

# Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Rector's Reflections

September 2009

## Transformation and Service

Each summer for the last 28 years (except during 1995 when I spent 2½ months on sabbatical in Scotland) I've been blessed to preach and preside at St. Philip's Church in Mattapoisett, MA. This summer I was there for two Sundays. St. Philip's celebrated their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer. The small, wooden chapel is right next to the town beach, so you can hear the waves on the beach and the sounds of boats in the harbor.

The chapel is open from the Sunday before the Fourth of July through the Sunday before Labor Day. The 1928 *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) is used for the 8:00 am and 10:00 am (with hymns) celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. The Altar faces East against the wall and is placed under a great stained glass window featuring Philip the Apostle (who says to Jesus, "*show us the Father and we will be satisfied...*" John 14:8). The window also includes symbols reflecting Mattapoisett's seaside location and history. I especially like to see the fish: scup, cod and blue fish.

This summer I presided at a baptism at St. Philip's, a first for me. And I used the 1928 baptismal liturgy for the first time in 32 years of ordained ministry. The baptismal font basin is a huge shell, and a quahog shell is used to pour water over the candidate's head.

Most of you know how much I love baptisms and the 1979 BCP liturgy. I found the 1928 liturgy challenging yet profound. The Priest does most of the talking. The congregation has little to proclaim. The examination is brief, as is the blessing of the water.

Two affirmations from the 1928 liturgy are not repeated in the 1979 liturgy. At the very beginning the Priest prays

*"Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be regenerate and born anew of Water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will grant to this Child (this Person) that which by nature he cannot have..."*

And, then, the signing and welcome are different

*"We receive this Child (Person) into the congregation of Christ's flock; and do sign him with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter he shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end. Amen."*

We sometimes forget that we need God to transform our very "*nature*" by Christ's grace and love. And, we may at times be "*ashamed*" to confess Christ or "*to fight*

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GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SESQUICENTENNIAL  
1855-2005

# Worship Schedule

## Sunday Schedule through Sept. 13

Holy Eucharist Rite 1..... 7:30 am  
Child care .....9:45 am–11:15 am  
La Santa Eucaristía ..... 9:00 am  
Choral Eucharist\* ..... 10:00 am  
Holy Eucharist Rite 2..... 5:00 pm  
\* alternates between Rites 1 and 2

## Sunday Schedule beginning Sept. 20

Holy Eucharist Rite 1..... 7:30 am  
Child care ..... 8:45 am–12:45 pm  
La Santa Eucaristía ..... 9:00 am  
Choral Eucharist Rite 2 ..... 9:00 am  
Christian ed classes..... 10:15 am  
Choral Eucharist Rite 1 ..... 11:15 am  
Holy Eucharist Rite 2..... 5:00 pm

## Weekday Eucharist through Sept. 17

Tuesdays, Rite 2 with healing .. 6:30 pm  
Wednesdays, Rite 1 ..... 7:00 am  
Thursdays, Rite 2 ..... 12:15 pm

## Weekday Eucharist beginning Sept. 21

Mondays, Rite 1 ..... 6:30 pm  
Tuesdays, Rite 2 with healing .. 6:30 pm  
Wednesdays, Rite 1 ..... 7:00 am  
Thursdays, Rite 2 ..... 7:00 am  
Fridays, Rite 1 ..... 12:15 pm

## About Grace Notes

*Grace Notes* is published 10 times a year by Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia — monthly except for combined July/August and December/January issues. Deadlines for submitting copy are by midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. The next *Grace Notes* deadline: September 15 for the October issue.

Articles may be placed in the *Grace Notes* folder in the credenza in the Commons, submitted by e-mail to ([grace.notes@gracealex.org](mailto:grace.notes@gracealex.org)) or faxed to 703-549-2832. All articles are subject to editing. Grace Church's newsletter team includes Doug Prince (editor), June Huber, Cindy Ikard, Bill Malone, Barbara Morris, Beth Wiggers and Tim Willard.

