

Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

May 2012

Rector's Reflections

Looking Ahead

Three of the Gospels tell us that the Risen Jesus led his disciples to Galilee during the 40 days he appeared to them. Matthew ends with Jesus teaching his disciples on a mountain in Galilee. John ends with a miraculous catch of fish and, then, breakfast on the beach by the Sea of Galilee. Easter is the time Jesus encourages his disciples to look ahead, have hope for the future, continue the work of reconciliation and healing.

May is a month for looking ahead with the end of the school year, graduations, Ascension and Pentecost. We will also say good-bye to Father Andrew D'Angio White and, soon after, to our Music Director, Thom Robertson. The Search Committees continue their work, looking ahead, to fill these vital staff positions.

This month we will also begin photography for the new Parish Pictorial Directory. A paper directory is distributed each year – the 2012 issue will soon be available (if it hasn't been printed by May 1). The pictorial directory is a once every five year project, but very helpful for our large, diverse parish, especially for newcomers. Part of the process includes a recorded call from the Rector encouraging your participation!

Here are some dates and plans for us as we look ahead:

- ✚ *Sunday, May 6:* Instructed Eucharist, 9:00 am; Newcomer Reception 5:30 pm
- ✚ *Sunday, May 13:* Bilingual Eucharist, 9:00 am, celebrating Father Andrew's time with us, followed by a reception
- ✚ *Thursday, May 17:* Ascension Day; Holy Eucharist, 12:15 pm; Festival Eucharist, 7:30 pm; VTS graduation, 10:00 am
- ✚ *Friday, May 18:* Grace Episcopal School Chapel, dedication of the new side walk and spring program
- ✚ *Thursday, May 24:* Parish Spring Fling Golf Tournament
- ✚ *Sunday, May 27:* Pentecost
- ✚ *Sunday, June 3:* Trinity Sunday – Last day of Sunday School and the 9:00 and 11:15 am Choral Eucharists; and Thom Robertson's final Sunday

We rejoice in looking ahead. Jesus promises, "*I am with you always...*"

*Grace, peace and love,
The Rev. Robert H. Malm*

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Worship Schedule

Sunday Schedule

Holy Eucharist Rite 1.....7:30 am
Child Care8:45 am–12:45 pm
La Santa Eucaristía9:00 am
Choral Eucharist Rite 29:00 am
Christian Ed classes 10:15 am
Choral Eucharist Rite 1 11:15 am
Holy Eucharist Rite 2 5:00 pm

Weekday Schedule

Tuesdays, Rite II with healing... 6:30 pm
Wednesdays, Rite I7:00 am
Thursdays*..... 12:15 pm

*Alternating Rite I and Rite II weekly

Grace Church is:

A center for worship and fellowship

A school for discipleship and
stewardship

A community for healing and
outreach

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. The deadline for submitting copy is midnight on the 15th of the preceding month.

The next *Grace Notes* deadline is May 15 for the June issue. Articles should be submitted by e-mail to grace.notes@gracealex.org. All articles are subject to editing.

Grace Church's newsletter team includes Amy Barron, Gary Carter, Kristine Hesse, June Huber, Heather Hurley, Lee Meeks, Sarah Schultz and Beth Wiggers.

Farewell from Father Andrew

Dear Grace Church family,

Many of you now know that I will be leaving this community after May 15 to move with my wife, Sara, to Rochester, NY after she graduates from Virginia Seminary on May 17. We are excited to return to her home diocese of Rochester, where I will be serving as the Associate Priest at Northeast Partners in Episcopal Ministry (NPEM), a cluster of three parishes east of Rochester. Sara will be completing a pastoral internship at University of Rochester Medical Center this summer before being ordained to the diaconate and beginning parish ministry in the fall. We are excited for what the future holds, but also sad to leave behind such a beautiful community.

Grace Church has been a wonderful place for me to learn and be formed as a deacon and priest. I cannot thank each of you enough for the advice and kind words you've given me, the countless holy moments we've shared and above all the loving example of Christian community that you are. It has been especially joyful to watch La Gracia flourish, and to see *all* of Grace Church grow closer, even across boundaries of culture and language. I will treasure the memories I've made here, especially those of my ordination to the priesthood. That was one of the holiest moments of my life, and I am honored to have shared it with all of you in this place.

