

Grace Place
is
Shaped by Faith



Mission Statement

*We are called by faith to co-create
with God and our community
the resources and connections
needed to rise above adversity.*



Grace Place is more than ...

- A Community Garden
- A Ministry Center
- Food Distribution Site
- A Gathering Spot





Grace Place is about ... Being God's Beloved Together

With each other, with our neighbors, with God.





It's about our faithfulness to God's dream.
It's about seeing God's faithfulness God's dream
through us and our neighbors.





“

OUR SHAPED BY FAITH PRAYER

*Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some
have entertained angels unawares.
(Hebrews 13:2)*

”





“

Oh Lord, we thank you for our parish family and the abundant blessings you have given us.

”





Accomplishment

We planned, built, and developed Grace Place Gardens.

It affirmed my choice to be part
of the Episcopal faith tradition,
especially those tenets that all are
equal, worthy of love, and that
love for one another is key.



“

You provide our daily needs, and you make our lives rich in friendship and opportunities to share your love and encouragement with each other.

”



Accomplishment

We harvested vegetables from our gardens and distributed fresh produce each week (**32,000 pounds** from July through December).



The distribution system policy of “no barriers, no questions” fostered a climate of radical hospitality”
This I think was or is a major part of what I hope we as an Episcopal body (church) can keep projecting out into the community as a whole. I know I want to be a part of this.



“

Now, we ask your blessing upon a new venture.
Help us reach beyond our parish walls and offer your love,
encouragement, and healing to our neighbors.

”



Accomplishment

We facilitated the necessary process so there will be 60 hours of free mental health counseling at Grace Place Ministry Center, starting in April.



This morning it struck me that we are part of a team that runs on faith and love. There are some we never see- the farmers who grow the produce, who raise the chickens, who get up in the morning and tend the crops and harvest them. There are Cory and Bernie at the Gleaning Project who organize and make sure everything gets to us and to so many others like us. There is our SbF team that plans and prays for the project. Our parish members support the project with prayer and donations and time, Other churches reach out in support, community agencies partner with us, and our neighbors offer their help at the produce stand and donate their time and resources.



May we extend our hands in partnering to create a loving community, our hearts in listening to know and respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters.



Accomplishment

We planned and executed four outdoor community events in GP gardens or Ministry Center- which were wildly successful!



We are a circle of neighbors, all working together to strengthen one another, as we grow, we learn even more about the community we are, and the dream God has for us.

We are living a miracle right here at Grace Place.



Be in our midst as we discover new ways to be your hands
and feet, as we honor the dignity of each person.





Accomplishment

The neighbors believed from the start this garden belonged to them, not us.

We are living the truth of “it is better to give than receive”.



Let there be joy and laughter rising up from new vegetable gardens and produce stands that will feed everyone who is hungry;





Accomplishment

We witnessed healing and transformation within our parish members and our neighbors which was profound.

We have prayed together, discerned together, worked together, got our hands muddy and loved our neighbors as best we could and in the process, we co-created with God!



smiles and warm welcomes as we pass each other on the street;





Accomplishment

Neighbors from the garden, who had been recipients of harvested vegetables and food boxes showed up to help serve at the community meal when they saw a need to help.

We have witnessed the provision of resources
and the forming of connections.



thanksgiving as we see friends who have been in need,
find ways to rise out of difficulty.



Accomplishment

Other organizations in community identified us as the hub of care and community engagement and are using our site.



There is so much to celebrate here because we are experiencing the goodness of God in all of this!

There is more to do. There is more to come!

We have a great desire to give God “the more” and with God’s help, we shall!

Thanks be to God.



May your light of love shine upon us as we become your church beyond the walls and grow your beloved community.



Grace Place

sow grow share

Co-creating wholeness among neighbors

Accomplishment

We created a communication plan (signs, logo, FB, website, e-news letter for Grace Place).

The All Hallow's Tide Events was one of the first times that the children in our neighborhood experienced being part of our St. Andrew's Family.



All that we have belongs to you, oh Lord.



Accomplishment

We supported the health and welfare of food insecure families in Shippensburg community



It is wonderful to see that it is a unified vision for mission held by the whole parish that allows people to live out their vocational call in a variety of ways, while serving through Grace Place.