From the Assistant Rector

# Free From Clutter

I once heard a comedian joking about our human nature to amass “stuff.” We accumulate stuff and so we need a place to put our stuff, so we have houses. Once we amass too much stuff, we buy bigger homes so we have more room for our stuff, but then we really need more stuff to fill out our new larger homes, and so on, the cycle continues, more stuff, bigger houses.

Over the last several months I've been looking around our home at all the stuff that takes up space but really doesn't do anything to enhance our lives. Why, for example, am I hanging on to all those old term papers from seminary, or those hundreds of books? Some I'll need, but the vast majority can be safely purged.

Then there are the closets. Aside from those items which are pretty much right within my reach, I think my closet is a place where many of my clothes go to die. I am never going to fit into that tuxedo (that I was wearing the night I met my wife), so why am I still hanging on to it?

My perspective on all this “stuff” was challenged recently by a book I was reading about Latino ministry. One of the great joys I've experienced in serving our La Gracia community is the challenge our Spanish speaking parishioners have provided to some of my notions about family, community and “stuff.” I think that the following quote captures some of those perspectives well.

“For Latinos, the poor, the sick, the jobless, the oppressed, and the abused are not an embarrassment, nor are they living evidence of God's judgment. Latino culture does not embrace the idea that material success, good health, and human fulfillment are God's reward for living virtuous lives, nor that the suffering of the poor... is evidence of God's judgment visited upon sinners. As a result, Latin Americans do not consider the poor morally suspect; they are [just poor] unfortunate and in need, and therefore they have a moral claim on us. We understand our response to them as a moral obligation, not generosity or charity. For as the fourth-century archbishop Basil the Great so eloquently said, ‘The shoes in your closet that you do not wear belong to the poor.’”<sup>1</sup>

Ugghh... when I read this paragraph, by Episcopal priest, Fr. Juan Oliver, it hit me like a two-by-four squarely between the eyes. Not to be too literal, but as I thought about a nice pairs of shoes in my closet (that haven't been used for several years), I realized it was time to be free of this stuff!

Fr. Oliver's statement above is, of course, more than an inspiration to clear out our closets of unused apparel and shoes. He provides a compelling corrective to those who argue a “prosperity theology”—which suggests that material success is a result of one's righteousness and faithfulness. Further, Oliver's view of giving as a moral obligation, something one just does, seems consistent to me with Jesus' demands regarding wealth and possessions, especially as found in the gospel of St. Luke.

Juan Oliver, *Ripe Fields*, (New York: Church Publishing, 2009), Pg. 62.

— *The Rev. Patrick T. Crerar, Assistant Rector*

# Introducing Julie Simonton

In September, Julie will join our staff as Assistant for Education and Youth. She looks forward to getting involved with young families, since she is part of a young family with her husband, David McCombs and their daughter Evie.

Julie grew up in Georgia, graduated from Converse College (SC), served as a flight attendant with Delta, then returned to school for her Master's in German Literature from the University of SC (including a year at the University of Bamberg in Bavaria). Having gained a taste for the international community, she moved to Alexandria, started work with a nonprofit in international education, taught English as a Second Language on the side (she still does), and made plans to move abroad. At Christ Church, she learned that the rector, Pierce Klemmt, needed a good secretary, so Julie volunteered to help out until her move took place. But it didn't, because she enjoyed what she was doing so much that the rector became her mentor and she stayed for five years.



*Julie Simonton and daughter Evie*

During that time she was introduced to David, a Quantico Marine soon departing for Hawaii. They were married, and Julie followed him to Hawaii for one and one-half years. They joined St. Christopher's Church in Kailua, and Julie became more involved in church activities, including election of a new bishop. By then she felt she was called to lay ministry, and applied to Virginia Theological Seminary for their Master's Program in Theological Studies. Conveniently, David got orders to run the Marine Security Guard School at Quantico, where they train Marines for embassy duty. Last year, reading the St. Christopher's newsletter, they learned that a baby would be available for adoption. Evie was born in the town of Lihue in January, and the brown-eyed charmer instantly bonded to her new parents.

Julie has completed her classes at VTS, and her thesis is nearly done. When she saw our position advertised this past spring, she was excited that it was open to both clergy and lay candidates. The Rev. Pierce Klemmt recommended her, and it was a good fit. Julie laughs as she recalls meeting Father Bob in our parking lot for the first time. "He interviewed me right there, on the spot. There I was in my sundress, with Evie in tow, looking like the original earth mother. And Evie was silent for the entire 45 minutes!"