As I have been thinking about this transition, it strikes me as appropriate that all of this is happening during Easter. I am reminded that in and through every loss, every death in our lives, God is constantly moving and calling us to live into the resurrection of Christ. One of the churches I will be serving is also called Grace Church. It is my hope and prayer that I will really be moving from Grace to Grace: never leaving the abundant love that is ours as followers of Jesus Christ. Thank you for showing me that love. I am,

*Yours in Christ,
Fr. Andrew*

"NAP": New Baby Meal Ministry



Nurturing a Parent (NAP) is seeking volunteers to bring the gift of food into the homes of Grace Church's newborn babies. By simply dropping off a dinner (or making a donation towards the purchase of a fresh meal) we can help families with new babies stay and feel connected to our Grace Church community. If you're interested in helping NAP, please email sarah.schultz@gracealex.org. Don't forget to email the church office if you are expecting or adopting so we can include you in the ministry!

Sarah Schultz

Golf Tournament

The 16th annual Grace Church Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, May 24, at the National Golf Club at Tantallon. The Club is a private course located close by in Fort Washington, MD. It is always in superb condition and the 18-hole layout is challenging and scenic.



The fee is \$115 for the 18-hole tournament, which begins at 12:30 pm. The “Captain’s Choice” format will be used to divide players into teams. For any players who want to make a full day playing 36 holes starting at 7:30 am, the fee will be \$135. Please check with Father Malm if you are interested in the 36-hole option since space is limited.

Prizes will be awarded to the winning team and to those closest to the pin on several holes. All profits will go to the 2012 budget “fund raising” line item for income.

Grace Youth Update

At Easter Vigil, with Bishop Gulick presiding, our J2A (Journey to Adulthood) class confirmed thirteen youth and had one baptism.



Our J2A class now consists of grades eight, nine, and ten. Ten of them are preparing for their pilgrimage with four adult sponsors. The pilgrimage is planned for this summer, July 16–July 25. They will be journeying to England, arriving into and departing from London, but spending the bulk of the pilgrimage in southern England. The itinerary includes touring the great cathedrals at Canterbury, Winchester and Salisbury; making their way to historic Battle (so named for the Battle of Hastings in 1066), and to Stonehenge.

At Grace, the two-year J2A program culminates in a pilgrimage. As a large part of the J2A curriculum is decision making, our youth determined where they wanted to go. The pilgrimage is paid for as follows: 1/3 from the participants, 1/3 from the parish and 1/3 from fundraising by J2A. The fundraising has included the pancake supper, babysitting, personal services such as cleaning out a garage, or cleaning a garden and the London Calling, Silent and Live Auction, held on April 21. In the fall, this J2A group will move up to be the new EYC (Episcopal Youth in Community).

The current EYC group, grades eleven and twelve, are completing the last segment of the Episcopal Youth in Community curriculum. They have been accepted to college and are ready for the next phase of their lives. The group’s last mission trip will take place July 8–15 to a town west of Birmingham, Alabama that had serious flood damage. Members of Grace Church are welcome to join the mission trip. Please wish our Seniors good luck when you see them.

Rite 13, in grades six and seven, will continue as Rite 13 for one more year. There are currently ten youth participating in Rite 13. They will move on to J2A in the fall of 2013. Since J2A is moving up to EYC next year and the current Rite 13 group will stay in their current curriculum, Grace will not have a J2A group next year.

Julie Simonton

Graceful Worship: Daily Worship

Have you ever attended a weekday Eucharist at Grace Church.....or Morning Prayer at another Episcopal church? Have you ever practiced some form of regular daily devotions? If not, there are new worship opportunities just waiting for you!

