

Grace Episcopal Church 2020 Annual Report



A year that we will not forget.....

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**Grace Episcopal Church
Annual Meeting
January 17, 2020**

Agenda

Worship and Eucharist

Prayer

Declaration of a Quorum

Election of New Vestry Members

- Presentation of the slate of candidates
- Vote

Reports

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • Vicar | The Rev. Anne West |
| • Senior Warden | Larry Meslar |
| • Treasurer's 2020 Closing | Linda Robbins |
| • Stewardship | Linda Robbins |
| • 2021 Budget | Linda Robbins |
| • Junior Warden | Jean Byerly |
| • Worship / Altar Guild / Music | Linda Robbins / Ann Mingledorff /
Suzanne Pattison / Lenny Grasso |
| • Christian Formation | The Rev. Anne West |
| • Episcopal Church Women | Jeannie Palin |
| • ECW Treasurer's Summary | Ann McDaniel |
| • Outreach | Barbara Nye |
| • Parish Life / Communications | Linda Robbins / Jean Byerly |

Adjourn with Prayer

~VICAR'S 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

This Annual Report's purpose is simple and clear. It is a moment to express gratitude for your faithfulness during this unprecedented time in the life of the Church. You have reached out and cared for one another even when we could not be together physically. You have continued to contribute to the financial needs of the Church, which continued even when we were not together physically. And most importantly you have continued to be Christ's heart and hands and love in a particular time of need. You have my gratitude.

I have been reading and rereading our latest book choice for *Read and Wine*, which will be offered at the end of the month, and one particular image he shares toward the end of the book seems so appropriate for us as we move forward into 2021.

To set the stage, Rob was doing a talk in San Francisco and was simply sitting with the audience after doing a Q&A. When a woman in the audience asked him a particular personal question, his response generated much of what his book is about and much of what I believe we need to prayerfully consider after such a draining, austere season of the Church.

He asks us to recall the beginning story of scripture, an image he says that has helped him in troubling times, the creation poetry; *In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.* The water is the unknown, the depths, the abyss, and in the scripture, the spirit (wind from God) is hovering over those waters. It enters those waters and out of it creates something new, something vast and expansive, and filled with goodness. The Creation poetry presents all this goodness and beauty coming out of those waters. Rob Bell reminds us that we know those waters, the waters of pain, struggle, failure, of not knowing how to deal with the agony of life. We know those waters. There is Spirit there in those waters just waiting to bring something new out of it. That is the question for us every time we fall into the dark waters of life, like a pandemic that has taken far too many lives, political strife that has heightened division and poured out too much hate, isolation that has caused many to suffer, an economy that has scars from this past year that will take a long time to heal. The Spirit is with us, hovering over, just waiting to bring something new into our midst. Will we be ready to see it and to respond?

With much love,
Anne

~SENIOR WARDEN'S 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

2020 started with excitement and hope for all that Grace Church could accomplish in the year to come. Who could have known that a new virus, worlds away, would have such an impact on, not only the nation and the world, but Grace Church directly. As the guidelines from the Diocese of Virginia continued to be revised, given the potential spread and gravity of this pandemic, the Vestry prayerfully considered the best approaches for the ongoing needs and health of our congregation. Who knew this would be the theme for the entire year, and beyond.

In spite of the necessary restrictions to in-person worship, Grace continued its calling to do the Lord's work in this community. Using the technology available to us through the internet and the Zoom application, Sunday worship continued to be available for our congregation thanks to the efforts of several members. A special thanks to Lenny and Suzanne for the enhanced musical accompaniment, including FM technology to enable participation of our choir members in the service music.

Despite the restrictions forced by the Covid virus, the debut of the *Unity Garden* was a tremendous success. Many thanks to all of the participants, especially Bert and Barbara Nye for their tireless efforts to keep it well tended. Being able to hold tasting events on the lawn enabled the participation of many local community members. We are looking forward to the garden's re-birth in the spring and many more exciting events celebrating its continued success.

Another seminal event for the year is Grace Church's partnership with Piedmont Parish in Madison. Both Piedmont and Reverend Anne had specific needs that perfectly complimented each of them. This partnership gives Anne the equivalent of full time compensation, and Piedmont a part-time priest to serve their needs.