May we use it to your glory.





Accomplishment

We witnessed the increase trust between the neighbors and our parishioners, longer and deeper conversations, pastoral care offered both ways.



This summer, my youngest son became a very involved member of our Grace Place garden community during the Tuesday distributions. He felt accepted, included, valued, and needed by the wonderful adults who are in leadership on Tuesdays. Moreover, he truly enjoyed being able to give to our community and help those in need. This affirmation and experience of giving and receiving God's love led him to want to be (and to be) confirmed this fall. He could not wait to go every Tuesday and hopes to again this summer!



In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.





Accomplishment

We continue to adapt our plans based upon feedback from our community.

It goes without saying that everything that has occurred over this last year has been powerful.

Starting in June with the distribution of food boxes each Tuesday to the over 250 pounds of vegetables from our collective gardens over the course of the summer, our community benefitted.





Watching each week as community members have come to pick up the boxes of food, I've seen relationships develop, the sharing of lives, the stories of those who are not able to come but have neighbors who help pick up food, it's been so moving.

The gardens not only provide food, but they also provide a place that each week consistent faces of support, rain or shine, are there.

We've learned a lot this year
and are now taking
suggestions from residents
on what vegetables they'd
like to see this summer;
more lettuce, less chard!





Like life, the seasons of the garden are alive and are helping to bring others together. I've seen the transformation in the eyes of those who come each week and the willingness to help with the project.

This garden has brought us together with our neighbors. I am blessed each day as I walk to my car in the parking lot by the Shelter that people stop to talk with me, ask for prayers, and tell me how happy they are to live right next to a church.

Our neighboring church donated \$600 to our ministry at the end of 2022. This donation meant the world to me. It said to me that others are seeing our work as valued and valuable and a part of being what it means to be Christian.





One magical evening was when our young people were decorating a Christmas tree on the porch of Grace Place, when the Shippensburg Christmas parade was coming down our street, and we all stopped and looked with wonder at the glory of us being a real part of our neighborhood.



Some of my favorite moments this summer were in the garden engaging our young ones in Cookie Church, when we would sing Arlo Guthrie's Garden Song, and the children could watch the garden grow and be a part of it all.

We celebrated the Eucharist in the midst of the garden and without knowing it, the children and adults learned about God and creation and God's love in a brand-new way.



When I returned from sabbatical in October, I noticed a profound shift in our engagement with the community. People trusted us. They looked to us for friendship, support, open hands and hearts, and they knew we wanted to walk alongside them as we form something new and marvelous together.



I knew that what we envisioned here was needed and was transforming the lives of our members and of our neighbors, and we were becoming one in mission and love. I knew that my work as the priest was to lead people into a place of strong and lasting support of this project, for suddenly this was no longer a project, but a way of living in closeness and truth.

The overall mission of Grace Place feels like it follows a similar vein to John Muir's quote regarding nature.



It reads,
"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in. Where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul."

Meet our Shaped by Faith Task Force



- Ann Baker
- Ford Brooks
- Barbara Hutchinson
- Christina Luo
- Steve Smith
- Keith Tyler
- Susan Tyler
- Jessica Larkin,
Garden Consultant
- Robyn Szoke Coolidge,
Formation Consultant
- Kathy Hettinga (Previous) Field
Placement Intern

General Purpose: Imagine, implement, and have oversight over the entire project; build relationships with diocese and other agencies of support.

Specific Actions: Meet, discuss, problem-solve, keep focused on big picture, coordinate the various parts, grant-writing, administrative work.

Meet our Food Distribution Team



- Ford Brooks
- Parker Brooks
- Peter D'Annibale
- Teena D'Annibale
- Edna Guido
- Elizabeth Howland
- Elizabeth Orsena
- Joseph Luo
- Ginny Delycure Schafer
- Robyn Szoke Coolidge
- Keith Tyler
- Susan Tyler

General Purpose: Build relationships with the neighbors and those providing food. Feed the hungry.

Specific Action: Collect food boxes from The Gleaning Project once a week and distribute it from Grace Place Porch. Also pick up food from Weis Market to add to the abundant offerings.