In addition to the formats for Rites I and II of the Holy Eucharist, the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) provides formats for five different kinds of daily corporate worship that can be led by lay persons. Daily Morning Prayer (sometimes called *Matins*) and Daily Evening Prayer (or “Evensong” if it is sung) are the main elements of what is called the “Daily Office” in the Anglican Communion—this simply means a set of daily services. Other corporate services in the Daily Office are An Order of Service for Noonday, An Order of Worship for the Evening (or Vespers), and An Order for Night Prayer (or Compline). There are scripture readings set for every day of the year, following a two-year cycle.

The Episcopal Church also encourages the practice of individual daily prayer and Bible reading, sometimes referred to as “daily devotions.” The purpose of daily devotions is to help sustain and improve our relationship with God. Because God relates to us personally, both individually and corporately, the practice of daily devotions can enhance that relationship. The BCP has a format for Daily Devotions for Families and Individuals, but we certainly aren’t limited to the BCP’s format. Some people choose extemporaneous prayer—I often talk to God when I’m gardening, and I know someone who prays when he’s running. Others read scripture according to the Daily Office, their own pattern, or no pattern at all; and many combine both prayer and the reading of scripture. There are several privately-published devotional books that can guide our daily scripture reading and inspire us in our daily lives apart from formal weekly corporate worship. One example is the *Forward Day by Day* booklet that can be found in the tract rack (and also online).

At Grace Church we routinely celebrate the Holy Eucharist at our corporate “dailies” because we are a “Eucharist-centered parish.” During Lent we celebrate the Holy Eucharist every weekday, Monday through Friday, and on Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday during the rest of the year. Each Holy Eucharist is celebrated with a special intention: Monday for peace, Tuesday for healing, Wednesday for the Church, Thursday for the Holy Eucharist itself, and Friday for the cross (when we pray the Stations of the Cross). Most “dailies” are celebrated at the Lady Altar. Each “daily” has a group of parishioners who faithfully attend, others who come occasionally, and sometimes visitors from other parishes. Most of these groups are small and would love to have more company!

Just because we celebrate the Holy Eucharist on weekdays doesn’t mean that we can’t (or don’t) say or sing any of the Daily Offices. We occasionally say Evening Prayer (or sing Evensong) or Compline. Our priests say Morning Prayer at 9:00 am on most weekdays when they are at the church, solo or together, and we are all most welcome to join them. If the scheduled celebrant is unexpectedly prevented from showing up to celebrate the Holy Eucharist (this happens, although rarely), a member of the congregation can lead Morning or Evening Prayer instead (I’ve done it twice). If no one but the priest shows up (which also happens occasionally), he/she cannot celebrate the Holy Eucharist alone, and instead the appropriate Daily Office will be said. That’s one of the reasons we try to schedule a Lay Eucharistic Minister for each daily service—so that the priest will always be able to celebrate.

On most Fridays during the school year, School Chapel takes place at 9:00 am. This is usually an abbreviated prayer service with songs and a reflection. A fifth grader normally leads the service, and either Julie Simonton or Father Malm gives the reflection. Approximately every six weeks, the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at Chapel. School Chapel is open to any and all people, not just students.

Every Saturday morning at 9:00 am the Altar Guild has opening prayers led by the Crew Leader, and on Holy Saturday Father Malm leads their corporate prayer.

In addition to the regular worship opportunities I’ve described, we are all welcome to stop by the church and pray at any time of the day and evening (the alarm is usually turned off between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm). I have found that kneeling in a pew before the lighted Lady Altar in a mostly-dark and silent nave will focus my mind and my prayer more effectively than anywhere else.

If you have never attended daily worship at Grace, I invite you to give it a try. Before I retired I frequently participated at either 6:30 pm on Mondays (before EFM) or 7:00 am on Wednesdays (on the way to work). I’ve now become one of the “Wednesday faithful” because I like the mid-week “shot in the arm.” Maybe I’ll see you there.....

June Huber

Treasurer's Report: Capital Campaign

I am very pleased to report that the Grace Anew loan has been paid off as of April 12, 2012. Heartfelt thanks to all of you, whose overwhelming generosity afforded the Vestry a significant surplus from 2011 to apply to retiring this obligation. The remainder of the payoff total of \$80,796 was drawn from the church's Management Reserve fund. Accordingly, all further Grace Anew contributions will be allocated to the Management Reserve fund.

