

*Junior Warden Report
Grace Episcopal Church
Madison, South Dakota 57042*

There have been several accomplishments this year with the physical plant of Grace Church. In January of 1987, the sacistry remodeling began and has been basically completed, with the exception of the final inner window and the door trim. Paneling and insulation was placed on the walls, with a new insulated suspended ceiling, new light fixture, and electrical outlets.

The Guild Hall received major renovation with the repair in the form of wall repair, repainting, drycleaning of the drapes, and installation of all new electrical outlets. New large scale bulletin boards were also installed on the west walls.

The Sunday school rooms also received new bulletin boards and the Priests office also was completed.

The grounds of the church received some extensive work with the removal of trees and a large general cleanup of the lawn.

THE FUTURE

The future of the church will be very bright. However, there are two major, major projects that need to be considered. They are:

- 1. The roof*
- 2. Repair to the north and east walls of the church*

Additional "thoughts" or considerations for the future include:

- 1. Additional work to the north and south lawns*
- 2. Renovation of the upstairs storage room*
- 3. Possible installation of automated climate control equipment*
- 4. Installation of protective windows over the stained glass windows.*
- 5. Possible installation of a full access ramp to the main entrance*

All of the above projects are hopefully for the betterment of the physical plant of the church, and the hope and desires of this junior warden.

Submitted this 29th day of January in the year 1988.

*Richard D. Moose
Junior Warden
Grace Episcopal Church*

VICAR'S ANNUAL REPORT

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

Sometimes an annual report such as this seems to be a trivial exercise to some. How is it possible to consolidate a year's worth of growth and change into a brief report? Actually on a snowy day in mid-January a reflection on life and ministry of a congregation can lead us into the comings and goings of the Spirit and how that same Spirit has truly blessed us in many ways.

I would like to celebrate our children who enrich our corporate life more than they probably know. They are acolytes, sometimes lay readers, faithful in Sunday School, and constantly remind us what it means to be a child of God. There are several of our children who haven't missed a Sunday and who look forward to being part of the family. They are our future and our hope.

I would like to celebrate the Sunday School staff, for Janice, Lois and Kitty, who are leading these children into knowledge and love of God. They bring their creative imaginations to teach our children what it means to be a Christian person.

I would like to celebrate our lay readers who faithfully, Sunday after Sunday, share the Word of God, lead the prayers and administer the chalice. Merrill, Beverly, Kitty, Richard, Rex and Jennifer just don't read the lessons; they share their faith through the proclamation of the Gospel.

I would like to celebrate the altar guild who prepares the altar with reverence and care. Grace Church is a beautiful church which exudes the prayers of the people for almost 100 years, and Janice, Jennifer and Lois enhance our worship life by decorating our sanctuary space with the colors of the Lord.

I would like to celebrate the Bishop's Committee, including Merrill as Senior Warden, Richard as Junior Warden, Kitty as Clerk, Ruby as Treasurer, and Janice, Rex, Hal, and George. They have struggled with and for me as we envision the ministry of Grace Church. Their support of me and of this congregation continues through the pain of growth and the excitement of new ideas and new vision.

I would like to celebrate Richard and Lois for their commitment to publishing the Alpha and Omega--the stories of times past, the occasional quip from other sources which through humor teaches us about our responsibility as Episcopalians and as Christians, and keeping us informed of what is happening each month. Many people in the Diocese are impressed with the quality of our newsletter and as a result, news about Grace Church appears in the SD Churchnews.

I would like to celebrate the ECW. With Janice as president, Beverly as secretary and Lois as treasurer, the women of the church have helped in organizing the coffee hours, the weekly maintenance of the church, and

occasional receptions such as the Kinyon-Jeratowski wedding, and the World Day of Prayer.

I would like to celebrate Marcia and Linda who provide our music each Sunday. They enable us to sing the praises of God with joy and gladness.

I would like to celebrate Hazel, Warner and Mildred who have shared the long tradition of our congregation by compiling its history. Their narrative of pain and joy provides the foundation of our story today.

I would like to celebrate all of you who visit the shut-ins, call on those who are ill or housebound, who are interested in the welfare of all our people, who share your faith with others so that they too might find the joy of being part of our family, who shovel the walks, mow the lawn, clean our facilities, who keep this church alive and prosperous.

In short, I would like to celebrate the family called Grace Church. We are a family with particular gifts and talents. We are a family and have a mission to invite others who are alone, who are on the fringes, who need to hear the good news of God in Christ, who have no home to share in our love and our hope. And we are doing that. We have new faces and new voices among us and for that I am grateful. We celebrate each other; we celebrate the love of God that dwells among us; we celebrate Jesus Christ who sets us free to be the best we can be; we celebrate life in this church and life in this world.