Meet our Spiritual Creative Consultants



- Ann Baker
- Barbara Hutchinson
- Adrena Reynolds
- Lisa Rhinehart
- Kathy Varner

General Purpose: To have oversight and coordinate the overall aesthetic scheme of the garden and ministry center, to create something that is beautiful, inviting, functional, and create space and activities which invite people into the holy.

Specific Actions: To plan and design the layout of the garden area, coordinating details and use of garden space, create a unifying theme among the parts, and plan activities that deepen people's spirituality.

Meet our “Crafty Chics” Team

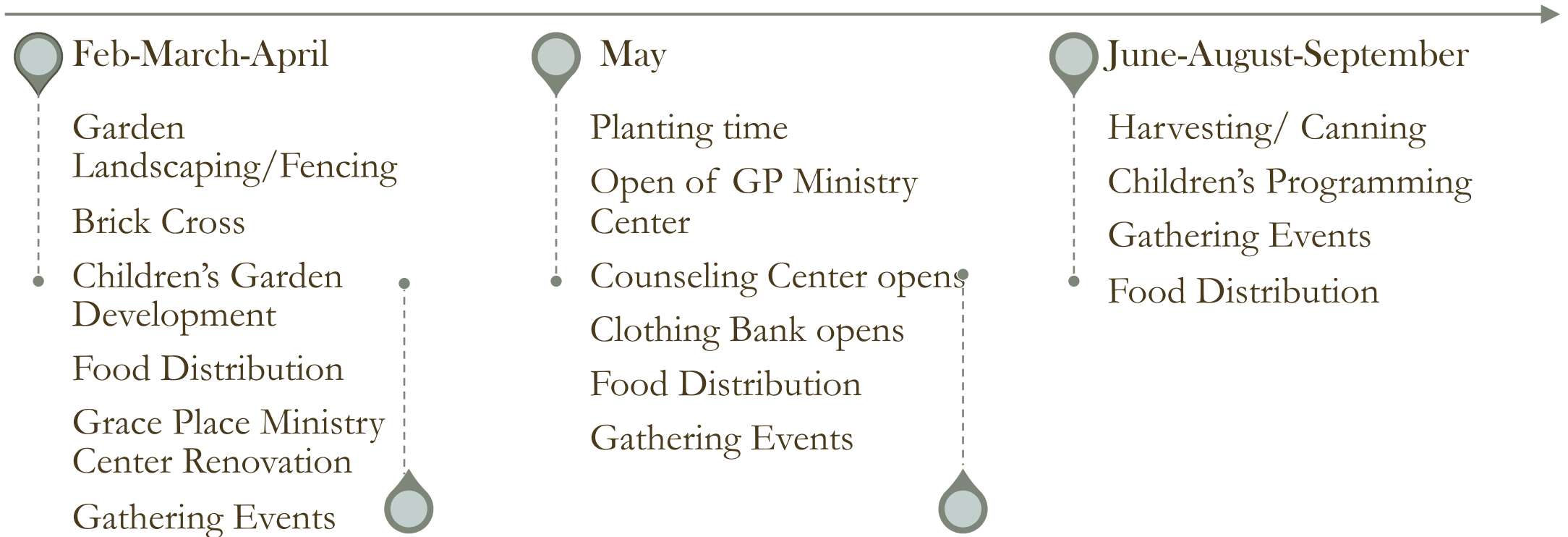
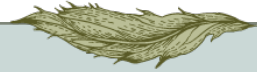


- Teena D’Annibale
- Amber D’Annibale Endrusik
- Edna Guido
- Elizabeth Howland
- Diane Krug
- Jessica Larkin
- Ginny Delycure Schafer
- Susan Tyler

General Purpose: Build relationships with the neighbors by offering gathering events.

Specific Action: Create items for sale or give away at the various markets. Organize market events.

Timeline





Areas of focus

Building Relationships to Become Beloved Together

- Gathering Events
- Engaging parishioners in this ministry
- Coordinating the various parts of the ministry
- Becoming Beloved Together

Funding our Ministry

- Grant writing
- Community Donations
- Parishioner Support



Summary

*We are called by faith to co-create with God
and our community
the resources and connections needed to rise above
adversity.*





Thank you



For your imagination,
creativity, prayer, and
support.