L—Library
- O—Oak Room
- S—Sanctuary
- 9—Room 9



**P A S T O R**  
Nominating Committee

*PNC News* By Geri Rentz, Moderator  
**What is happening with the Pastor Nominating Committee?**

Last month, we referred to the guide the Presbytery provides to choose a new pastor and the 22 -step chart of the process for our search. We are now in steps 11 and 12 and have been reviewing 65 Personal Information Forms (PIF s) from ministers across the United States. Our initial request resulted in 50 PIFs and we have since received 15 Self-Referrals from Ministers who have seen our request form on the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) and feel they have a connection to our Church.

Each member of the Pastor Nominating Committee has reviewed all the PIFs and listened to their sermons available on the internet. We have met several times to discuss the merits of each PIF and have identified those of primary interest for preliminary interviews by phone and/or Skype.

The next step will be to arrange convenient times for the Ministers and the PNC members to interview those candidates who best fit our Ministry Information Form (MIF). **Next month, we hope to be able to tell you we have spoken to most of these ministers and are proceeding to the next step of interviewing in person.** We pray for God to guide us in this search and ask your prayers and support as we continue our work.

***Introducing Your New Church Officers***

At the congregational meeting on October 27 new elders and deacons were elected for 2020. They are:

**Elders (Members of Session):**

- Dave Fellner – Business
- Pat Hansen – Discipleship
- Freddie Delamain – Witness & Ministry
- Gessica Johnston – Worship & Education

**Deacons:**

- Jane Burkland
- Jean Irvine
- Jon Littig
- Mary Ann Littig

**Elders and deacons are invited to attend the December 18 Session meeting (7:00 p.m. Church Library) to become acquainted with their fellow board members and our process. Pastors Karen Hastings-Flegel and Charie Reid will facilitate an **Officer’s Retreat to be held Saturday, January 4 (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Oak Room)** for meetings, training and planning and lunch. All elders and deacons should plan to attend the retreat. **Thanks to our new officers for their commitment to serve.****



Dave



Pat



Freddie



Gessica



Jane



Jean



Jon



Mary Ann

***Our 2020 Stewardship Campaign Update***

*We hope you will prayerfully consider your support of Grace and our outreach to the community*

Good News! We have enough pledges to get us through *mid-August, 2020*. Nearly half of us have pledged.

**Now for the rest of the year, to continue God’s work, we need every Grace worshiper to make a commitment.** By later in the year we could have a new senior pastor, ready to lead us in new directions while keeping our beloved traditions.

*Liz Bradner, Discipleship*



### *Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition December Update*

The need is always there and so is CCIC. Delivery of items for those moving in to new housing is going on daily with thanks to those who donate furniture and household items, and those who give their time to deliver. Sometimes the move is accompanied by a food box. So not only is there need, but there is response. Recently CCIC has appealed for financial help as the year ends. A portion of the Peace and Global Ministry donations have been delegated to answer that appeal. The other half of the donation will go to Meals on Wheels. These donations are being supplemented by funds from the Witness and Ministry account in order to donate \$1000 to each organization. CCIC is always grateful for the generosity of Grace members and friends. Your help is appreciated during this Giving Season. *Sharon Lyons – Grace Representative*

#### **Christmas Giving Tree— A Promise of Hope**



The magic has started. You celebrated Thanksgiving! The Christmas Giving Tree appeared in the Narthex! The next step belongs to the Grace Family. Each year the Witness and Ministry Department asks for donations of food gift cards to supplement the food supplies of our neighbors who need help for the holiday period. Please take an ornament from the tree to remind yourself to support this program the next time you go shopping. The ornament and gift cards can be put in the collection plate or turned in to the office any time before December 16, so cards can be distributed by county social workers through CCIC. Thank you for your continuing generosity.



#### **Treasurer's Q & A**

**Question:** *Can I provide my pledge and other gifts to Grace online (vs by check)?*

**Answer:** *As we move through our stewardship season and planning for next year, we frequently consider improvements in our systems for online giving. We would like to hear from you as to your interest in being able to provide your pledges, gifts, etc. via online, mobile or text transactions. If this is of interest, please let us know how best to meet your needs by checking as many of the items below that you would be interested in and dropping it off at the church office. Thank you!*

***I am interested in being able to provide pledges, gifts, offerings, etc. via:***

*Credit/Debit Card* \_\_\_\_\_

*Bank to Bank Transfer* \_\_\_\_\_

*Online from Home PC or iPad* \_\_\_\_\_

*Online from Church PC* \_\_\_\_\_

*Mobile Application* \_\_\_\_\_

*Mobile Text* \_\_\_\_\_

#### **No Child Should be Hungry!**

*by Gail Peterson*

**Can you volunteer a few hours December 16th, 17th or 18th?** We are participating with a number of congregations in a project to provide food for Richmond school children during the winter school break when school meals aren't available. This is a collaborative project with about 15 other congregations of all faiths working together. We'll be preparing and filling food boxes for 400 families on December 16 – 17, and then delivering them to the Richmond elementary schools on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The project takes place at Temple Beth Hillel in Richmond. Carpools will leave from Grace Church on each of the days. If you can help, please sign up in the narthex or contact the church office or Gail Peterson. **An equally important part of this effort is gathering all the food needed.** Our task is to round up 800 7-oz. cans of tuna (think of Jesus' disciples casting their nets on the right side of the boat and pulling in an abundance of fish). **You can help in this way by either bringing cans of tuna for the box in the narthex through December 12th, or contributing funds for tuna purchase through a check to Grace Church marked for "Let's Feed the Kids." Thank you for all you do to support this effort!**



