

## Celebrating 121 Years of God's Grace!

GRACE NOTES – December 2022

The News from GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### The Vicar's Vision

**Greetings friends,**

I am devoting my space in Grace Notes this month to share with you a bit of background and the circumstances which have led to the proposal to sell a piece of our property and the offer that has been made to purchase it.

As I understand it from several Grace parishioners when the Church hoped to purchase the house and property from Miss Violet many years ago the agreement could only happen if Grace Church bought her entire property. The house no longer sits on the property. We have found some wonderful uses for part of the property, a CommUNITY garden which will be in its 5<sup>th</sup> season next spring and now a paved parking lot with so much potential.

The part of the property we propose to sell is 5.06 acres (the very back of Tract Y which was purchased when we purchased the house.

Gina Haney and Glenn Foulds have made an offer to purchase these 5.06 acres for \$23,000 per acre. The Vestry feels this is a very fair offer and voted to move forward with this proposal. This sale is in no way being considered because we are in a financial tight spot. It is an opportunity to lighten our property caretaking (especially with a piece of land that holds no real potential for our future growth.

In accordance with Diocesan protocol, we must have this sale approved by the congregation and then with the Diocese. We plan to gather after Church on December 11 to take this congregational vote. You will find a survey of the property, which has been marked well for clarity, on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please ask any questions to help you be more informed before we take this important vote.

Blessings,  
Anne West, Vicar of Grace Church



### Senior Warden's Report

Highlights of the 228<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia

More than 377 lay and clerical delegates from across the Diocese gathered at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Nov. 17-19 for the 228<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia. You were represented by our Vicar, The Rev. Anne West, The Rev. Deacon Kathryn Thomas, and the Senior Wardens of both Piedmont, Madison, Karen Czar, and Grace, Ann Mingledorff.

The responsibilities of delegates include the election of leaders to governing bodies, passing a budget for the upcoming year, and voting on any resolutions that come before the Convention.

Bishop Suffragan Susan Goff, who has also served as Ecclesiastical Authority for four years, gave [final pastoral address](#) to much acclaim and repeated standing ovations.

Keynote speaker Bishop Eugene Sutton of the Diocese of Maryland shared the journey that has followed the Diocese of Maryland's 2020 commitment to creating a \$1,000,000 seed fund for reparations. The fund is infusing money into programs that are building up Black communities and helping to repair the breach caused by systemic racism in Maryland and the United States. At the Diocese of Virginia's 2021 Convention, the delegates committed to establish an endowment over the next five years of \$10 million to be set aside as an initial investment to begin reparations.

The Convention adopted the following resolutions: Achieving Net Carbon Neutrality by 2030; Uniform Family Leave; Promotion of Solidarity with Global Efforts to Expand COVID Vaccines and Treatment; History of Episcopal Succession to include Bishop Suffragan Susan Goff; Promotion of Civil Discourse; and The Creation of Assistant Bishop Positions. The Convention passed a balanced budget of \$5,661,700.

For more details of Convention, please visit [Summary of the 228th Annual Convention](#). It was both a privilege and a joy to attend. In our current national climate of discord, being a part of a large body of delegates who worked and prayed together harmoniously was very heartening. It can be done. Thanks be to God!

Ann Mingledorff  
Senior Warden

## Junior Warden's Report

Grace Episcopal Church and its grounds are looking good going into late fall, and our generous volunteers continue to make it happen. Weather permitting we're looking to contract replacement of the plexiglass over our stain-glass windows, then caulking and finish work. Areas of the building foundation that were showing wear have been pressure washed and painted. "Many hands make light work" so please consider donating some of your time and energy to help maintain our lovely buildings and grounds.



## Outreach



We served 35 for the October 29<sup>th</sup> Neighborhood Brunch. Parishioners greeted each guest and steered them to their seats. The Sunday School children took menu orders and delivered each meal as plated by the kitchen helpers. Calendars for 2023 were given out with encouragement to use them as wise time management. Vicar Anne and Melissa Napier provided canvas shopping bags. Children used stencils to decorate them.



## ECW Meditation

**Loving and Gracious God, heal our hearts during this season of Advent. Help us love more fully, forgive more quickly, give more generously and wait more patiently. We ask for peace of mind and heart, peace of body and spirit, and peace for our community and the world. Help us to embrace each day as we wait with joy for the coming of our Lord, the hope of the world. Amen**

### **ECW Christmas Get Together!**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 10th from 4 to 6 p.m.

Julie Winslow has graciously agreed to host our holiday get together at the Winslow Barn. Please bring a favorite wine, cheese, hors d'oeuvre or dessert!

