

FOR the LOVE of GRACE

Ah, September....school bells ring and Grace Church sings!

September is historically a month to celebrate Grace Church, especially as we gather for Homecoming. It is a month to celebrate our ministries, our church community, and our people.

On September 27th, we will mark the 10th anniversary of the Community Lunch, and we are combining the lunch itself with an Outreach opportunity for everyone. The traditional gifts for a 10th anniversary are tin and aluminum, as well as diamond jewelry. Diamond jewelry doesn't especially work as an outreach opportunity, so we are going with something a little more practical! We are asking everyone to join this celebration by bringing canned goods to all services in September. All of the cans collected will be distributed to both the Fauquier Food Coalition and Seven Loaves.

Speaking of the Fauquier Food Coalition, September is Grace Church's month to supply the helping hands for the monthly food distribution at Warrenton Methodist Church. Grace is providing the volunteers for Friday, September 19th, and Saturday, September 20th. On both dates we need 20 volunteers. Friday starts at 3:00 pm and involves putting food in boxes, sorting produce, and setting up Second Hand Graces. Saturday begins at 8:30 am and we help take boxes to clients' vehicles (carts provided). Both days are only for a couple of hours at most and it is a great opportunity for all ages to help.

September 14th is Homecoming, and we will join together as a church community to catch up with old friends, welcome newcomers, and enjoy a delicious barbeque. Sign-up sheets are on the easel in the parish hall. Come share your favorite salads (green, potato, pasta, slaw, or grain), side (beans, mac and cheese, etc.), or dessert. We will also be signing up people for participation in the various commissions which are so vital to the life of the parish.

September, celebrates the return of our glorious choir, directed by our new choirmaster and organist, Dr. Jason Ferris. Jason will be the first of the Forum presenters on Sunday, September 7th, so be sure to come to meet Jason and hear him share his thoughts about music and worship at Grace. He will also be presenting a free concert at 5:00 pm on Sunday, September 21st which will be followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Let us use the month of September as a springboard for the energy, vibrancy and faith that will move Grace Church forward in new ways.