Julie, David and Evie will remain parishioners at Christ Church, where David works with J2A and is head usher for the 9:00 am service. But she promises that she will try to be at Grace every Sunday, and that David and Evie will occasionally join her.

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## Rector's Reflections: Transformation and Service continued from page 1

*under his banner...*" This ancient language is the foundation of our life here at Grace—to experience transformation through Christ and do all we can as Christ's faithful soldiers and servants.

In September, our program year begins again. There are so many opportunities for transformation and service. As school begins, we begin Christian Education on Sundays. I'm so pleased to welcome Julie Simonton to the staff as Assistant for Education and Youth. Julie will bring many gifts and wonderful energy to our ministries with children, youth and families. She will work closely with Rosa Castillo and Ruth Young.

We also look forward to the transformation and service of our music ministries with the dedication of the new organ. This is a "once in a lifetime" (perhaps even once in a century) opportunity. I've never experienced serving a church with a newly dedicated organ. I can only imagine the marvelous transformations and services Thom Robertson will share with us.

In my closing remarks at the baptism last summer at St. Philip's, I mentioned another set of words that thankfully have not been eliminated from the 1979 BCP, but they have been changed. So as we look forward to our new program year beginning and our new organ's dedication, let us remember (compare with 1979 BCP, p. 856)

*Question.      What is your bounden duty as a member of the Church?*

*Answer.        My bounden duty is to follow Christ, to worship God every Sunday in his Church; and to work and pray and give for the spread of his kingdom. (1928 BCP, p. 241)*

Grace, peace and love,

— *The Rev. Robert H. Malm, Rector*

# Jr. Warden's Report

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It has been very busy in the building this summer with the completion of two Grace Anew projects. This work is not nearly as apparent as the new loft or as exciting as the new organ—in fact most of these tasks will not be noticed. But the investments made to the roof and the heating and cooling systems will save the church money on repairs and energy costs for years to come.

Work on the roof was completed in June with repairs to the slate roof over the Nave, power washing and re-pointing of masonry, and a new roof over Merrow Hall. The roof work was overseen by Earl Durand.

Replacement of much of the heating equipment and a revamp of the cooling system was completed in August. The old water-heating boiler was exchanged for two high efficiency ones. Air flow was adjusted in many of the church offices to make them more comfortable in winter and summer. An occupancy sensor was placed in the nave to save energy and new thermostats were installed in the school wing. The heating and cooling system work was overseen by Mike Hix.

All of the work on the physical plant was overseen by the Property Committee. Thanks to everyone who helped on these important projects and to the parishioners whose contributions to Grace Anew made them possible.

— Howell Medley, Junior Warden

## Graceful Worship

### Votive Lights

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In our new narthex, directly below the rose window, is a wooden prayer desk facing a simple metal stand for votive lights. The votive stand was a gift from parishioner Charles Nelson after the expansion and renovation of 1992-94.

Votive lights (from the Latin *votum*, vow) are devotional candles found in most Roman Catholic churches and some “higher” Episcopal churches like ours. They are typically small, either white or beeswax yellow, and two inches high. Votives are lit for prayer intentions. To “light a candle” indicates a person’s intention to make a vow, say a prayer for another person, or give thanks for a prayer that has been answered. The lit candle symbolizes that

prayer. It is customary to make a small offering to help defray the cost of the candles (there’s a slot on the votive stand to do that).

It’s not at all unusual to find a Grace Church parishioner lighting a votive and kneeling at the prayer desk during a quiet moment. You might want to try it yourself. For some, the symbol of the flame helps them to focus their prayer. It causes me to think of John 8:12, “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, **‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’**”

— June Huber

## From the School Board

The beginning of the school year is always an exhilarating time for the students, families, and faculty of Grace Episcopal School. This year is an especially exciting year as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our school! Throughout the year, we will invite parishioners, alumni and current families to join us in a variety of activities to celebrate this momentous occasion.