Although this year has been extremely challenging for all of us, church members are continually committed to the financial health of our church, as evident by the continued pledging of monetary support, even in a trying economic climate for some. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

Because of the financial uncertainty of both our own personal circumstances and that of the Diocese of Virginia as a whole, most of the physical plant projects have been on hold. The Vestry has had multiple discussions on these projects, as well as prioritization of the evident needs. Once spring arrives, there will be a concerted effort to get many of these items back on track. One of the first orders of business will be the continuation of the effort to pursue Grace Church's own parking area. The surveyor is ready to proceed, and the Parking Lot Committee will be pursuing estimates for paving.

Although this is my final year on Vestry, I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve God in his Church and working with the Grace Church community, to the benefit of His greater glory.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Meslar
Senior Warden

~TREASURER'S 2020 CLOSEOUT REPORT~

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robbins
Treasurer

OPERATING BUDGET

	Budget 2020	Actual Dec 31, 2020
<u>NET = INCOME - EXPENSES</u>	-\$2,318	\$28.20
<u>INCOME</u>	\$118,265	\$109,347.02
Plate, 2019	\$4,500	\$5,720.00
Pledge, 2019	\$91,490	\$84,390.00
Diocese of Va. Aid	\$11,000	\$11,000.00
Interest-Dividend Income (TOF)	\$3,500	\$3,682.02
All Other Income		
Small Steps	\$1,575	\$525.00
Parish Hall Rental	\$1,200	\$550.00
Late 2019 Pledges	\$0	\$25.00
Unspecified Income ¹	\$5,000	\$3455.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>	\$120,583	\$109,318.82
Diocesan Pledge	\$7,975	\$7,975.00
Regional Pledge	\$450	\$450.00
Vicar's Discretionary Fund	\$200	\$200.00
Theological Education	\$50	\$50.00
Local Outreach	\$5,500	\$5,499.44
Clergy		
Vicars Compensation	\$35,525	\$35,520.00
Vicars Benefits	\$12,912	\$12,877.43
Supply Clergy	\$925	\$900.00
Property: Utilities		
Cleaning	\$3,359	\$452.13
Electricity	\$3,500	\$2,813.31
Gas	\$2,200	\$1,560.93
Trash Pickup	\$288	\$288.00
Water	\$500	\$457.59
Property: Maintenance		
Church	\$5,440	\$1,884.26
Grounds	\$1,500	\$1,640.00

	Budget 2020	Actual Dec 31, 2020
Program: Education		
Adult Education	\$250	\$264.22
Children's Christian Education	\$250	\$118.20
Vestry Education	\$250	\$36.52
Vicar's Continuing Ed	\$500	\$500.00
Program: Worship & Music		
Organ/Piano Maintenance	\$470	\$0.00
Organist	\$8,138	\$8,138.40
Choir Director	\$6,104	\$6,103.80
Worship-Altar Guild	\$500	\$271.55
Program: Stewardship	\$75	\$0.00
Program: Fellowship-Evangelism		
Parish Life	\$525	-\$16.97
Program: Other		
Day-by-Day	\$255	\$255.00
Administration		
Insurance	\$5,767	\$5,578.00
Office Supplies	\$500	\$333.50
Office Equipment	\$3,000	\$2,178.03
Telephone	\$1,600	\$2,019.84
Web site	\$225	\$200.06
Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,200	\$1,127.01
Printing & Postage	\$250	\$273.20
Bank & USPS Fees	\$250	\$199.41
Parish Administrator	\$8,400	\$8,400.00
Other Expenses		
Convention Delegates	\$750	\$150.00
Public Relations	\$1,000	\$620.96