General Operations

For the first quarter of 2012, pledge income has been very healthy, and our expenses have been reasonable. Among other blessings, the mild winter allowed us to keep our heating expenditures down. Thus, we ended March with a \$35,940 surplus for the year so far.

Following is a numerical snapshot (in dollars) as of March 31, 2012:

For the First Quarter of 2012

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
January	98,087	74,018
February	80,691	80,887
March	96,261	84,195
3-Month totals:		
Pledge payments received:		254,518
Other Income:		20,521
Total Income:		275,039
Expenses:		239,099
Surplus:		35,940

Erica McFarquhar

Grace Episcopal School News

Springtime is here, and the School's annual fundraising drive for the scholarship/financial aid program is underway. The Spring Program Fundraiser for financial aid is one of the most significant sources of revenue for the financial aid funds our school makes available to qualified students. Grace Episcopal School's financial aid program enables us to enroll a highly qualified, motivated, and diverse student body regardless of family financial resources. All need-based financial aid is determined by the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) of Princeton, New Jersey. On average, GES awards financial aid to 10% to 25% of our students. The awards range from 5% to 90% of the total tuition.

Requests for financial aid more than doubled for the 2012-2013 school year. Your gift, now more than ever, will have a greater impact on our ability to serve our community. Last year, parishioners were very generous with their donations—we hope we can count on you again this year!

(Continued on page 8)

From the Library

For middle schoolers, we now have three books in The Earthsea Cycle which won the National Book Award for Children's Books in 1973: *The Farthest Shore*, *A Wizard of Earthsea* and *The Tombs of Atuan*.

For younger children, we have a new Golden Book, titled *Inspirational Favorites*, which contains *The Story of Jesus*, *A Blessing From Above*, and *My Little Golden Book About God*.

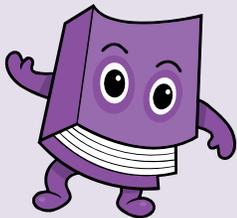
For Knitters, we have *The Knitting Way: A Guide to Spiritual Self-Discovery* which connects you and your knitting to the world and the holy (746/SKO).

For Stephen Ministers, we have *When and How to Use Mental Health Resources: A Guide for Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders and Church Staff* (616/HAU).

For those who like the "Idiot's" series: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Understanding Islam* (297/EME), *The Complete Idiot's Guide to World Religions* (200/TOR) and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Prayer* (248.3 GAL).

For those who need help in their troubles: *Turn My Mourning Into Dancing: Finding Hope in Hard Times* by Henri Nouwen (152.4/NOU), *Facing Illness, Finding Peace* by Nancy Groves (248/GRO) and *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor (BIO/TAY).

Wendy Cummings



The second annual
Parish Library Book Give-Away
will be held June 3!

Environmental Committee

Some short notes to up-date you on committee developments:

Kristine Hesse is our new committee head. She took over from Mike Barron in late January. Mike remains on the committee and continues monitoring utility bills. We are always looking for ways to reduce our carbon footprint. Under Kristine's leadership the Environmental Committee will focus on education, and low-impact ways to enhance our physical plant. Look for some new plantings that will slow down soil run-off on the parking lot hill. See Kevin Sherlock or Kristine for more information, or to offer watering or planting help.

Cindy Ikard remains in charge of the Parish Garden. She can use your time and talents in weeding, and watering. The garden produce is used to feed those who visit the Food Pantry.

Coffee and tea drinkers appreciate having a hot beverage to hold and sip after Sunday services. Can you clean out your cupboards and donate a few more mugs to our collection? We've dropped the "ugly" requirement and will accept extra mugs that you no longer need. Recently, we've run out of mugs at heavily attended coffee hours.



Do you have ten minutes to offer the Environmental Committee after the Sunday Education hour? We need helpers to fill and empty the dishwasher. The cycle completes in a few minutes, the cups are stacked and you are on your way. It really is as easy as pushing a button!