The school year begins on Wednesday, September 9 with an opening chapel service. This is an important welcoming service for new and returning families as we join together with the faculty and clergy for the school year. The families of Grace School will be invited to a Fall Family Social in September. The Fall Social is sponsored by the Parents Association and is a fun afternoon of socializing and reconnecting after the summer break.

Fifty years—a golden anniversary. What a milestone! We look forward to celebrating it with everyone connected to the school, including you.

— Alison Smith, President, GES School Board

## St. Francis Garden

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Do you have a pet's ashes in an urn in your closet or sitting on the mantle? Why not bury those ashes or urn in the St. Francis Garden Pet Cemetery at Grace Episcopal Church?

If you are interested in such a burial, please contact either Father Malm or Father Crerar. Each does a lovely ser-

vice and uses holy water. The service is a comforting closing to your pet's life. No markers are allowed but there is Pet Memorial Book that lists the name of the owner, kind of pet, name of pet, and picture if desired, and approximate date of burial.

# New Orleans Mission

Fifteen Grace missionaries, including four first-timers, departed on July 7 for a week's work in the heat and humidity of "the Big Easy." As in former years we worked with the diocese of New Orleans rebuilding in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Wards. This year we added All Souls Episcopal Church to our work sites. All Souls is the first Episcopal Church established in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward, and was dedicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury during his 2007 visit to the city with the House of Bishops.

There, we tutored the children attending summer day camp and helped with computer repair, vestment cleaning, junk removal and minor repairs, all with limited electricity and no air conditioning. The appreciation from the struggling congregation of women and children and the volunteers at the children's day camp humbled us and made our time on mission completely worthwhile.

In the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward, we helped to move two renovated homes closer to occupancy. Mrs. Harris' house, backed against the levee for the Industrial Canal, should be completed by the time this article is published. We painted, caulked, tiled and sanded, readying her for her move after four years in a FEMA trailer.

At Mrs. Cutnos', we glazed windows, mudded, sanded and hung cabinets. She has lived with family in Atlanta since Katrina, returning periodically to check on her home and visit her neighborhood.

At the ministry of Mobile Loaves and Fishes, another Grace team made stacks of sandwiches and handed them out around the city. We also helped with a new ministry to distribute sandwiches at a local park on Friday evenings.

We returned to the Dragon Café at St. George's Church on St. Charles Avenue on Wednesday and Thursday to help prepare and serve a hot dinner to neighborhood residents, mission groups and local volunteers. This feeding program began several months after Katrina and receives support through a grant from Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD).

Cafe du Monde, snow balls, a team dinner at the College Inn, compline service with Grace church candles, guests at Deacon Debbie Scalia's home, all rounded out this year's mission to New Orleans.

Thank you to all at Grace who again helped to make our trip possible. You can be proud of our parishioners: Anne Caputo, Marty Clark, Thomas Crabtree, Heather Kelly, John Kendrick, Scott Knudsen, Philip Smith, Brendan and Noelle Smoot, Mary and Sydney Toler, Angus Walsh, Sam Waskowicz, and Khacki and John Berry. We have already begun our discernment to see if we can form another mission team for New Orleans next year!

— John Berry

## Children's Ministry

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### *Back to School...*

Sunday School Resumes September 27th at 10:15 am for children ages 3 to 12th Grade. Please be sure to register your child(ren) online or on Sign-on Sunday (September 20) or by completing the forms available outside the Merrow Hall Auditorium.

Each class will have an age appropriate curriculum that incorporates stories, music and art to help them deepen their knowledge and love of God through the Episcopal tradition. For more information, please contact Rosa Castillo at [kids@gracealex.org](mailto:kids@gracealex.org).

### *Parent Forums*

On the second Sunday each month from October 2009 to May 2010, we will offer a Parents Forum in the St. Mark Room during the Christian Education hour. This is an opportunity for parents to get together and talk about various

topics related to Christian parenting and build a network of support within the Grace community.

If you have ideas of topics that you would like to be covered, please contact Rosa Castillo at [kids@gracealex.org](mailto:kids@gracealex.org).