NOTES ON OPERATING BUDGET

¹ Only needed \$3,300.00 of \$5,000.00 Paydown deficit donation

RESTRICTED FUNDS – December 31, 2020

	<u>Starting Balance</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>From Opr. Funds</u>	<u>To Opr. Funds</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>PASS-THROUGH</u>	\$2,440.94	\$12,432.66	\$12,188.16	\$0.00	\$1,525.00	\$1,160.44
Bishop's Visit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00
Gifts	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$130.00
Outreach Programs ¹	\$232.46	\$8,796.00	\$8,996.00			\$32.46
Pledge, Early 2020	\$1,525.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$1,525.00	\$0.00
Pledge, Early 2021	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00			\$500.00
UTO	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00
Virginia Episcopalian	-\$15.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			-\$15.00
Payroll Deductions						
Employee State Tax	-\$6.80	\$48.00	\$36.00			\$5.20
Employee SS	\$232.50	\$846.36	\$873.74			\$205.12
Employee Medicare	\$54.87	\$197.97	\$204.34			\$48.50
Employer SS	\$233.03	\$846.36	\$873.73			\$205.66
Employer Medicare	\$54.88	\$197.97	\$204.35			\$48.50
RSVP Contribution	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00			\$0.00
<u>IN-HOUSE</u>	\$16,707.42	\$1,135.00	\$4,010.82	\$2,900.00	\$5,155.00	\$11,576.60
Altar Guild	\$134.38	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$134.38
Capital Maintenance						
Additional Property Mtce	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$1,000.00
Capital Maintenance Fund ²	\$3,274.34	\$550.00	\$0.00			\$3,824.34
Church Roof ²	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00			\$0.00
Christian Formation	\$664.40	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$664.40
Deficit Paydown	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,700.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,700.00
Garden Fund	\$15.01	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$15.01
HOPE	\$224.78	\$0.00	\$72.65			\$152.13
Outreach ³	\$1,350.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00			\$0.00
Memorial Fund - Giles	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$425.00
Memorial Fund – Robbins	\$204.82	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$204.82
Music ⁴	\$2,476.46	\$0.00	\$1,541.47			\$934.99
Pancake Supper ⁵	\$0.00	\$155.00	\$0.00		\$155.00	\$0.00
Poinsettias, Lilies & Flowers	\$545.65	\$50.00	\$25.59			\$570.06
Social Media	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$100.00
Thanksgiving	\$119.58	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$119.58
Unity Garden	\$225.19	\$380.00	\$181.11	\$1,000.00		\$1,424.08
Vicar's Discretionary Fund ⁶	\$447.81	\$0.00	\$340.00	\$200.00		\$307.81
<u>TOTAL (PASS-THROUGH & IN-HOUSE)</u>	\$19,148.36	\$13,567.66	\$16,198.98	\$2,900	\$6,680	\$12,737.04

NOTES ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

¹ Souper Bowl Sunday/Feeding Greene, Haiti, Feeding Greene/Covid-19

² Combine Roof \$ left over with Capital Maintenance, per Vestry approval

³ GRACE/Covid-19, Feeding Greene/Covid-19

⁴ Podcast/Streaming license, Sanctuary equipment for Zoom service, fm transmitter & mics for choir

⁵ Pancake Supper money donated to Operating Budget

⁶ Small Steps tuition aid

~STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

The following are details from our Stewardship Drive:

- There were 30 pledges totaling \$89,340.00
- 3 existing pledges were lost, but 4 new pledges were added
- 9 pledges were increased
- The average pledge for 2021 is approximately \$2978
- The median (half above and half below) is \$2100

Our Stewardship Drive was very different in 2020, due to the Covid-19 restrictions. There actually was no drive! A Stewardship letter and pledge cards were sent out to everyone, but there were no inspiring reflections from parishioners, discussion sessions, or pot-lucks. That being said, the Grace Church Family members still showed their love and dedication to keeping our church viable during these questionable times. Your support, both financially and with your valuable time, shows your strong commitment in continuing to carry out God's work, especially during difficult situations. Grace Church could not do the wonderful things it does in the community if it weren't for each and every one of you! Thank you so much and God Bless each and every one of you!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robbins
Treasurer

~2021 OPERATING BUDGET~

At a January 12, 2021 meeting, the Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church voted to adopt the following Operating Budget for 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robbins
Treasurer

	<u>Budget</u> <u>2020</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2020</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2021</u>
<u>NET = INCOME- EXPENSES</u>	-\$2,318	\$28	-\$7,103
<u>INCOME</u>	<u>\$118,265</u>	<u>\$109,347</u>	<u>\$109,340</u>
Plate	\$4,500	\$5,720	\$4,500
Pledge	\$91,490	\$84,390	\$89,340
Diocese of Va. Aid	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$9,900
Interest-Dividend Income (TOF)	\$3,500	\$3,682	\$3,900
All Other Income			
Small Steps	\$1,575	\$525	\$0
Hall Rental	\$1,200	\$550	\$0
Late Pledges		\$25	
Pay Down Deficit ¹	\$5,000	\$3,300	\$1,700
Unspecified Income		\$155	
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$120,583</u>	<u>\$109,319</u>	<u>\$116,443</u>
Missionary Outreach			
Diocesan Pledge	\$7,975	\$7,975	\$7,975
Regional Pledge	\$450	\$450	\$450
Vicar's Discretionary Fund	\$200	\$200	\$200
Theological Education ²	\$50	\$50	-
Local Outreach	\$5,500	\$5,499	\$5,500
Clergy			
Vicars Compensation	\$35,525	\$35,520	\$34,448
Vicars Benefits	\$12,912	\$12,877	\$10,641
Supply Clergy	\$925	\$900	\$1,000
Property: Utilities			
Cleaning	\$3,359	\$452	\$3,359
Electricity	\$3,500	\$2,813	\$3,500
Gas	\$2,200	\$1,561	\$2,200
Trash Pickup	\$288	\$288	\$288
Water	\$500	\$458	\$450
Property: Maintenance			
Church	\$5,440	\$1,884	\$5,440
Grounds	\$1,500	\$1,640	\$1,500