On May 6, the Environmental Committee will offer the adult forum. We will explore *Spirituality in Nature*, matching Biblical quotes, passages from the Book of Common Prayer and other writers with images from nature. Come for a discussion and expect to share. We hope to deepen your appreciation for our environment. Find out who said, "God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars."

Jennifer Eckel

News from Haiti Micah Project (HMP)

HMP welcomed the unexpected arrival of Tassy Jeune, a young Haitian artist from Port-au-Prince, who dropped by the HMP doorstep and volunteered to work with the HMP children. Tassy's arrival and skills teaching wood and clay work to 20 HMP kids has spurred the possible development of a trade school, which was previously just a far-off dream. We recently received a thank you gift from Haiti Micah Project to Grace Church, which Tassy painted and decorated with a carved, wooden frame.



In March, the Rev. Gideon Pollach, Chaplain at Episcopal High School, and the Rev. Joseph Constant took a group of nine students to Mirebalais. Father Constant was able to observe the wonderful developments since the water purification system was installed last September. Living Waters representatives who live in Haiti periodically monitor the site. Additionally, they trained leaders during a two-day conference. A young Haitian man, Lucko, has been hired to work at the facility seven days a week, from 7am to 9pm (Haitian hours!) and he has older children who volunteer to assist. The facility puts out 600 gallons of water a week. Water is used by HMP, the orphanage, St. Peter's School, the residents in Mirebalais who wish to purchase it for a nominal cost and anyone off the street who is thirsty. While there, the teenagers planted fruit trees along the wall of the water purification center and visited the children in the orphanage.



In other HMP news, HMP passed its 2011 annual tax audit. A budget has been approved and an investment program is being developed through Merrill Lynch. A banking arrangement with Bank of America in Alexandria receives deposits and transfers funds to Haiti. As well, HMP now has internet access.

Karen Wires

On Stewardship

Tithing—The Heart of the Matter: Part I of a Tract by Bishop Francis Gray, Former Assistant Bishop of Virginia

Once upon a time, a young man with a troubled heart came to Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "what must I do to inherit the kingdom?" "Follow the commandments," Jesus told him. The young man had done this, and told Jesus so. Jesus looked at this well-dressed, yet troubled young man and liked what he saw. The man was respectful and well-mannered, and his eyes showed a deep questing for truth, but the man seemed to be missing something. "One thing you lack," Jesus said. "Go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and come and follow me." The young man could not do this, and went away. This saddened Jesus, for he loved the young man.

There are resources in our congregations to do anything we choose to do, yet there are people who go away from us sorrowing, angry, or frustrated, because they cannot, or will not, give. I have seen parishioners spend hundreds of hours working at bazaars and fairs, trying to coax money from the community, when their own tithes would garner much more money than a bake sale ever could, and would do so with much less effort. The fact that it seems easier to let someone else pay to keep our congregations going leads me to believe that we, like the rich young ruler in the gospel, suffer from a spiritual disease.

Until we can deal with our possessions, we never can reach out to others. Evangelism and stewardship are intimately joined. We must be willing to share our faith with others, and it is our privilege to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God. But, perhaps we should work on stewardship first, for until we can understand ourselves and our relationship with God, we will have nothing to share with others.

I define stewardship as everything we do after we have said yes to God. Three concepts are key to stewardship: creation, mystery, and redemption

Parts II-IV of the Tract by Bishop Gray will follow in later issues of Grace Notes.

*Jean Reed
Non-Vestry Stewardship Coordinator*

Grace School News... (Continued from page 5)

Information about donating should have arrived to you by mail recently. If we missed you, however, simply send donations to the school office with the notation in the memo line "Spring Program/Financial Aid" (checks payable to Grace Episcopal School). We are also selling raffle tickets for the Grand Prize of \$1000 in cash. You could be the lucky one, and again, all profits from the raffle go directly to the financial aid program. If you have any questions about donations, please contact our Development Director, Luanne Griffin, at 703-549-5067.

I invite all parishioners to the Grandparents and Special Friends Tea on Friday, May 18 in the new narthex directly after the school chapel service at 9:00 am. This year the chapel service will take place outside on the grounds around our new flagpole and sidewalk. The Spring Program performance takes place the same day in Merrow Hall Auditorium at 10:45 am. I hope to see you at all of these events!