### *Family Fun Nights – Save The Dates!*

Halloween – Dress up in costumes, play ghoulish games and have fun with other Grace families on Friday, October 30, from 6 to 8 pm.

Cinco de Mayo – Eat chips and salsa, break open a piñata and learn some interesting facts about this holiday with other Grace families on Friday, May 7, from 6 to 8 pm.

Both events require assistance from volunteers to set-up and organize the activities. Please contact Rosa Castillo at [kids@gracealex.org](mailto:kids@gracealex.org) if you would like to be an organizer for either of these events.

— Rosa Castillo, Children's Ministries Coordinator

# Better Pastoral Care through Technology

Grace Church is filled with generous parishioners willing to offer a ride or provide a meal to someone in crisis. Up until now, however, spreading the word while respecting the privacy of the recipient has been rather hit or miss.

Thanks to the new Parishioner Info section of the Grace website, [www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org), we can now post appeals for help and updates on parishioners. To access this secure section, start from the Grace Church home page, where you will find the Login to Our Website box. If you don't have a username and password already, click on "I would like to join." Once logged on, locate the blue left-hand column on the home page and click on "Parishioner Info," then "Parishioners in Need (News & Help)." There you will see the names of parishioners who are facing a short or long-term crisis.

Two great independent websites designed to help those in crisis have links from the Grace page. [CaringBridge.org](http://CaringBridge.org) offers "free, personalized websites that support and connect loved ones during critical illness, treatment and recovery." On that website, a family member can post frequent updates to a

personal journal. Friends who join the site will be notified when a new message has been posted and can sign the an electronic guestbook with messages of encouragement.

The Pastoral Care Committee is coordinating meals and other support through the second website, [LotsaHelpingHands.com](http://LotsaHelpingHands.com). Coordinators create a personal community for someone needing help, and members who join the community are notified by email whenever a new task is posted. A calendar on the site shows green dates when help is needed. By clicking on the date, a member can see what the task is, click on the link for details, and volunteer. Other members can tell when a need has been met without the coordinator having to respond to individual emails or phone calls.

If you know of someone in the parish who needs help, please contact the clergy or the Pastoral Care coordinators, Alison Campbell (vestry) or Nancy Robinson (non-vestry), or Cindy Diehl (Stephen Ministry).

— Nancy Robinson

Would you like to read Jean Reed's blog on the **General Convention**?  
Go to [www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org) and click on **Grace on the Road**.



You can read the mission team's blog on the **New Orleans trip** by visiting [www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org) and clicking on **Grace on the Road**.

## Music Notes

### *Organ Blessing*

On Friday, September 25 at 8:00 pm, Bishop David Jones will be with us to formally bless and dedicate the new Di Gennaro-Hart pipe organ. This will be the opening event in a series of celebrations during Founders' Day weekend. The following Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 pm, Thom Robertson will present the inaugural recital on the organ. Following the recital, there will be a festive parish dinner and celebration in the auditorium of Merrow Hall.

### *Concert Series*

As we continue to celebrate the installation of the new organ, musical events will take place throughout the year. On the second Sunday of each month (beginning with October) there will be a "Vesper Organ Recital" at 6:00 pm. Local organists will present these programs. Several special events are also scheduled: a guest artist accompanying the Grace Church

Choral Society in a performance of Maurice Duruflé's Requiem in November, the King Street Brass Quintet presenting a concert of "heroic music for organ and brass," and an organist from France will give a concert in February. Watch for a special music brochure soon.

### *Choir Rehearsals Begin*

St. Nicholas Choir – first rehearsal on September 9 at 6:30 pm  
Alleluia Singers – first rehearsal on September 9 at 7:15 pm  
Handbell Choir – first rehearsal on September 10 at 7:00 pm  
Schola Cantorum – first rehearsal on September 10 at 8:15 pm  
Grace Church Choral Society will begin rehearsing on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30 pm and continue each Tuesday for the next six weeks. The performance of Duruflé's *Requiem* will be on Friday, November 6 at 8:00 pm, with guest organist Nathan Laube.

