

CARRILEA'S CORNER

Dear Grace,

On Monday I was a part of a gathering—which left me reflecting deeply on the state of our public life and the sacred work of gathering and hospitality.

On Monday, we gathered in Hickory for a Moral Monday action outside the office of Representative Pat Harrigan. Faith leaders, impacted individuals, and community members came together to protest proposed federal budget cuts that would devastate working families, gut public services, and endanger the poor.

We showed up with stoles, signs, and stories—
not to shout or disrupt, but to request a meeting.

A simple meeting.

To sit across from each other, name our different views, and ask that the voices of the most vulnerable be taken seriously.

And yet, I was not allowed in the building.

I stepped inside the App State building to see if anyone was in the office. I saw a staff member speaking with someone and immediately turned back to wait outside. A short time later, a kind police officer informed me that a complaint had been filed—because I had unknowingly entered a “hard hat” construction zone, where no one was permitted.

And that was that.

We weren't even allowed in the door.

We couldn't even talk.

The same day, in Raleigh, Senator Ted Budd had “No Trespassing” signs posted and the doors locked just before that group of clergy and impacted individuals tried to enter. It is a public building, but that day knowing that the Moral Monday gathering was happening they put up signs.

And so I'm sitting with this:

What does it mean when people of faith—bearing no weapons, only stories—are shut out of public spaces simply for wanting to talk? The only way that staff who filed a complaint could have known he wanted to keep me out was because I was wearing a clergy collar.

What happens to a democracy when disagreement can no longer lead to dialogue?

What happens to us when gathering is met with silence or suspicion?

How might a gathering look in our community where we gather for intentional conversation across differences?

Grateful to be on this journey together,
Carrilea

October 19–25, 2025

October Birthdays

- 1 - David Grose
- 2 - Grant Lippard
- 2 - Lawrence Lippard
- 3 - Doug Hendrix
- 5 - Mary Whitted Hendrix
- 6 - Peggy Nicholson
- 6 - Ben Kudlacek
- 11 - Will Kenney
- 12 - Maple Scott
- 13 - Millie Corcoran
- 14 - Ulysses Marshall
- 16 - Brandon Tilley
- 16 - Grady Adams
- 20 - Tom Wiberg
- 21 - Kevin Angell
- 24 - Steve Coarsey
- 24 - Ellie Smith
- 30 - Jean Stroupe
- 30 - Mike Shaver
- 31 - Tristan Brown
- 31 - Serenity Brown

Anniversaries

- 5 - Maggie and Susie Hurst
- 18 - John and Melissa Hendrix

HERE IS STEVE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

October 26. Anger.



Scary Supper is coming-
November 2nd.

If you would like to help with meal prep or set up, let Nancy know. If you would like to decorate a table for the competition let Lisa know!!

BEER AND HYMN DATES ARE NOV. 18 AND DEC. 6

Our Fall work day will be Saturday, November 8th from 9am - 12pm. Our biggest task will be cutting down some tree limbs. Please join us and bring your chainsaws and mulchers!

ICM NEEDS ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING!

BUDGET

Needed year to date: \$83,664.00

Received year to date: \$91,251.26

OVER budget: \$7,587.26

Weekly needs: \$1,992.00

This Week's Offering: \$1796.26



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