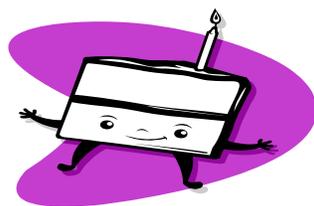
(Continued on page 9)

Grace School News... (Continued from page 8)

During the chapel service on May 18, Fr. Malm will dedicate the flagpole and dismissal sidewalk. The sidewalk is a commemoration of the school's 50th Anniversary. Donations for memorial bricks are on-going. Please pick up a donation form from the school foyer. (If you purchase a memorial brick before May 4 it can be laid in the sidewalk before the dedication!)

Many thanks for all your thoughts and prayers during the school's 10-Year Accreditation visit held April 15-18. It went very well. The School will be given the results of this visit in early May. I will pass on these results in the June Grace Notes.

Chris Stegmaier Byrnes
Head of School



May Birthdays

5/1	Emma Meeks	5/14	Evelyn Ovando	5/23	Joe Donovan
5/2	Max Bryan	5/14	Caleigh Warner	5/23	Thomas Durkin
5/2	Hayden Laboy	5/15	Walt Baumann	5/24	Eleanor Cooper
5/4	Mary Blouin	5/15	Erin Kelly	5/24	Madelyn Curry
5/4	Diane Ely	5/15	Pearson Lambeth	5/25	Duke Chiow
5/4	Natalie Page	5/15	Hunter Lambeth	5/25	Jeffery Chiow
5/4	Claire Schwentke	5/15	Amanda Smoot	5/25	Ramee Gentry
5/4	Melissa Woodhead	5/16	Halina Banas-Jones	5/25	Walter Lukens
5/5	Virginia Chandler	5/16	Mike Dobbs	5/25	Kevin Martin
5/5	Kathryn Kilbride	5/17	Lois Hatch	5/25	Dan Pattarini
5/5	David Shaver	5/17	Sonia Hernandez	5/26	Nancy Davis
5/6	Emery Morales	5/18	Justin Ames	5/26	Kathy Durkin
5/6	Christian Portillo	5/18	Cheryl Barnes	5/26	Nicholas Pattarini
5/8	Jared Smith	5/18	Gary Carter	5/26	Christina Peck
5/8	Emily Summers	5/19	Martha Bethea	5/27	Raymond Curry
5/8	Ruth Young	5/19	Amanda Chandler	5/27	Doug Miller
5/9	Vylma Khanna	5/19	Jackson Fray	5/28	Daniel Plunkett
5/9	Davis Tucker	5/19	Jillian Martin	5/28	Michael Reed
5/10	Amanda Ruff	5/19	Jan Wolff	5/28	Julia Reeder
5/11	Madeleine Doherty	5/20	Mike Barron	5/28	Ashby Rushing
5/11	Lee Meeks	5/20	John Berry	5/29	William Holland
5/11	Skitsi Rein	5/21	Camilla Alvarenga	5/29	Victoria Portillo
5/12	Meghan Groves	5/21	Frank Carroll	5/30	Yolonda Brawley
5/12	Reginald Jones	5/21	Anna Gabbert	5/30	Dave Crosby
5/13	Georgiana Greely	5/22	Alison Campbell	5/30	Heather Kelly
5/13	Nina Pfeiffer	5/22	Chip Fowler	5/31	Earl Durand
5/13	Cynthia Shen	5/23	Thomas Crabtree	5/31	Hudson Palmby
5/14	Ben Locher	5/23	Amelia Cronin		

Parish Register

BAPTISMS

- ✚ Mario David Chamorro and Emily Nicole Chamorro, children of Mario Chamorro and Eda L. Bonilla
- ✚ Avery Jane Laboy, daughter of Jose and Megan Laboy

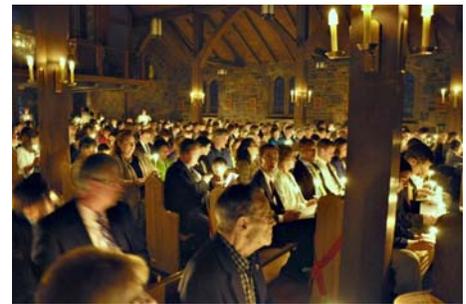
MARRIAGE

- ✚ Danielle Howe and Nathan Hitchen

DEATHS

- ✚ Waunetah (Brownie) Hall
- ✚ Gail Miller

The following persons made a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and received the laying on of hands by The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. "Ted" Gulick Jr., Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, at the Great Vigil on Saturday, April 7.