— Thom Robertson, Music Director

# Parish Notes



*Grace Church parishioners listened to Governor Kaine address V.O.I.C.E. at T. C. Williams High School on July 20, 2009. From left to right: Barry Barr, Theresa Lewallen, Fr. Patrick Crerar, and Mickey Craven.*

## *The Governor Hears V.O.I.C.E*

What do basic dental care and timely processing for immigration applications have in common? 1100 Alexandrian voices lifted in unison toward local and state politicians who can shape legislation to address these needs of the poor. V.O.I.C.E. (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement), as the name implies, is a gathering of Muslim, Jewish, Christian and other religious groups with a common interest in social justice. On July 20, 2009, six representatives from Grace Church joined more than a thousand people from various faith traditions at T. C. Williams High School. Together they petitioned Governor Kaine and other elected officials to pledge support for our neighbors who suffer with severe dental pain and who wait years for immigration paperwork processing. Governor Kaine admitted that prior to his discussions with V.O.I.C.E. the dental issue was “not even on my radar.” V.O.I.C.E. is built on the support of groups like Grace. A follow-up session with the Governor is slated for October. Look for more details soon and please come add your voice! If you’d like to find out more about V.O.I.C.E., contact Mike Jones or Father Patrick.

## *Calling all Moms*

Gracefull Moms is a group of mothers at Grace Church who meet every Tuesday morning from 10:15 am to noon for conversation, fellowship, Bible study and mutual support. We have been on hiatus since spring but will reconvene beginning September 15. Traditionally, we meet every other Tuesday in the library for a book group, reading Christian-based books on parenting and other issues important to us. On the alternate Tuesdays we meet at St Elmo's Coffee House in Del Ray for some fellowship and open conversation. Childcare is always provided at the church.

I began attending Gracefull Moms when my daughter was a baby, in the summer of 2008. It was a welcome break from my work schedule and provided a comforting environment to talk about family, children, and just life in general, or share stories or ideas with other moms. Mostly, it was a fun way to meet and get to know other moms in the church who were at various stages of parenting and life. The group was welcoming, open, and flexible. I always felt I could just “show up” and that was enough!

Our first meeting of the new school year will be on Tuesday, September 15. This will be a time for us to get to know each other and determine what will work best in terms of reading material, schedule, and balance of

fellowship and learning. If you are a mom (or a mom-to-be!), please join us and help us build this important ministry within the church. We will also plan our readings for the fall; traditionally we have chosen books with short, easy-to-read chapters for busy moms, such as *Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline* by Dr. Becky Bailey and *Calm My Anxious Heart: A Woman's Guide to Finding Contentment* by Linda Dillow. Please bring any ideas for readings you may have.

Even if you can't make it on September 15, you are welcome to join us anytime your schedule allows! Watch the bulletin and Grace Notes for announcements, or email [spiritual.moms@gracealex.org](mailto:spiritual.moms@gracealex.org).

— Ashley Busse

## *Parish Archives*

To capture the rich liturgy we currently enjoy as a record for future parishioners, you may notice occasional flash photography during select services over the next 12 months. This is an exception to the standing prohibition on flash photography during worship. A notice will be placed in service bulletins on days when flash photos are planned. We will do our best to minimize any distraction to worship.

# Adult Forums Gearing up for Fall Schedule

The new Sunday morning Adult Forums are scheduled to meet in the Merrow Hall Auditorium at 10:15 am on most Sundays beginning in September, and offer opportunities for learning and growing in Christian living where lay persons

and clergy present many different topics. Adult forum is designed to enable and encourage participants to live their faith in their daily lives. Check the calendar below for schedule and topics.

## Adult Forum Schedule

9/20	Sign On Sunday	12/13	Pastoral Care during the Holidays
9/27	Tanzania Mission Report	12/20	Incarnation in Art
10/4	Environment	12/27	Fellowship Sunday
10/11	Iowa and New Orleans Mission Reports	1/3	Celebrating the Holy Family Brunch
10/18	Education	1/10	The New Organ and our Music Program
10/25	Stewardship	1/17	HVAC / Grace Anew
11/1	General Convention and Diocese	1/24	Budget
11/8	Pastoral Care Opportunities	1/31	Annual Meeting
11/15	J2A Pilgrimage	2/7	Annual Diocesan Council
11/22	Outreach Programs	2/14	Fellowship Sunday
11/29	Fellowship Sunday	2/21	Planning for the Future
12/6	Seminarian		

