



Celebrating 120 Years of God's Grace!

GRACE NOTES – March 2022

The News from GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Vicar's Vision

Your Vicar's Ponderings....

I have always loved Easter, everything about Easter! As a child I loved getting a new pretty dress complete with hat and gloves. I loved dying eggs and the chocolate bunnies (those Reece's peanut butter eggs are my eggs of choice now). I loved how beautiful the Church looked donned in its spring glory. I loved thinking about and believing that Jesus had risen from the dead. The tomb was empty and that was something to celebrate. I loved the glorious ALLELUIA's of the choir.

I still love Easter for all those reasons but I also know now that Easter is the promise of new life, not just for Jesus, but for me as well. Relationships that have been damaged can be made new, my sorrows can be turned into joy, my future can look different than my past, and my life can be changed and resurrected.

To fully grasp the power of Easter we must walk through Lent with eyes wide open, paying attention to our sin and our selfish ways that keep us from the fullness of God.

I hope you will walk with me through this Lenten season so that we will be ready in body, mind and spirit to embrace Easter.

Blessings to you,

Anne+

Junior Wardens' Report

Courtenay Evans, the deacon at Buck Mountain Episcopal Church in Earlysville, led a diocesan Garden Working Group Meeting via Zoom on February 21st. Barbara Nye, Vicar Anne, Greg Kula, & Jean Byerly attended this virtual meeting along with over 25 other members of our diocese. Courtenay's goal for this group is "to create a network amongst churches with gardens so that we can share what we are doing and help each other in the work of gardening." Her hope for our first meeting was to introduce ourselves and to start getting to know each other while learning what brought us to the group and what we hoped to accomplish for our parish.

After the meeting, Greg verbalized our feelings with these words: "I was both thrilled and humbled by the service and knowledge of all things gardening in our Christian community. The word 'synergy' is often overused, but not here!". Courtenay will continue with her plans by creating a document for networking and hosting another meeting in March. We are looking forward to learning from these other experienced gardeners while sharing our ideas and experiences.

Best regards, Greg Kula (Junior Warden)

Respectfully submitted, Jean Byerly (former Junior Warden)



ECW Meditation

Welcome Spring

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

~~Isaiah 35:1

The Diocesan ECW Lenten Retreat will be held virtually on Saturday, March 5th, from 10 until 12:30. Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will be the retreat facilitator. Please see the flyer for more details and to register.

We have received some very nice Thank You's from the girls and boys at Jackson-Feild home. Please check the bulletin board to see how appreciative they were with the gifts we gave them. Tod Balsbaugh also included a note to the ECW.

YDC Snacks

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide snacks for the YDC afterschool program! February and March slots have been filled.

There are some available dates in April that need people to volunteer for snacks.

With gratitude and thanks for each of you,
Jeannie



Outreach

Time To Wake Up

After three months of rest, sometimes under a cover of snow, it's time for the Unity Garden to wake up. This year's farthest row will be tilled in preparation for starting potatoes, some red, some white or golden. Other rows are ready for cold weather beets, chard, spinach, and lettuce.

Inside homes, seeds are poked into tiny pots under grow lights until after the last frost when plants can thrive outdoors.

Meanwhile we inventory available seeds, then order according to the garden plan. This is the time to keep an eye out for weeds. They need to be pulled out before their roots take hold.

As the garden awakens, we listen for the spirit of the Lord to inspire a renewal of relationships, discovering opportunities for wise use of this part of creation allotted to Grace Church. Let us dream, share our visions, and toil in the soil together for an abundant harvest of God's best.

Many Ways to "Cultivate" the Unity Garden

- Grow starter seedlings at home.
- Plant cold weather seeds in the garden.
- Pull weeds.
- Survey neighbors' interests.
- Donate to the Garden Fund.
- Create a wooden sign above the gate.
- Visit Children's Church.
- Join the flower gardeners.
- Take a walk around the garden.
- Pray for God's best blessings.
- Bring a friend to see the Garden.

For more information or to volunteer contact:
Barbara Nye (434) 985-2402



Altar Guild

How might we describe this ministry? Words like dedicated, considerate, and gentle come to mind.

Here is a quote from "Preparing a Place" by Barbara Gent and Betty Sturges: "The place becomes a holy place again and again when love is in the preparation."

Thank you for your participation in this ministry. We welcome new members at any point in the year.

Jenny Morris

Bell Choir

Starting March 6th, our very own Bell Choir is about to begin work on a wonderful anthem for our Easter Service. At this moment, any and all who are interested in making a joyful noise with us are still welcome, regardless of experience/ability. Please ask Lenny for more details if you are interested!



Vicar's Discretionary Fund

The Vicar's Discretionary Fund has been funded in the past with monies given from the Operating Budget. This year instead, the loose offerings of the first Sunday of the month will be put into the Discretionary Fund. This is an opportunity to put an extra gift in the plate and know that it will be used to help those in need.