	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021
Program: Education			
Adult Education	\$250	\$264	\$250
Children's Christian Education ³	\$250	\$118	-
Vestry Education ⁴	\$250	\$37	-
Vicar/Deacon Continuing Ed	\$500	\$500	\$500
Program: Worship & Music			
Choir Director	\$6,104	\$6,104	\$6,104
Organist	\$8,138	\$8,138	\$8,138
Organ/Piano Maintenance	\$470	\$0	\$470
Worship-Altar Guild	\$500	\$272	\$500
Program: Stewardship	\$75	\$0	\$75
Program: Fellowship-Evangelism			
Parish Life	\$525	-\$17	\$525
Program: Other			
Day by Day	\$255	\$255	\$255
Administration			
Insurance	\$5,767	\$5,578	\$5,800
Office Supplies	\$500	\$334	\$500
Office Equipment	\$3,000	\$2,178	\$3,000
Telephone	\$1,600	\$2,020	\$2,000
Web site	\$225	\$200	\$225
Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,200	\$1,127	\$1,000
Printing & Postage	\$250	\$273	\$250
Bank & USPS Fees	\$250	\$199	\$250
Parish Administrator	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$8,400
Other Expenses			
Convention Delegates	\$750	\$150	\$750
Public Relations	\$1,000	\$621	\$500

¹ Money donated to pay-down deficit in the budget

² Plate Offering on Theological Sunday will be donated

³ Using free online material

⁴ No outside venue

~JUNIOR WARDEN'S 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

2020 was a fairly quiet year for your Junior Warden. As the year progressed and the Vestry realized that we would not be having groups inside the building, projects that required significant funding were put on hold. We will start working on them when we know that we are able to receive income from building rentals again.

During the warm months, we were able to enjoy outside projects on our *Blue Jeans Saturdays*. We washed the fence in front of the church and did some garden cleanup to keep the grounds around the church looking nice. A handful of volunteers helped each time, while maintaining social distancing. One of our *Blue Jeans Saturdays* turned into making a parade float and riding on it to celebrate *Independence Day* and the *Unity Garden* with our neighbors from Ford Avenue. I'm very grateful to those who helped on each of the *Blue Jeans Saturdays*! I enjoyed the companionship as much as the help in getting the work done. There's no way that this could have been done without our parishioners' contributions of time and effort.



Significant progress was made to the grounds on the Ford Avenue side of the church. The garden on both sides of the entrance ramp had become overgrown and difficult to maintain. The Vestry decided that we could make better use of the garden by removing most of the plants and making the area into a place where people could sit outside in small groups. This will give us more functional space than just a garden alone and pavers or flagstone would give us flexibility in design. Work will continue on this project as the weather gets warmer.

The area under the windows on Ford Avenue was cleaned up by removing the exceptionally large bushes/small trees & grinding the stumps. The sidewalk is now more accessible, and the windows are more visible. After this work was completed, several neighbors approached me to let me know how much they liked the new look. When the weather gets warmer in the spring, we will replace the old plexiglass over a few of the stained-glass windows so that they all look as beautiful on the outside as they do on the inside.

In addition to the expert mowing that is done on all of the lawns and grassy areas at Grace Church, the back field was bush hogged to keep it under control. We also made significant progress in taming the wild area between the *Unity Garden* and our new neighbor, Gloria Barret, who purchased the Fitzhugh Cottage. During this work, we discovered a pear tree that had been completely hidden behind brambles and vines. It's possible that we may be able to harvest some pears to go along with the vegetables from the *Unity Garden*. Next spring, we will continue the work in this area by removing more of the large invasive bushes and replacing them with some native plants to attract pollinators and make a nice screen between the garden and our neighbor.