We will collect **unwrapped gifts** to be delivered to the girls and boys at Jackson-Feild.

### **Jackson-Feild Gift Wish List:**

Boys and Girls Pajamas L, XL, XXL  
Boys and Girls Bedroom Slippers L, XL  
SweatShirts L, XL, XXL  
Hoodies L, XL, XXL  
Sweatpants S, M, L, XL, XXL

We will also vote on which organizations to send our money.

We have \$1,132.12 in our account.

Last year we gave money to:

**Woman's Club Scholarship Fund**  
**Ministerial Association Scholarship Fund**  
**Greene Alliance**  
**Viva Voce and the ECW Diocesan Gifts and Scholarship Fund.**

May your Advent be filled with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love,  
Jeannie

## Altar Guild

Our acolyte lit the first of the four Advent candles on November 27 and the new liturgical year began.



Advent is the season of expectation and preparation for the birth of the Messiah.

The altar hangings are purple; and evergreen cuttings, symbolizing continuous life, are used on the altar shelves instead of flowers. On Christmas Eve we will add window candles in the sanctuary and place the white Christ candle in the center of the Advent wreath, as we celebrate the Light of Christ coming into the world.

Please note these two administrative announcements:

- On the second Sunday of Advent there will be a sign-up form on the side table for those who would like to give a Christmas Poinsettia to honor or remember; the cost will be \$14.00.
- The altar guild volunteer sign-up for 2023 is posted on the hallway bulletin board. Please consider helping with this ministry; thank you!

Jenny Morris



## Music

There has been a lot going on in the music ministry recently! We were delighted to host **Connor Chee** for a beautiful concert of piano music inspired by his Native American heritage on November 17<sup>th</sup>.



Last week our Adult Choir participated in the **Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship fundraiser concert**, hosted by the Greene County Ministerial Society. We had a blast singing amongst fellow churches in Greene County in worship, celebration, and support of WMHS seniors.

Be sure to come to Grace Church for our fourth Sunday of Advent service on December 18th – we will have an **Advent Lessons and Carols** service. As usual there will be some familiar carols alongside some new ones.

There are many opportunities to see our Grace Church musicians perform this month!

You can catch Bert and Barbara Nye singing with the **Madison Choral Society** on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Thomas Episcopal (Orange) at 7PM and on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church (Haywood) at 4:30PM. You can also catch them with Keith Erikson in the **Greene County Singers** performing on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Stanardsville United Methodist at 3PM and 7PM. That's right – three concerts in one day!

Suzanne will be playing bassoon with the **Waynesboro Symphony** on their annual Holiday Pops Concerts at Wilson Memorial High School, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM.

Lenny will be playing piano with the **Western Albemarle High School Choir** at two different public events this month – the Grand

Illumination at the Ting Pavilion in downtown Charlottesville, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5-8PM, and the Christmas at the Paramount Concert on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM.

Respectfully,  
Lenny



## Unity Garden

### Thank God for WMHS's Agriculture Program

Chris Jones is the Program Director for William Monroe High School's Agriculture and Shop Classes. He is also an avid supporter of the Future Farmers of America club with Grant and Levi McDaniel as devoted future farmers. Not only does Mr. Jones teach horticulture and greenhouse classes but makes sure all his students can change oil, clean carburetors, and make repairs and adjustments in tractors, lawn mowers, and other machinery necessary for the success of any kind of farming.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> of this year Chris brought all six of his classes to engage in the varied tasks of clearing out the remains of this year's crops in the Unity Garden. He considered it part of their community service but taught real life reasons for each task. They removed the dead plants and spread mulch over the planting rows. Then they straightened the pathways between. Some students shelled Long Beans to save seeds for next year and to share with our Diocese's garden group.



Vicar Anne, Ann Mingledorff, Deacon Kathryn, Jean Byerly, and the Nyes brought homemade snacks. We enjoyed getting to know about the hard work they do on their home farms. We were privileged to hear their hopes of continuing to serve the community's homegrown needs.