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of
weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to
them.
We pray for those with power over war or
peace.
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to
guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious
children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of
peace.
Amen
Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Prayer and Worship during Lent

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 2
Liturgy for Ash Wednesday
7:00 p.m. at Grace Church

Sundays at Grace Church

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer
*Sunday school for children ages 3 to 12
available weekly after the Gospel.
Child care is available.*

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24

9:30a.m, Liturgy of the Palms with our
Methodist neighbors

10:00 a.m. Processional into the Church
Reading of the Passion

Maundy Thursday, March 28

7:00 p.m. Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 29 The Crucifixion of Our Lord

Noonday Ecumenical Good Friday Service
hosted at Stanardsville United Methodist

7:00 p.m. The Good Friday Liturgy at Grace
Church

Easter at Grace Church

Easter Day, April 17 - The Resurrection of Our
Lord

7:00 a.m. Sunrise at the Winslow's

11:00 a.m., Festive Holy Eucharist

Easter Egg Hunt in the Courtyard following the
service

Child care available

Upcoming (and slightly past) Events

Shrove Tuesday Virtual Pancake Supper

Please see the Grace Church Facebook page for pictures of Shrove Tuesday dinners at the homes of members of our parish family.

Children's Ministry Committee Meeting

On **Thursday, March 3rd, at 4:00 PM**, there will be a meeting for volunteers involved in Sunday School and the Thursdays @ Grace.

Lent Madness

This is a lighthearted (and educational) way to engage with the Episcopal Church's Saints. Resources can be found at lentmadness.org.

Lenten Bible Study

Our Lenten Bible Study will be on **Tuesdays** from **7 PM to 8 PM** via Zoom using the book, "*Founding God's Nation: Reading Exodus*" by Leon Kass. It is not necessary to purchase the book. Vicar Anne will provide weekly information on what will be covered.

Walking to Jerusalem

This is an imaginary walk that encourages members of all ages to increase their physical activity, spiritual growth and cultural awareness through a virtual tour to Jerusalem. Please see the Lenten booklet at Grace Church.

ECW Virtual Lenten Retreat

The Diocesan ECW will have a *Virtual Lenten Retreat* on Saturday, **March 5th** from **10 AM to 12:30 PM**. Please see the attached flyer.

Lenten Intergenerational Gathering

Join us on **Sunday, March 6th** after the worship Service for the opportunity to make a set of Anglican Prayer Beads.

Flower Garden for Altar

Vicar Anne is planning a flower garden at Grace Church to provide flowers for the altar. Please contact her if you would like to join in this effort or have plants that you would like to contribute.



"I Am A Christian" by Maya Angelou

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow

**† Birthdays, Baptisms, &
Anniversaries †
March 2022**

Let us give thanks and praise to God for these special days in the life of our parish family members and friends.

Birthdays

- 01 Ron Morris
- 04 Heather Meslar
Ann Dye
- 11 Suzanne Haney
- 13 Nina Wright
- 15 Eloise Virginia Pattison
- 16 Bobby Winslow
- 17 Lenny Grasso
- 22 Jeannie Palin
- 23 Cathy Lagana



Anniversaries

- 07 Bob & Debra Stohlman
- 17 Bob & Kathryn Thomas
- 20 Ryan & Katie Miller



Baptisms

- 02 Berowne Paradis
- 22 Alexandra McElroy
- 24 Ann McDaniel
- 27 Garnett Mingledorff



On the first Sunday of each month, we will invite anyone with a birthday that month to come forward during the service for a prayer and blessing.

It is tradition to put an offering in the Church bank for the number of years you are celebrating.

Lay Participation Schedule for March 2022

	03/02/22 Ash Wednesday	03/06 1st Sunday In Lent	03/13 2nd Sunday In Lent	03/20 3rd Sunday In Lent	03/27 4th Sunday In Lent
<u>1st Lesson</u>	Joel 2:1-2,12-17	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Genesis 15:1-12,17,18	Exodus 3:1-15	Joshua 5:9-12
<u>Psalm</u>	103	91: 1-2, 9-16	27	63: 1-8	32
<u>2nd Lesson</u>	2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10	Romans 10:8b-13	Philippians 3:17 – 4:1	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	2 Corinthians 5:16-21
<u>Gospel</u>	Matthew 6:1-6,16-21	Luke 4:1-13	Luke 13:31-35	Luke 13:1-9	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32
Ministry	7:00 PM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
<u>LEM</u>	Mary Hogge	Ron Morris	----	Larry Meslar	----
<u>Acolyte</u>	----	----	Mary Hogge	----	Linda Robbins
<u>Lector</u>	Linda Robbins	Betty Moreland	Linda Robbins	Mary Hogge	Ann Mingledorff
<u>Intercessor</u>	----	Julie Winslow	Mary Hogge	Linda Robbins	Pat Peck
<u>Usher</u>	Larry Meslar	Mary Hogge	Ann Mingledorff	Linda Robbins	Larry Meslar
<u>Coffee Hour</u>					
<u>Altar Guild</u>					



There is a new Flower Chart on the bulletin board for altar flowers. Once you sign up, give Linda the information you would like printed in the bulletin for that Sunday and coordinate with the Altar Guild person for that month. To have the Church make the flower arrangements, simply make a \$40 donation to the Altar Fund.





Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Virginia



Virtual Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 5, 2022

10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Practicing the Way of Love

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson

Retreat Facilitator

The Very Rev. Kim L. Coleman, ECW Chaplain

Join us as we draw upon Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's book, *Love Is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*, to examine our biblical mandate to practice the unconditional love of all that we teach and proclaim. In honor of Women's History Month, special attention will be given to the role women in Bishop Curry's life as well as women in Holy Scripture have been used by God to cultivate a commitment to love.

Preparatory reading of the book is preferred but not required. **All are welcome.**

Agenda

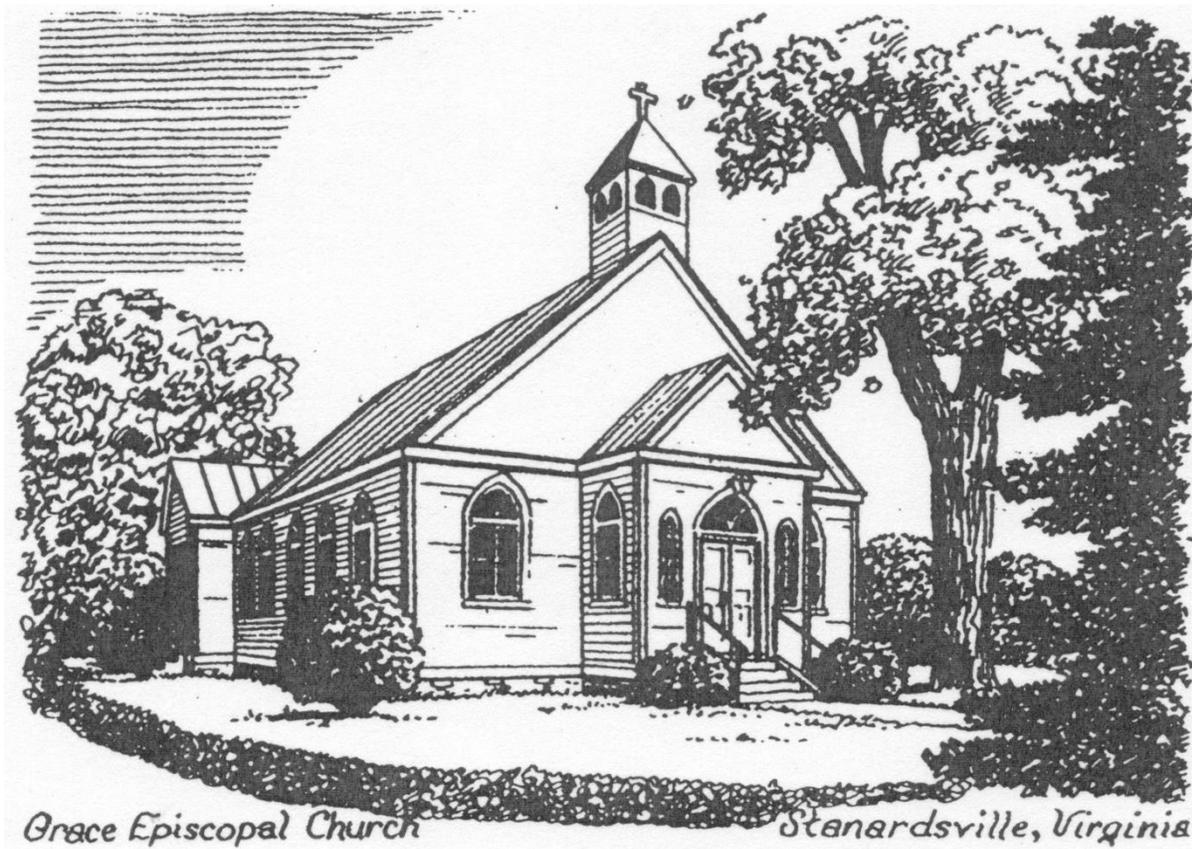
- 10:00 am Welcome and Opening Prayer
- 10:10 am Practicing the Way of Love with Bishop Brooke-Davidson
- 11:50 am Final Comments and ECW Announcements
- 12:00 pm Closing Worship
- 12:30 pm Retreat ends; work of practicing the way of love begins

Registration

This virtual gathering is powered by Zoom. To register click the link below and follow the prompts. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the zoom link to join the ECW Lenten Retreat.

Click to register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtcu-oqDMoGNTbHh7MbvB-FOo5YYaE0mz2>

We are asking for a \$25.00 contribution from those who attend. Make your check payable to ECW and mail to the ECW Treasurer: Kaaron Austin, 7319 Willson Road, Henrico, VA 23231 **OR** send payment via Zelle to ausink11@aol.com. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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