Baptized

- ✚ Kimberly Ann Reyes
- ✚ George Morris Waskowicz

Confirmed (J2A Class)

- ✚ Peter Samuel Eckel
- ✚ Peregrine Justice Enger
- ✚ Colby Sim Gustafson
- ✚ Emma Myers Imphong
- ✚ Sean Frederick Kelly
- ✚ Jonathan David Lorentz
- ✚ Benjamin Cody Martin
- ✚ William Mitchell Martin
- ✚ Lucy Cooksey Medley
- ✚ Mariah Lizbeth Ortiz
- ✚ Miguel Alfredo Ortiz
- ✚ Helen Carolina Viera
- ✚ George Morris Waskowicz

Confirmed

- ✚ Sarah Paige Danielsen
- ✚ Sheng Han Davis
- ✚ Tracy Washington Enger
- ✚ Sean Patrick Harris
- ✚ William Harrison Moore
- ✚ Kimberly Ann Reyes
- ✚ Leandro Alves Ribeiro
- ✚ Kathryn Brittany Smith

Received

- ✚ Dena Jo Battle
- ✚ Isaac Adrian Reyes
- ✚ Charles John Keller Smith
- ✚ Heather Lyn Wishart-Smith

Growing @ Grace



Upcoming Opportunities for Children, Youth and Parents

Summer Camps

Shrine Mont

Registration is open for Shrine Mont summer camps! Visit www.thediocese.net and click on “Youth and Camps” for more information.

July 9–13, 2012—*Vacation Bible School*

Once again, Christ Church and Grace Episcopal Church are partnering to create a week of faith, fellowship and fun! Children ages 3 through current 5th graders are invited to join us in making new friends and celebrating God’s love. Youth in grades 6 through 12 are welcome to participate by volunteering as VBS youth counselors. This year’s theme is *The 12 Who Changed the World: Jesus’ Disciples*. VBS 2012 will take place at Grace Church from July 9 through 13. You can chose to register for the VBS program (half-day, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm) or for the VBS program plus extended-day (full-day, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm). SPACE IS LIMITED. Registration will remain open until June 1 or until all spots are filled, whichever comes first. Please register through www.gracealex.org by clicking on the “Growing@Grace” link.

Our May Calendar

May 5-6—*J2A Rural Adventure*

Our J2A program encourages teens to take an “urban adventure” over a weekend ... to fun places like Washington, DC. But if you live in a place like DC, it’s fun to get outta town! So we’re headed west to Luray, VA in the Shenandoah Valley. Elizabeth Locher’s sending parish, Christ Church, will host us. Lots of adventure is in store!

Sunday, May 6 @ 5:30 pm—*Youth Dinner and Fellowship*

Let’s gather for some Cinco de Mayo (and a day) food and some fantastic springtime fun. See you there!

Sunday, May 13 @ all am services—*J2A Mother’s Day Flower Sale*

Beautifully potted flowers will delight Mothers and be gorgeous inside or out! J2A-ers will distribute after all morning services.

Saturday, May 19 from 5:00 pm–10:00 pm — *Parents’ Night Out!*

Drop off your kiddos with our J2A teens (and adult sponsors) and enjoy an evening out knowing your children are in excellent hands. Your funds support the J2A pilgrimage this summer. For reservations, please contact family.ministries@gracealex.org.

Looking Ahead ...

Sunday, June 3

@ 9:00 am—*Teacher Recognition Sunday*

Plan to attend the 9:00 am service and thank our teachers for their tremendous gifts to our children and our parish.

