

Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Rector's Reflections

Father Malm is on a medical leave of absence, so we are printing these recent letters from him to the parish. For readers who may not know, early in the morning on Monday, February 10, Father Malm fell down a flight of stairs while he was home alone. Thankfully, he was not paralyzed and was able to call the paramedics. The same day he underwent a successful surgery to repair two vertebrae, and then began to show progressive signs of recovery in the hospital. He started physical therapy in the hospital, then several days later was transferred to a rehabilitation facility, and finally on Friday, February 21, was discharged and returned home where he will rest and complete his recovery.

*Elizabeth Legere
Senior Warden*

Moments of Grace

Monday, February 17, 2014

As I watched a beautiful sunrise at 6:57 am this morning from high up in my hospital room, I decided I wanted to send an all parish email to tell you very briefly about the grace I have experienced during my first week here.

Of course, first and foremost, are all the people who have shared their love, their healing gifts, and their prayers with me for now almost eight days. This begins with my wife, Leslie, and my five children—Chris, Lindsey, Jessica and Dan, and James. I knew that we've always been a "close" family; the last eight days has shown us the closeness of God's grace we share.

The EMTs, doctors, nurses, technicians and others in the medical community are simply amazing. My room looks right out at a new hospital wing under construction. The steel workers and others were at work today even as many celebrated President's Day.

We know grace at Grace. I'm so thankful to be the Rector of a parish who knows how to trust in the gifts of grace God gives to us. Our clergy and lay leaders practice a living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. God will speak to all of us through the moments of grace. We are a part of a worldwide network of those touched by the "beauty of holiness" at Grace Church. I know I am being held in prayer all over the world. We are God's grace in our life of prayer.

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March 2014

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Worship Schedule

Sunday Schedule

Holy Eucharist Rite I..... 7:30 am
Child Care..... 8:45 am–12:45 pm
Children’s Chapel..... 8:50 am–9:30 am
La Santa Eucaristía..... 9:00 am
Choral Eucharist Rite II..... 9:00 am
Christian Ed classes 10:15 am
Choral Eucharist Rite I 11:15 am
Holy Eucharist Rite II..... 5:00 pm

Lenten Weekday Schedule

Mondays, Rite II..... 6:30 pm
Tuesdays
Confessions 5:45–6:15 pm
Rite II with healing..... 6:30 pm
Wednesdays, Rite I 7:00 am
Thursdays Rite II 12:15 pm
Fridays
Confessions 11:30 am to noon
Stations of the Cross
with Rite I..... 12:15 pm

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 March 15, 2014 for the April 2014 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, Lee Meeks, Teresa Preston, Sarah Schultz and Beth Wiggers.

From the Assistant to the Rector

On the morning of February 10, as we began the work week, we never could have imagined the news that awaited us about Father Malm’s accident. A trauma such as this divides time instantly into “before” and “after.” Our community was stunned and shocked as we began to process the news and began to live in the “after.” One blessing that occurred to me as I reflected on all that was happening that week was this: we have a good model for trauma.

The Gospel witness is of a community which grew around a leader and then suffered the trauma of his loss. The disciples retreated into hiding at first, in fear that the world would condemn them next. Then after three days “Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” (Luke 24:36b) They did not need to worry. Jesus had shown them that there was new life and new possibilities. He didn’t stay to lead them, though. He sent the Holy Spirit to empower the community with its many gifts, so they could carry on the work that their leader had begun.

The essential story is that a community was transformed by Jesus Christ. We are a community transformed by him also. We carry on the tradition handed down to us by the disciples of loving one another, breaking bread together, and sharing the good news of Christ. As we continue on after our trauma, we have the opportunity to continue that witness to one another and to our community with the strength we find in our faith. The Holy Spirit empowers us to do what God calls us to do for one another and the world.