## September Birthdays

9/1	Lorna Worley	9/15	William Spencer	9/22	Corey Hastings
9/2	Michael Heintz	9/16	Mary Beyreuther	9/22	Jennifer Long
9/2	Jennifer Herring	9/16	Lori Dodd	9/22	Bill Robinson
9/2	Nancy Macklin	9/16	Nancy Graves	9/23	Janet Baker
9/3	Neal Goodson	9/16	Elizabeth Imphong	9/23	Michael Dombrowski
9/4	Fiona Dowell	9/16	John Wires	9/23	Lesa Miller
9/4	Caroline Martin	9/17	Bob Malm	9/23	Neille Russell
9/4	Don Rae	9/17	Caroline Shaver	9/23	Griffin Winter
9/5	Robyn Gearey	9/17	David Tepper	9/24	Rosemary Pollard
9/5	Charlie Pease	9/18	Rosemary Falcon	9/24	David Polson
9/6	Peter Barnes	9/18	Alston Harwood	9/24	Nicholas Robinson
9/7	Cathy Puskar	9/18	Dutch Zuidema	9/24	Julie Simonton
9/7	Philip Smith	9/19	Babs Bowie	9/25	Jamie Barr
9/7	David Tuma	9/19	Jean Harmon	9/25	Ruby Hoffman
9/9	Anna Cassady	9/19	Michael Mergens	9/26	Evan Metz
9/9	Graham Kalan	9/20	Allyson Corlett	9/27	Rick Eudy
9/9	Charlotte Peralta	9/20	Hermann Gerber	9/27	Leslie Malm
9/9	Mike Reed	9/20	Susy Howard	9/28	Ken Griffin
9/11	Edward Corlett	9/20	Joyce May	9/28	Brad Harrison
9/11	Daisy MacIntyre	9/21	Geoff Hoppe	9/28	Gretchen Harrison
9/12	Jennifer Walden	9/21	Chris Malm	9/28	McKinley Reiser
9/14	Peyton Kalan	9/21	Marco Ovando	9/29	Arun Khanna
9/14	Vola Lawson	9/21	Hayley Winter	9/29	Scott Rosman
9/15	Jay O'Malley	9/22	Donna Hall	9/30	Jennifer Dougherty

# Parish Announcements

## *Home Communion*

A joint ministry of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Pastoral Care, Home Communion ministers deliver the Eucharist to homebound and ill members of the parish on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. This ministry has become a vital part of Grace. Our list of shut-ins is growing and we would love to hear from folks who would like to visit these VIPs (Very Important Parishioners) so that we could increase our strength in numbers. Only one LEM per team is necessary, but two people are required for the visit. Young people are most welcome.

Let us hear from you! Contact Lucy-Lee Reed at 703-553-9886 or by email at [lucylee.reed@gracealex.org](mailto:lucylee.reed@gracealex.org) so that we may team you up for a visit as early as September 20. On Home Communion Sundays, we deliver consecrated hosts and wine after the morning Choral Eucharists (9:00 and 11:15 am) and could arrange a delivery after the 5:00 pm service. Please prayerfully consider the important ministry—someday we will all want a visit!

## *Breakfast Bible Study Resumes Meeting in September*

Our Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study moves into its third year, beginning the third week in September. Chrissie and David Crosby are reversing roles—he will cook, she will lead the exploration—but the format will remain the same. We will meet for food and fellowship at 7:30 am and begin our reflections on the Word of God by 8:30 to finish up by 9:30 (or so!). We will continue to use the African Model of Reflection, which allows us to relate our Bible readings to our lives today, and listen for God's messages to us.

Our next cycle of study will focus on Peace and Confidence. The cycle of readings will include: John 14:27-29; John 16:25-33; Hebrews 10:14-24; Luke 12:22-32; Psalm 52:8-9; Isaiah 9:5-6; James 3:13-18; Isaiah 40:28-30; Psalm 4; and Hebrews 7:25-27 (not necessarily in that order).