I'd love to hear from anybody who would like to help with any of these projects, whether it's giving suggestions or doing physical labor. Please contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Byerly
Junior Warden

~WORSHIP 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

The Worship Ministry at Grace Episcopal Church includes our Music Program, the Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM), Readers, and Ushers. Our Altar Guild Chairperson and Music Directors will fill you in on their activities during 2020 later in this report.

As Parish Administrator, my task is to schedule the LEM, Readers, and Ushers necessary for all our services during the year. When we first shut the Church building down because of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, we were without our Sunday services and therefore these dedicated volunteers had a “vacation”. As we realized that we would not be back in the building for a longer period than first expected, we started experimenting with Zoom services. It was trial and error, as every new thing is in the beginning, but thanks to the technical advice and leadership of Sam West (a very patient man), we have now mastered the art of Zoom! Because we are not gathered together and we cannot celebrate communion, the LEM and Ushers are still on hiatus, but I have started assigning our Readers again. It is difficult for some of our parishioners to commit to Zoom services and the number of Readers has decreased at this time. That has not caused any problem though, because of the dedication of those who are available. Their rotation is much shorter now, but they are eager to help make our service as “normal” as we can during these restrictive times. I can never thank them enough! I am so grateful for all of them!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robbins
Parish Administrator

Music

2020 was the year when we learned how to use every audio technological device under the sun. As soon as the pandemic hit, one of Lenny’s colleagues at JMU began experimenting with using a radio transmitter in order to safely sing together, and luckily we were able to bring that work to Grace in the form of the car choir. In the meantime, we kept a pretty active *YouTube* page, delivering sacred music performances weekly, until we started doing Zoom services. Through the Zoom services, we learned a lot about how to run live digital sound for ourselves as we played and sang, which proved to be a useful tool once the choir was brought into the mix. Lenny in particular is grateful for all the new skills he has acquired, as they will come in handy in his teaching career.

Difficulties did arise in the fall, when we saw rapidly shifting guidelines from the State and the Diocese that forced us to adapt and be flexible, amidst spiking COVID-19 cases. Thankfully, after much effort, we feel confident that the system we have come to, where choir members hold onto

their microphones and sing into the Zoom call from outside the Sanctuary, will be the one we use until the pandemic is over. It is the safest possible option and we can now stop wondering if a new guideline will force us to change plans. We feel blessed and grateful that the choir, Anne, Jean, Linda, and the congregation has put up with our constantly shifting modes of operation. We think we've got it right now, and it has been an absolute joy to sing and play in worship with others.



As vaccinations are beginning to roll out, we are excited and hopeful that we will be able to congregate physically in the coming months, and with it a return to congregational singing, choir practices, and Lenny and Suzanne forcing you all to listen to us play bassoon again!

Respectfully submitted,
Lenny Grasso & Suzanne Pattison
Co-Music Directors

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild was a well-functioning organization for the first three months of 2020. Since then, I have been filling the candles weekly, changing the hangings according to the church season, procuring and watering the Christmas poinsettias, and polishing brass as needed. It has been a pleasurable but solitary endeavor, and I look forward to resuming our shared ministry in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mingledorff
Altar Guild Chairperson

~CHRISTIAN FORMATION 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

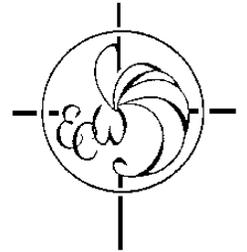
Even in the midst of not being able to do much in person we have had some fabulous formation opportunities.

1. With Kyle Bomar's leadership, we read and learned from a selection of Thomas Merton's writings. *Mondays with Merton* was a great success.
2. A faithful crew attempted to work thru part of the *Book of Isaiah*
3. In November, Kyle and I collaborated on a month long *A Great Cloud of Witnesses* class, where we read some brief work of different Saints in our Church calendar and discussed them in relationship to our own lives
4. Lucie and Eloise, our faithful *Sunday School* children, have been attending regular *Sunday School* on Wednesdays with Vicar Anne. This is the joy of every week I get to meet!
5. We offered a *Read and Wine* one night to reflect together on a book we read. Our first read was by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, *The Courage to Grow Old*. We will dive into our second Book read, Rob Bell's, *Everything is Spiritual* on January 28th at 5 PM.
6. On Thursday, January 21st, we will begin a 5 week Bible Study on the *Gospel of Mark*.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne West

~EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

The Episcopal Church Women of Grace Church had its first meeting of 2020 on Saturday, February 8th. After the business meeting, the ladies made Valentine Cards to send to parishioners on our prayer list. Everyone enjoyed the activity, as they visited and ate Valentine treats.