This may be the time to finally get your name on the usher’s roster, to train to be a lay Eucharistic minister, to reconnect with a ministry you used to do, to sign up to help in the food pantry, or to be more consistent in getting the kids to Sunday school. Whatever it is you had in mind about how you want to support Grace Church and its many ministries, get involved! We need all hands on deck. We particularly need you and your talents to help us come through this challenging season stronger than ever. All that we do now will bless us as a community in the future. As Paul wrote,

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

—The Rev. Leslie Nuñez Steffensen

Rector's Reflections: Moments of Grace, continued from page 1

Lastly, God gives us grace through the sanctification of time. Epiphany is a long season this year—we have many opportunities to see the light enter into the darkness. We are called to serve in new ways. I have been given an extended “retreat” from all my normal activities.

Our Lenten journey begins in two weeks on March 5. Easter is eight weeks from Sunday; I can't be sure when I will return to active ministry. But I know we will all surround ourselves with this “fellowship of love and prayer” as the journey continues to the cross and beyond.

I hope to write to you regularly, as I can. And in the days and weeks ahead, know that you are in my prayers and I give thanks that I will be in yours.

*Grace, Peace, and Love,
Bob*

Space

Saturday, February 22, 2014

This morning I watched the sunrise from my living room. My house in Del Ray faces east and it is amazing how far north the sunrise has moved in the last few weeks. After nine days in hospital, and three days at the rehab center, I was able to return home. Healing continues, but I know this will be a long process.

It was strange to return home and think back to my accident 12 days ago. We have lived in this house for almost 10 years. It is a space I know well, yet in the darkness, disoriented, I lost my balance and fell down the stairs. With night lights, with a door or safety gate, it is quite possible this would never have happened.

Yet I can't stay in that old space of “What if...?” I need to move on to the new space of “What now?” This means moving to a hospital bed on the first floor and limiting my movement and stair climbing. It also means that my neck needs space to heal so my head is held in a more secure position by an elaborate “halo” brace. The doctors can't be sure yet about how much time or how many other procedures might be necessary for full recovery.

Bishop Gulick will come to our house Sunday and celebrate Holy Communion. I will be thinking and praying for all of you at 7:30, 9, 11:15, and 5 pm at Grace Church celebrating communion also.

The Eucharistic Sacrament unites us through space and time. Each celebration of the Eucharist is a reminder of creation when “the earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep and the Spirit of God was moving... ‘God said, Let there be light’ and there was light.”

Receiving the Body of Christ unites us to the clarity of the incarnation. “In him there was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it...”

The people of God at Grace Church know the truth of God's light breaking into every dark space.

Thank you for all the beams of light you have shared with me and my family, especially during these last 12 days.

*Grace, Peace and Love,
Bob*

A Lenten Sabbath

After a long season after Epiphany, we are finally about to enter Lent, which might actually be my favorite season of the year. I do miss the “alleluias,” and Lent has a solemn tone as we call to mind the ways that we have sinned and not lived up to the great callings of God in our lives. And yet, there is something I find very restful about Lent. Something quiet and contemplative that gives me joy.

Lent calls us back to the great central things: our love for and relationship with God, and our love for and relationship with our neighbor. Some of us might give up something during Lent, and if we do, hopefully we may choose to set aside some distraction, something that calls our love away from God and neighbor, so that now we have more time to focus on those two great loves. And even if, in fact, it’s chocolate, or something in that genre, that we are giving up, this serves as a reminder and call to love God and our neighbor more even than chocolate!

Or perhaps we take something on in Lent—take up some devotional practice or spiritual discipline—regular prayer, a set time of Scripture-reading each day, acts of charity and compassion, or a discipline like fasting. And these practices serve the same purpose—to draw our hearts and minds back to the love of God and neighbor that we can so easily lose sight of in our busy, distracted lives. And so these extra practices give us an opportunity to pause and rest in God’s love, or share it with the world, or meditate on our need for it.



As I think about the ways we might observe Lent, I am reminded deeply of the Biblical practice of keeping Sabbath. Rooted in the story of Creation, of God resting on the 7th day after creating the whole universe, honoring a day of Sabbath each week reminds us of the reality of God in our lives and gives us a beautiful opportunity—an excuse even—to rest.

