



# The Angelus

July 2021

## From the Rector's Desk

On June 9th I met with people from six Grace families to listen and talk about the ministry we are called to do with our young people in our parish. I loved that gathering and am very much looking forward to seeing what the Spirit and we will be involved in next!

At the heart of this ministry, like all Christian formation ministry, is the fundamental hope, grace, and work of becoming like Jesus. Like in the Letter to the Ephesians: "...until all of us come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (4:12-13).

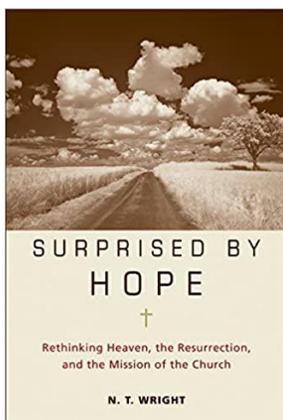
This means that to be formed into Christ. (That's why we use the fancy term "Christian formation" instead of "education.") We who are younger and older and in the middle need to strive always to Know the Way of Christ, Do the Way of Christ, Be the Way of Christ. Know the Way—that means first of all to know Christ as Someone the way I know and am known with the people closest to me in my life; AND it also means having a grasp of and internalizing the actual content of our Prayer Book, Holy Tradition, and the Bible. Do the Way—Being Christian isn't about just what we think or say or feel; it's about being formed by practices of communal and private prayer, worship, and above all, in Baptism and the ongoing and total Eucharistic life. It's a way of doing such that we know God the Holy Trinity through each other, the holy community that is the Church, whether we're praying, playing, or getting to love Christ and our neighbor in selfless service in the world. Be the Way of Christ—This is when we are Christian before all other identities and loyalties and provide a witness of love and mercy and holiness so that a world enslaved in brokenness and patterns of death can finally know there's more to being human than polarization or the pseudo-freedom of consumer options. Who we are lets people see there really is a Kingdom Christ will bring to earth for all eternity (Romans 8:18-23).

To begin again with Christian formation for our young people at Grace will require patience, small steps, trust in God, prayer, love, and the young people, their families, and the whole parish to take part in this ministry. Some things might look similar to what we've seen before. So we'll do our best to have Sunday morning formation for kids. Andrea Aparicio and I will lead our efforts to start that up. But even if you yourselves don't have kids, don't be surprised if you are asked to help teach or just to be in the room with teacher and young folks so that we have the right adult to child ratios, for the sake of proper boundaries and Safe Church requirements. Cory Bouck, Dcn Paul Aparicio, and I will lead efforts for gatherings of prayer, service, immersion in Bible and Prayer Book and Sacrament, travel, and whatever kind of hanging out and playing we want to do Beyond Sunday Morning. Especially as younger folks get a little older, I want them to be part of leadership and decision making, too.

These two leadership teams are meeting soon and we will have some plans to share with everyone at Grace as time goes on. But as suggested above, formation of any kind is not something done just by a few individuals or specialized staff. We are formed in the Body by the Spirit through all of its members, especially in the Holy Eucharist. I will be asking the congregation at various times to include younger people in various ministries as a matter of course, and not as special, token “youth representatives.” Why not have a ninth-grader in the regular rota of ushers? Why shouldn’t an eleven-year-old and a high school junior be two of the leaders of our outreach and service in the community? Whom will you invite to be a part of your ministry and, by what you Know, Do, and Are, nurture that young person you’ve made it a point to get to know? And which young person will you make it a point to get to know and allow them by what they Know, Do, and Are, further you in your life of growing into the full stature of Christ?

Peace,  
WLB+

## Sunday Morning Christian Formation, 9:00-9:45 am, in St. Nicholas Hall



Reading together NT Wright’s *Surprised By Hope*.

Because of the richness of the book we are reading and the popularity of this course, ***we will be reading this book through July 25.***

We proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus and say our own hope for eternal life is the resurrection of the dead. And St Paul even says, “If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.” (I Cor 15:17-18).

What does all this mean and what is the Resurrection in our faith? We will read one of the most respected and most accessible biblical scholars in the Anglican Communion, Bp NT Wright, to dig into the heart of the apostles’ proclamation and our faith.

## Junior Warden Report

After having been absent from the Grace Church building for a year or more due to the pandemic you may be interested in what is happening to our church facility. In the last few months we have received an anonymous gift of \$75,000. The gift is “restricted”— to be used only to update or replace items in the building. Many of our current needs are things that originated with the “new addition” (1995) that have reached the end of their functional lives—many at the same time. The donor recognized the need to do this in view of the limitations of our operating budget.