Respectfully, Barbara Nye



### Creation Corner

Once upon a time, in Greene County there was not a Walmart, let alone a McDonald's, Burger King, or Wendy's, so if you ran out of wrapping paper you were left to your own imaginative devices.



I had that dilemma late one Christmas Eve with an important present left to wrap and no more wrapping paper. Our oldest son had an epiphany and went to the linen closet and brought out one of my best pillowcases and, thus, our favorite wrapping tradition began.

Instead of using disposable wrapping paper beautifully colored with toxic dyes, try wrapping your gifts in reusable fabric in the forms of whatever will cover your gift. If it is small, try a new tea towel. If it is larger, a new towel or throw might do. The gift size and shape will tickle your imagination and choice. Instead of wrapping paper that ends up at the dump, the wrapping will warm your loved ones with memories!

In His service,  
Deacon Kathryn

### December Creation Challenge

*For the month of December, instead of wrapping paper, choose a pretty tea towel, apron, throw, scarf, or pillowcase to wrap around your gifts this season.*



### December Sunday Schedule

- ❖ December 4 - The Reverend Deborah Rutter will be the guest celebrant and preacher for Holy Eucharist.
- ❖ December 4 - The Advent Angel Tree will be set up in the Parish Hall with gift angel ornaments. These will be used for purchasing gifts for our neighborhood children. Please plan to take one or two and purchase the items, then return them wrapped with the angel taped to the outside of the packages by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ December 11 - Anne will be the Celebrant for our Eucharist service.
- ❖ December 18 - Both Kathryn and Anne will be at Grace Church for Lessons and Carols and the Children's Christmas Play. The Children are performing a piece of Music, "The Friendly Beasts", which will be part of the Lessons and Carols.
- ❖ December 24<sup>th</sup> - We will have two services on Christmas Eve: The family Christmas service will start at 4:30 p.m. and late evening Christmas Eucharist will start at 10:30 pm. Anne and Kathryn will be officiating both services on Christmas Eve.

## Save the Date

- ❖ December 11<sup>th</sup> is an important day. We must hold a congregational meeting once again to approve the sale of church property. Vicar Anne is happy to answer any questions or sit with you to explain details before this Sunday meeting.
- ❖ On December 11<sup>th</sup> Vicar Anne will be offering an Adult Forum at 9:00 a.m. to discuss with you “End of Life Matters”.
- ❖ The December Vestry meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ Grace Church’s Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, following the worship service.
- ❖ Grace Church will host Tuesdays Table on December 20<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Stanardsville Methodist Church. Please see Pat Peck to volunteer and for more information.
- ❖ There will be a Neighborhood Brunch served in the Parish Hall on the fifth Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Of course, the theme will be “New Year’s Eve” to celebrate the next day’s beginning of a new year of our Lord. If you have 2023 calendars to give to neighbors, please place them in the box in the foyer. There will be opportunities to share stories of how God has blessed us during the previous year and time to speak of our hopes for the future. You can volunteer to assist in many ways including just being present.

## A Meditation and Thank You to the People of the Diocese

Emmanuel. God with us. Always. Everywhere. Forever. In this holy season of Advent, we focus once more on the wonder of Incarnation, God’s presence with us in the flesh. As I move toward a new chapter of incarnating God’s love through my life in the world, I give thanks for what has been and for what is yet to come. I give thanks for the people of the Diocese of Virginia, for the ways you have honored me as I prepare for retirement, and for the countless stories you have shared.

### Stories

I look around the room  
on the last day of Convention  
and I see stories.  
Hundreds of them.  
Decades of them.

I stand to pronounce the final blessing  
and I am washed over by affection,  
dissolved by sheer love  
for the stories on every face,  
stories like auras that expand  
until the room is all light,  
stories like notes that blend  
until the room vibrates  
with the harmonics of them.

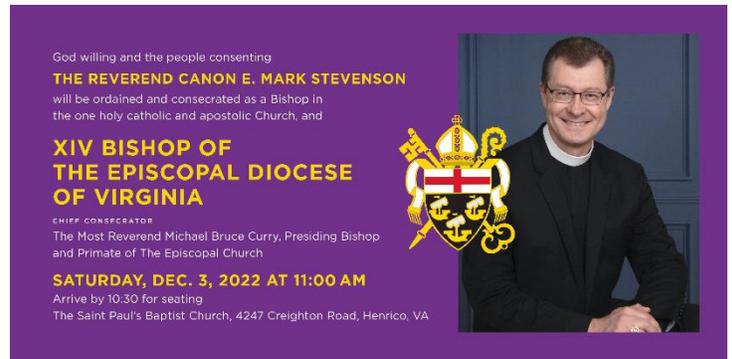
The fears.  
The hopes.  
The successes.  
The disappointments.  
The ordinations.  
The new calls.  
The retirements.  
The weddings.  
The births.  
The miscarriages.  
The arrests.