Please come and be fed, physically and spiritually. Bring your kids, bring a friend. Questions? Call Chrissie at 703-548-7076.

## *Save the Date!*

The 16th Annual Alexandria Walk to Fight Breast Cancer will take place on Saturday, October 24. The Walk was initiated in 1994 by Grace parishioner (and former City Manager) Vola Lawson. It supports free mammograms and other diagnostic screening procedures for Alexandria women who are not adequately insured, who earn low/moderate income or could not otherwise obtain this necessary medical care. Join the Grace-ful Walkers team — even if you can't walk very fast, or very far (no one's counting). Contact [june.huber@gracealex.org](mailto:june.huber@gracealex.org).

## *Calling all Twenties and Thirties!*

Do you have ideas for young adult fellowship and ministry? How is God calling you to be active? Please join us for the TNT fall planning meeting in the St. Mark Room on Monday September 14 at 7:00 pm. Drinks and refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Margaret Will or Marianne Swearingen.

## Parish Staff

Robert Malm .....	Rector
( <a href="mailto:rector@gracealex.org">rector@gracealex.org</a> )	
Patrick Crerar .....	Assistant Rector
( <a href="mailto:assistant.rector@gracealex.org">assistant.rector@gracealex.org</a> )	
Christine Byrnes .....	Head of School
( <a href="mailto:office@graceschoolalex.org">office@graceschoolalex.org</a> )	
Thom Robertson .....	Director of Music
( <a href="mailto:music.director@gracealex.org">music.director@gracealex.org</a> )	
Julie Simonton .....	Assistant for Education/Youth
( <a href="mailto:assistant.education@gracealex.org">assistant.education@gracealex.org</a> )	
Charlotte Payne Wright .....	Parish Administrator
( <a href="mailto:parish.administrator@gracealex.org">parish.administrator@gracealex.org</a> )	
Beth Wiggers .....	Administrative Associate
( <a href="mailto:parish.office@gracealex.org">parish.office@gracealex.org</a> )	
Rosa Castillo .....	Children's Ministries Coordinator
( <a href="mailto:kids@gracealex.org">kids@gracealex.org</a> )	
Ruth Young .....	Children's Chapel Coordinator
( <a href="mailto:childrens.chapel@gracealex.org">childrens.chapel@gracealex.org</a> )	
Pedro Hernandez .....	Sexton

## Vestry

### Class of 2009

Khacki Berry .....	Evangelism
Anne Caputo .....	Senior Warden
Linda Durand .....	Member at Large
Eleanor Reed .....	School Board
Phil Smith .....	Register

### Class of 2010

Nat Ames .....	Treasurer
Peter Iovino .....	Outreach
Cynthia Puskar .....	Worship
Colin Rushing .....	Stewardship
Easter Thompson .....	School Board

### Class of 2011

Alison Campbell .....	Pastoral Care
Jeff Gustafson .....	Fellowship
Rich Kelly .....	Youth
Howell Medley .....	Junior Warden
Frank Waskowicz .....	Communications

### Alternates

Erica McFarquhar .....	
Margaret Will .....	TNT

Interested in learning more about  
ministries and programs at  
Grace Church?



Go to  
[www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org)  
and click on  
*Programs.*

# Grace Notes

Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia  
www.gracealex.org ✧ 703-549-1980 ✧ Fax 703-549-2832  
3601 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22305-1799

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### From the Parish Register

#### Marriage

✧ Sergio Omar Hernandez and Teresa Rivas Zavalo

#### Transfer In

✧ Stanley and Beverly Borgia, with son Graham from St. Barnabas' Church, Cincinnati

#### Requiem Eucharist and Burial

✧ Charles Binari, husband of Flo Binari

✧ Marian Knight, sister of Kathleen Arthur

### *Social Networking*

If you did not have an opportunity to sign up for Grace Foyer Groups during August and are interested in joining or continuing your participation, please e-mail Sharon Hickok at [sharon.hickok@gracealex.org](mailto:sharon.hickok@gracealex.org) by September 16.



*Thanks to members of the Waskowicz family for straightening the sign by the Russell Road entrance to the Nave. From left to right: Eric (visiting from PA), Eric and George.*

September 2009