@ 10:15 am—*Last day of Sunday School*

Plan for your children and teens to attend the last day of Sunday School for the program year with an end-of-year celebration!

@ 5:30 pm — *Last Youth Dinner and Fellowship*

Don’t miss our last evening together for the program year

Sunday, June 10 @ 10:00 am—*Youth Sunday followed by the Parish Picnic and music by the J2A “Roadies to Canterbury.”*

Celebrate the teens at Grace on this special Sunday that officially begins our parish summer.

Contact family.ministries@gracealex.org for information on all things children, youth and parents.

Love is in Bloom

with the J2A

Mother's Day Flower Sale

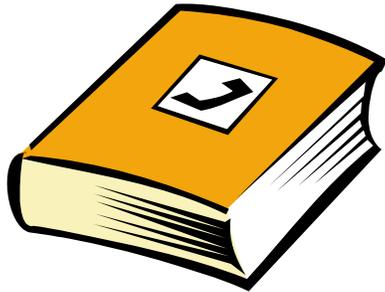


Order a beautiful potted plant
for the Mothers in your life
and
support the J2A Pilgrimage to England

Flowers are \$20 and available
for pick-up during
morning services
Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day).

Orders may be placed
beginning March 25.
For more information contact
Julie.Simonton@gracealex.org

We Want You...



...To Be Included in Our Upcoming Pictorial Directory!

Grace Church is, once again, partnering with *Lifetouch* to produce a new Pictorial Directory. Experience the fun of your own professional photography session. Be a part of our new Pictorial Directory and your family will receive:

- A FREE 8x10 portrait
- A FREE Pictorial Directory
- An opportunity to purchase additional portraits

You'll be photographed and view your images *in one trip to the church*. Please allow one hour for your session. Our photography dates will be as follows:

- Tuesday, May 22nd (2:15pm – 9:00pm)
- Wednesday, May 23rd (2:15 pm – 8:00pm)
- Tuesday, May 29th (2:15pm – 9:00 pm)
- Wednesday, May 30th (2:15 pm – 8:00 pm)
- Thursday, June 21st (2:15pm – 9:00 pm)
- Friday, June 22nd (2:15pm – 9:00pm)
- Saturday, June 23rd (9:45am – 5:00pm)

Watch for more information about how to sign up in our Sunday Bulletins and on our website (www.gracealex.org).

Parish Staff

- Robert Malm Rector
(rector@gracealex.org)
- Andrew D'Angio White..... Assistant to the Rector (assistant.rector@gracealex.org)
- Christine Byrnes..... Head of School
(office@graceschoolalex.org)
- Thom Robertson Director of Music
(music.director@gracealex.org)
- Julie Simonton Assistant for Family Ministries
(family.ministries@gracealex.org)
- Charlotte Payne Wright Parish Administrator
(parish.administrator@gracealex.org)
- Beth Wiggers Administrative Associate
(parish.office@gracealex.org)
- Pedro Hernandez.....Sexton

Vestry

Class of 2012

- Amy Barron.....Junior Warden
- Lisa Bellantoni Register
- Kelly Gable.....Education
- Theresa Lewallen Member-at-Large
- Robby Schrum Senior Warden/TNT

Class of 2013

- Peter Barnes Stewardship
- Deborah Crabtree.....Worship
- June Huber School Board
- Lee Meeks.....Communications
- Mary-Lacey Reuther Pastoral Care

Class of 2014

- John Berry School Board
- Elizabeth Legere Stewardship
- Erica McFarquhar.....Treasurer
- Mai-Lan Smith Evangelism
- Kemp Williams Outreach

Alternates

- Lisa Medley..... Youth
- Lynn Rohrs.....Fellowship

Non-Vestry Coordinators

- Gary Carter.....Fellowship
- Chad Eckles.....Worship
- Kristine Hesse.....Communications
- Rich Kelly Youth
- Nancy Lorentz Education
- Cindy MacIntyre Evangelism
- Jean Reed Stewardship
- Joy St. John.....TNT
- Patt Sullivan-Perry Pastoral Care
- Easter Thompson..... Outreach