A major item being initiated is in St Nicholas Hall. The inadequate and expensive to operate wall sconces will be replaced by six brighter and less expensive to operate fixtures hanging from the ceiling. The hall will also be repainted. A lift will be needed for both projects, done by different contractors. We hope this will be done in the near future.

Most of the first floor halls will also be repainted and new carpeting installed. This carpeting will be “squares” like in Mead Library, thus if a small section of the carpet is damaged it will be much easier to replace than in the present case. At some point during this project we may need help to move some furniture or wall hangings. Please contact Nicci soon if you can help with that job.

For the recent hazardous waste clean up we have looked through and gotten rid of many old paint cans dating from as long as 25 years ago! (Now we will have room to store new paint cans!). Thanks, Tom Crouse for taking them away.

The kitchen will be thoroughly cleaned in early July. As part of that project the exhaust fans will be cleaned on July 7th, so please do not plan on using the back parking lot that day. The plan is to also replace both refrigerators and the freezer in the kitchen as none are now operating very well if at all. We have already replaced the main water heater in the basement. The window sill by the narthex door that was burned by that candle in 2019 has finally been beautifully restored; check it out, you can’t tell the difference from any other window sill.

We also need to reroof the new sacristy. That was not done when the rest of the church was reroofed a few years ago. The cost of the rest of the roof was covered by insurance, the sacristy was not covered so it wasn’t done at that time; now it needs to be done.

There are some other smaller projects that are also being done at this time. With all the bad things resulting from the pandemic, at least maybe one good thing for us has been to relook at our facility and get going on some projects in much need of updating. Thank goodness for our blessing and good fortune in getting this special one time donation. Hopefully we can soon return to social gatherings in a brighter looking facility that will serve us for many more years to come.

Ed Clabots

*PS. On a personal note... I thank everyone for your prayers during my treatment for pancreatic cancer this past year. If you don't know the details, I had chemo in the fall and early winter, followed by radiation. Both did their job to shrink the tumor. In mid April I had surgery at Froedtert (great world class surgeon there) and the tumor and part of my pancreas were removed. Recovery from the surgery was a lot more difficult than I expected. I still need to gain weight. The cancer is gone, although I will be followed closely with scans. This all was possible because the tumor was discovered very early when I became jaundiced. Many with pancreatic cancer are not so lucky. So it looks like you will have me reminding you to turn off lights etc for a while yet.*



## *That's a Really Good Question!*

The Angelus will begin featuring a question, spiritually relevant to The Episcopal Church and/or life at Grace. If you've ever wondered “why,” this is your opportunity to ask! Question(s) may be emailed to the office, [office@gracesheboygan.com](mailto:office@gracesheboygan.com) or anonymously placed into the suggestion box in the parish office. Names will be protected, if shared

**July Birthdays**

Catherine Green 7/3  
 Valerie Whitford 7/8  
 Konrad Testwuide 7/13  
 Debbie Imig 7/14  
 Jerome Molitor 7/15  
 Greg Burgett 7/18  
 Claudia Fischer 7/20  
 Mia McMillan 7/22  
 Mary Snyder 7/24  
 Dustin Yang 7/25  
 Michelle Abrashinsky 7/29

Denise Yang 7/30  
 Francesca Barrows 7/31  
 Mary Gallimore 7/31

**July Anniversaries**

Nancy & Art Imig 7/3  
 Alison & Steve Weinert 7/5  
 Sarah Clabots-Kim 7/15  
 Debbie & Bob Imig 7/17  
 Betty Potter 7/19  
 Catherine & Russ Green 7/21  
 Rachel & David Annis 7/25  
 MaryJo & Konrad Testwuide 7/28

**Parish Staff**

The Right Reverend Matthew Gunter, *Bishop*  
 The Reverend William Bulson, *Rector*  
 The Venerable Michele Whitford, *Priest Associate*  
 The Reverend Michael Burg, *Deacon*  
 The Reverend Paul Aparicio, *Deacon*  
 Mr Caleb Klinzing, *Interim Organist Choirmaster*  
 The Reverend Deacon Nicci Beeck, *Parish Administrator*  
 Ms Julie Davidson, *Sexton*

**The Vestry**

Stuart Schmidt, *Senior Warden*  
 Ed Clabots, *Junior Warden*  
 Brian Heck, *Treasurer*  
*Vestry:* David Annis, Jack Britton, John Davis, Luke Fitzsimmons, Mary Gallimore, Angel Klinzing, Helen Mullison, Pat Sather, Mary Snyder

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