On Thursday, February 27th, Mary Hogge, Jenny Morris, and Jeannie Palin attended the *Diocesan Lenten Quiet Day* at Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond. Retired Bishop David Jones and The Reverend Kim Coleman led the retreat. Scripture verses were read and reflected upon. Ellen Johnston led the group in songs and chants. The Lenten season had begun.

In March, the women were scheduled to meet at Linda Robbins' house to watch "*Little Women*". Our meeting was cancelled because of the Coronavirus. We did not meet again for the rest of the year. That did not stop the women of Grace Church in serving each other and our neighbors. We called, we sent notes, we safely social distanced, and visited with one another. We were able to look out for each other and our neighbors in unique and different ways.

The *Diocesan ECW Fall Meeting* was held via zoom on October 15th. The Rev. Randy Myers from *GraceInside* spoke about prison ministry. *GraceInside* was celebrating 100 years of working in the prisons to bring hope to the men and women who are incarcerated. Dr. Harry Salinas from *Fairfax County Human Rights Commission* gave an update on their work in Northern Virginia. The *United Thank Offering* Coordinator encouraged people to give their thank offering online. The monies collected will be awarded to Covid-19 related grants.

Bishop Susan and the Rev. Kim Coleman led the worship service. Approximately 30 people attended the zoom meeting.

In November, the women of Grace collected items to give to the children at *Jackson-Feild Home*. The response was amazing. Because of the pandemic, *Jackson-Feild* had a difficult and challenging year. They were grateful for the gifts so that the boys and girls would have gifts to receive. "All of us at *Jackson-Feild* want to thank you for your support this past year. Thanks to YOU, the residents of *Jackson-Feild* have had the best year possible."

We individually helped many other organizations including: Feeding Greene, Grace Alliance, Women's Club of Greene County, and GraceInside.

The ECW continued to seek and serve God in many and various ways throughout 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannie Palin
ECW President

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Summary for 2020

	Receipts	Expenditures	Balance
Balance as of January 1, 2020:			\$482.12
Receipts:	\$00.00		\$482.12
Total Receipts for Year:	\$00.00		\$482.12
Expenditures:		\$00.00	\$482.12
Total Expenditures for Year:		\$00.00	\$482.12
Balance to date:			\$482.12
	Receipts	Expenditures	Balance
Balance as of January 1, 2021:			\$482.12

Respectfully submitted,
 Ann McDaniel
 ECW Treasurer

~OUTREACH 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

The Vision for Outreach from Grace Parish is to reflect the love that we have received from Jesus to those He calls us to serve. Although a daunting undertaking, we were not dismayed because within that love is the promise of God's abiding Presence guiding our mission. Therefore, we stand firmly on the sure knowledge that "*we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*" Ephesians 2:10

Be excited as you read how this promise has led each of our efforts during the pandemic year.

The *Unity Garden* entered its second year with installation of a fence made possible by a Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) grant for materials and Scott Winslow and his son Joe's fencing crew.



Greg Kula and Pam Weldon tilled, Bert Nye spread lime and fertilizer according to soil test results, and Jean Byerly brought in truckloads of mulch. Bert Nye redesigned the planting patterns according to Master Gardener suggestions. Neighbors helped spread bags of mulch provided by VCE for the planting rows. Our Outreach funds paid for the pathway mulch. Greg Kula started seeds under grow lights in the winter and planted beets directly into the dirt in early March. For a picture journal of the spring, summer, and fall growth, see

www.GraceChurchStanardsville/ or www.facebook.com/GraceChurchStanardsville/.

Although we had to cancel 5th *Saturday Neighborhood Brunches*, we learned from their comments, that our neighbors missed those gatherings. Consequently, many attended our "Tastes of Unity" held outdoors each Sunday afternoon from June until December. Relationships continued to be nurtured as we worked together to harvest the garden's offerings, chatted about healthy living, and savored the produce in tasty recipes prepared by many different parishioners. As the weather cooled, Jean Byerly brought lawn games and sidewalk chalk for the children.