The visa cards denied.  
The green cards granted.  
The divorces.  
The children in trouble.  
The children thriving.  
The deaths of loved ones.  
The illnesses.  
The healing grace prayed for.  
The healing grace received.

What do I do with the stories  
whose hearing made me a leader?  
How do I honor the stories  
that are so unspeakably precious?  
What image shall I paint?  
What poem shall I write?  
What prayer shall I pray to commit them to  
God  
who already enfolds them in arms of endless  
love?

Thank you, dear family of God here in the  
Diocese of Virginia. Your stories have been a  
source of my prayers, a context and a focus of  
intercession. Your stories have also been an  
answer to my prayers. I am blessed beyond  
words because of you. Now God bless us all as  
we enter this holy season and get ready yet  
again to receive the greatest blessings of all.

Faithfully yours,



## Ordination and Consecration of the 14th Bishop Diocesan

The event will be livestreamed on the  
diocesan [homepage](#) and [YouTube channel](#).  
The service bulletin is available [here](#).

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding  
Bishop, will be the chief consecrator. All  
Bishops in the Episcopal Church will be  
invited to attend.

The consecration will be held at The Saint  
Paul's Baptist Church on Saturday, December  
3 at 11:00 a.m. Although some previous  
ordination and consecration services for the  
Virginia Bishop Diocesan have been held at  
Washington National Cathedral, it was  
requested, and the Transition Committee  
believed, that this service should be held  
within the Diocese, and the Standing  
Committee accepted its recommendation.

For more information on the ordination, please  
visit the [Ordination and Consecration](#) page of  
the Diocesan website.

**† Birthdays, Baptisms, &  
Anniversaries †  
December 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 Garnett Mingledorff  
Gretchen Ladd

02 Donna Mawyer  
Emily Ellis

03 Gail Trimmer-Unterman

05 Charlotte Crandall

06 Betty Moreland  
Lisa Hystad

07 Reagan Davis

21 Robbi Savage

25 Farrell Milstein

28 Don Doyle  
Greg Kula

**Anniversaries**



08 Paul & Marilee Newman

**Baptisms**

06 Betty Moreland

11 Whit Brinkley



## *Lay Participation Schedule for December 2022*

	<b>12/04 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>12/11 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>12/18 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>12/24 Christmas Eve services</b>	
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</u>	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 35:1-10	Lesson I Isaiah 9:2-8 Mary Hogge  Lesson II Micah 5:2-5 Ron Morris  Lesson III Daniel 7:13-14 Gwen Atwood	Isaiah 9:2-7	
<u>Psalm</u>	72:1-7, 18-19	146:4-9 OR Canticle 15		96	
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</u>	Romans 15:4-13	James 5:7-10		Titus 2:11-14	
<u>Gospel</u>	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 11:2-11		Luke 2:1-14	
<b>Ministry</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>		
	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	<i>Lessons &amp; Carols</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist</i>	
			Lesson IV Luke 1:26-38 Ann Mingledorff  Lesson V Matthew 1:18-23 Jeannie Palin  Lesson VI Luke 2:8-20 Phil Palin	<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>10:30 PM</b>
<u>LEM</u>	----	Minna Doyle		Pat Peck	Mary Hogge
<u>Acolyte</u>	Jean Byerly	----		----	-----
<u>Lector</u>	Scott Mingledorff	Melissa Napier		Betty Moreland	Ron Morris
<u>Intercessor</u>	Jenny Morris	Pat Peck		Ann Mingledorff	Jenny Morris
<u>Usher</u>	Ann Mingledorff	Lou Hatter	Mary Hogge	Scott Mingledorff	Jean Byerly
<u>Coffee Hour</u>	Hogge	Byerly, Koontz, Peck	Hatter	N/A	N/A
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Heidi Ladd Marilee Newman	Heidi Ladd Marilee Newman	Heidi Ladd Marilee Newman	Heidi Ladd Marilee Newman	



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**