The Biblical imperative to keep Sabbath urges the children of God to take a time to rest and lay aside some of the cares and occupations of our life that sometimes cause us to forget God, or forget our joy in God. And the practice of keeping Sabbath also encourages us to live a day each week with a different set of priorities. It gives us a day when, instead of work, we can focus on play, on celebration and worship and time with friends or family. Instead of running errands we might pay someone a visit, or join someone in a game, or take time to be quiet and listen for God.

And it seems to me that Lent is a season of Sabbath—and perhaps Sabbath-keeping could be a great practice to take up during Lent! It is a season of laying aside cares and returning to God, of laying aside harmful habits and focusing on living lives of virtue and compassion and love. It is a time to remember, as St. Augustine of Hippo says, that our hearts are restless until they rest in God. And so as we enter this season of Lent, I pray that each of us, as individuals and families, may find moments to remember to rest our hearts in the love and the joy of God.

*In Christ,
The Rev. Elizabeth Locher*

Music at Grace



When choosing music for liturgies at Grace Church, there are many factors that I consider. Primary among these—especially with regard to hymns and anthems—is the liturgical theme of the day. This is always informed by the appointed lectionary lessons for the liturgical occasion, and there are planning resources that I can consult to aid in this process. Another facet of music-planning that I heed is variety. Therefore, I try to avoid singing one particular hymn text or tune too often. Familiarity and stability are positive things (notably, in our liturgical ritual), but on the other hand, new tunes and new texts open doors to novel ways of envisioning God or talking about theological concepts. Moreover, there are 720 hymns in the Hymnal 1982 alone! That is astounding, and so, I feel that it would be a waste of resources not to explore, within reason, the multitude of creative options within this wonderful hymnal. In terms of organ voluntaries, I will often pick

pieces by composers of anthems that we may be singing in a service, but that also depends on my own organ repertoire.

This brings us in a roundabout way to the season of Lent. During Lent, the type of music heard and the absence of certain kinds of music put the variety of musical options during the entire liturgical year into relief. Certain kinds of musical variation are natural and liturgically necessitated: e.g., no Gloria or Alleluias during Lent. Other variations are deliberately constructed by me when planning the overall musical picture for the season at Grace. For instance, since I have been serving as Director of Music at Grace, we have used different kinds of sung psalmody during Lent (and also Advent) at 11:15 am on Sundays and other occasions. We move to plainsong instead of Anglican Chant. This is not because one kind of psalmody is more “Lenten” than the other, but rather that I think it is always important to highlight, in some musical way, that we are in a different frame of mind during a new liturgical season. Also, during Lent, you will notice that the voluntaries (including closing ones) are more contemplative. There are no processional hymns and no organ improvisations after the reading of the Gospel. In general, things are more musically sparse during Lent. This is a longstanding tradition of the Church, and I think that this helps us appreciate more festive music when it returns at Easter. It never ceases to amaze me that there are so many creative musical options for our liturgy inherently connected to *The Book of Common Prayer* and its companion source, *The Hymnal 1982*!

—Kyle Babin



Graceful Worship: Sacred Music

All of us (well, most of us) are accustomed to opening up our hymnals and singing the hymns appointed for the day. But there are other parts of the hymnal, and other words in the hymnal, that those of us who are not in the choir may not find so familiar. And there are other things that we or the choir sing as part of the worship service. So let's consider this article as a crash course on sacred music (i.e., written for liturgical worship in church services). I offer my thanks in advance to Kyle Babin for reading this and making a few corrections, to ensure that I get it right.



The earliest music in the Christian Church came, not surprisingly, from Jewish worship music. It's believed that this music was somewhere between singing and speaking, or speaking with a ritual cadence. Since that time, sacred music has evolved in all sorts of complex ways. I won't go through the entire history, but I'll add some historical comments where they are useful.

Let's start with an easy one. A hymn is a song specifically written for the purpose of praise, adoration or prayer to God. The word comes from the Greek *hymnos* which means "a song of praise." Thomas Aquinas defined the Christian hymn as "the praise of God with song; a song is the exultation of the mind dwelling on eternal things, bursting forth in the voice." Hymns are typically sung together by the whole congregation.