Support for the *Youth Development Council's* programs and summer camp could not be in-person. Still the Vestry approved several monetary donations for *YDC* alternative home-delivered recipes, books, and activity expenses. We contributed to the salaries of those who are maintaining the afterschool and summer programs with meaningful communications continuously with 52 students, from the time schools closed.

Since no *HOPE* tutoring could be held indoors, we provided Bible story books with activity pamphlets from March through the summer. Vicar Anne delivered totes of school supplies and

personal messages in blank journals to each *HOPE* student in the fall. During Advent, congregation members donated 15 bags of food staples. Vicar Anne added a Christmas count-down calendar as she delivered the bags to shut-in neighbors.

There was an amazing abundance of gatherings, activities, and opportunities for building relationships, all held according to pandemic restrictions. So many that I could never have planned or even imagined such evidence of God's merciful and loving care of our members, friends, and neighbors. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Nye
Vestry Liaison, Outreach

~PARISH LIFE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT~

“The Parish Life Ministry of Grace Episcopal Church includes communication, parish fellowship events, weddings and funerals, special events, and Pastoral Care.”

This is the first sentence that usually starts this report and then, we try to share all the many, many activities and events that took place at Grace Church. The year 2020, as you have heard in many of the preceding reports, has definitely been different.

We started the year as usual with the *Annual Parish Meeting* in January. After a delicious variety of foods provided by parishioners, new Vestry members Bruce Johnson and Ann Mingledorff were voted in, the previous year was reviewed, and the new budget was presented.



In February, the men of Grace Church cooked up their *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper*. Parishioners and our community neighbors look forward every year to this wonderful meal of pancakes, sausage patties, scrambled eggs, and cooked apples. All the money donated was generously given by Paul Newman to Grace Church.

In March, we started our Lenten Soup and Study Sessions. It was after our second gathering on March 11th, that I had the unpleasant task of telling everyone there that starting that night, the Grace Church building would be closed “for a while” due to Covid-19. We never suspected that 10 months later, we still would be living with these restrictions. For Easter Sunday, we did bring the wire cross up and parishioners were able to come to the front yard of the Church to flower the cross as we have done in years past...keeping a social distance from each other.



An integral part of the Parish Life Ministry is sharing God’s House with those in the community through Small Steps Preschool, HOPE Tutorial, 4-H, YDC Summer Camp, Saturday Brunches, Parade of Lights open house, special music events, and private parties. After March, none of this happened. Our own ECW, Vestry, Graceful Stitches, and Adult Choir couldn’t even gather together inside the building.

Reverend Anne and parishioners reached out to fellow parishioners and our Ford Avenue neighbors through social-distanced Pastoral visits to homes and outdoor activities. Our Communications Director Jean will describe how we tried to keep everyone informed and connected during 2020.

They were (and still are) rough times, but nothing stops the Grace Church congregation from sharing the love of God with each other and our community! You are a truly loving, caring, and dedicated family and I look forward to us being able to gather together once again in the near future!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robbins
Parish Administrator

Communications

During 2020, we discovered that frequent communication was vital since we weren't meeting in person at church each week and things were changing rapidly. Linda, our highly organized Parish Administrator, began sending out weekly memos to keep us informed on the parish news and upcoming services and activities. Our monthly Grace Notes newsletter was suspended from May through September, as we relied on these weekly updates. Grace Notes resumed in October when church life fell into more of a routine and rhythm. Grace Notes is emailed to all members and friends of Grace Church, mailed to those who don't use email, and is available on the News tab of the Grace Church website (<https://gracechurchstanardsville.org/news/>).

Grace Church also used Facebook to post notices of upcoming events and to allow people to experience our activities virtually. You can see the different phases of the Unity Garden in the weekly posts of the Harvest Celebrations, along with pictures of the people enjoying the recipes and learning about the produce in the garden. One of our most popular posts was pictures of parishioners' nativity scenes. A different one was posted each day leading up to Christmas with Rev. Anne's nativity featured on Christmas Day. It's heartwarming to take a scroll through the Grace Church Facebook page and see the surprising number of activities we did during 2020.



Everyone is encouraged to contribute to our communications. If you have any information to share, please call or email Linda and she'll get the process started. If you have questions or ideas about our communications, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Byerly
Communications Director