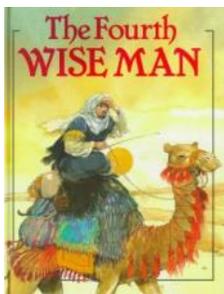
#### **Food Barrel Corner**

As we travel down the days of Advent towards the arrival of the Christ child, we can ask ourselves how did we at Grace Church manifest the spirit of the incarnation here in our midst this past year? Due to the generosity of our congregation, as part of the Deacons program, five boxes of food items a month, each weighing between 45 – 50 pounds, went to the Contra Costa Interfaith Council for distribution by social workers in the county. In addition food donations in the barrel were picked up by the Food Bank throughout the year. Thanks to all of you brought donations of food and who kept the Christmas spirit alive at Grace all through the year!

*Christmas Blessings, Pat Devine-Cummings*

**Save the Date:  
Sun. January 12  
During 10:00 Worship**

– a magnificent & moving play, “The Fourth Wise Man” in radio broadcast style with scenery by Susan Blair & music by the Chancel Choir, directed by Geri Rentz. Enhanced Fellowship Time with three Kings cakes and activity. Come see some of your favorite parish actors.



**Pastoral Care Updates** by Karen Hastings-Flegel

I am back from vacation, refreshed and eager to talk with you! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any pastoral care needs or just to converse. **I am available on the first three Wednesdays of December during my newly established office hours, 2:00-4:00, as well as many other times by appointment or phone (325-7742) or “in the halls.”** I hope to hold my office hours in the Fireside Room until my office is in good enough shape.

In or about the Sanctuary, you may have noticed a plastic rack with many booklets. **This is Grace’s new collection of “Care Notes.”** These free pamphlets offer support and information about topics such as aging, anxiety, bereavement, bullying, dementia, family troubles, pain, trauma, and prayer. There are different titles on the front and back of the transparent rack. Thanks to the Deacons for purchasing these booklets.

Another of Grace’s recent and ongoing pastoral care programs is the **confidential Help Box**. To clarify how this works: (1) members and friends who have experienced something difficult and are willing to talk with a person currently experiencing something similar, voluntarily fill out a form with contact information and which type of difficult experience applies. (The list includes topics related to grief, illness, abuse and trauma, relationships, emotional struggles, and miscellaneous troubles.) The form is then put into the box in the back of the Sanctuary. (2) Information from the forms is collated by me (Assoc. Pastor of Pastoral Care) and placed in a locked box in my office. When someone coming to me for pastoral care expresses an interest in also talking with a layperson who has had a trying experience similar to their own, I will consult the Help Box and confidentially connect the two people, not revealing names until having determined that both parties are willing.

**Preschool News**

By Marlene Hall

Getting ready for Thanksgiving, our preschoolers created paper bag turkeys and handprint turkey placemats, supported the Food Drive for the Food Bank, and pursued an understanding of “thankful.” We took a survey that indicates they are thankful for friends, family, pets . . . turkeys and sleeping! The highlight of November was our annual “Family Feast,” potluck.



**Dinner is Served at Garden Park Apartments**



In late November, Grace volunteers prepared and served dinner to the apartment residents. Garden Park, supported by many churches along with Grace, provides housing to formerly homeless families. Said Sandibel Arnold, Volunteer Coordinator, “The residents enjoyed all of the delicious food, especially



those chocolate chip cookies. Thank you very much for bringing so much happiness to the families at GPA. Everyone had a great time thanks to you. Thank you for sharing in our mission and we hope to enjoy many more GPA dinners with you.”

Thanks to Gail Peterson, Wendy Neal and Charie Reid for this effort.

Grace Presbyterian Church  
2100 Tice Valley Boulevard  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Sunday Worship at 10 AM  
www.gracewc.org  
December 2019

Address Service Requested  
Dated Material

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
P A I D  
Permit No. 241  
Walnut Creek, CA

## WELCOME STATEMENT

*We welcome and  
celebrate all who join us*

—the young and the old,  
the rich and the poor,  
the gay and the straight,  
the strong and the weak,  
the meek and the brave—  
and though we are  
different one from  
another, we are united  
in loving and praising God  
and in loving each other.



*Save the Date*

*Advent Tea - Sat. Dec. 7*

1PM Program with musical  
entertainment

1:45 Tea with savory  
and sweet treats

*Special Worship Times—See Details inside*

**Christmas Carols: Singing and Stories**

Sunday, December 15 at 10 am

**Blue Christmas Service**

Saturday, December 21 at 3 pm

**Candlelight Christmas Eve**

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 pm with Communion and

7:30 pm with special music

A large blue Christmas ornament with white snowflake patterns and a silver cap, set against a background of soft, out-of-focus lights.

*Wonderful Christmas  
Concert with the  
Ashmolean Singers  
of Rossmoor*

*60 member choral group  
back by popular demand  
sings holiday favorites*

*Sun., Dec. 15  
3:00 PM*

*Suggested donation just \$5*

**Grace Presbyterian Church  
2100 Tice Valley Blvd.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595**