Psalms started as songs, and we still sing them (especially in Rite I). The word is from the Greek *psalmoi* which means instrumental music and, by extension, the words accompanying the music. New Testament references show that the earliest Christians used the Psalms in worship. Anglican chant is a way to sing un-metrical texts, such as prose translations of the psalms and other biblical texts by matching the natural speech-rhythm of the words in each verse to a short piece of metrical music.

A canticle, from the Latin *canticulum* which means song, is a hymn or other song of praise taken from biblical texts other than the Psalms. Morning and Evening Prayer make extensive use of canticles such as the *Venite, Te Deum, Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis*.

Anthems are more elaborate and varied than that of psalm or hymn tunes, and are mostly English in their origin and development. The English anthem is an example of how a specific type of choral composition has come to be called by this name. In the Roman Catholic Church, the term "motet" is perhaps more commonly used for a polyphonic (multiple voice parts) piece, and often will be sung in Latin. A fraction anthem is a text sung during the Holy Eucharist, at the point when the celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.



Continues on next page

An antiphon, from the Greek for “opposite voice,” is a type of liturgical chant. It is usually connected with psalmody, in which the singing is antiphonal. (You can observe this style of singing in many monasteries, especially when singing the psalter by half verse.) The “mirror structure” of Hebrew psalms makes it likely that the antiphonal method was present in the services of the ancient Israelites. According to the historian Socrates of Constantinople, antiphony was introduced into Christian worship by Ignatius of Antioch (died 107), who saw a vision of two choirs of angels singing together. You will also see the term “antiphon” used when describing the minor propers (introit, gradual, offertory, communion) of the Mass, which are sung by the choir on festivals at Grace’s 11:15 am Eucharist. This is because many of these original propers had antiphons sung before and after the affiliated psalm verses. Eventually, the psalm verses were whittled down or eliminated completely, sometimes leaving only the antiphon itself.

Preces (Latin *preces*, plural of *prex* which means prayer) are short petitions that are said or sung as versicle (see below) and response by the officiant and congregation respectively. This form of prayer is one of the oldest in Christianity, finding its source in the pre-Christian Hebrew prayers of the Psalms in Temple Worship. Look for these specifically at Choral Evensong, where there are sung preces and responses.

A versicle is the first half of one of a set of preces, said or sung by an officiant or cantor and answered with a said or sung response by the congregation or choir. For example, in the following opening of the service of Evening Prayer according to the *Book of Common Prayer*, the first line is the versicle and the second is the response.

O: O Lord, open thou our lips

P: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

An invitatory (from Latin *invitātus*, meaning to invite) is a psalm or other piece sung as an invitation to prayer in church services. A *salutation*, *not surprisingly*, is a greeting. And a suffrage is a short intercessory sung prayer, usually part of a series.

A voluntary is a piece of music, usually for organ, that is played as part of a church service. In English-speaking countries, the music played before and after the service is often called a voluntary, whether or not it is titled so. They can also be called preludes and postludes.

Descant can refer to several different things in music, depending on the period in question. The word means a voice (from the Latin *cantus*) above or removed from others. Hymn tune descants are counter-melodies, generally at a higher pitch than the main melody. Think of our talented sopranos!

—June Huber

Announcement: Bake Sale

The 4th & 5th grade Sunday school class will host a bake sale and food drive on Sunday, March 16 during the 10 am coffee hour in Merrow Hall. The children are putting the Gospel into action by raising money for the Grace Food Pantry. We hope the whole parish joins in supporting our youth, as well as this important ministry.

Giving Forward, Finding Fullness

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

This Proper Preface for Lent in the Book of Common Prayer offers a unique perspective on this season of the church year. The traditional themes of Lent—repentance, fasting, self-denial—can seem on a different track altogether than this bidding to “prepare with joy.” How might these ideas converge? Looking closely, there are some hints.

First, we “cleanse our hearts.” Reading this phrase, I immediately think of the Collect for Purity, a prayer at the beginning of the Holy Eucharist in which the priest prays that our hearts may be cleansed by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. My view is that this cleansing is not some fearful scouring of the soul; rather, a gift that opens our hearts to perfect love—it is God’s own self displacing our burdens of fear and sin. Another way to put this may be that cleansing our hearts is just letting God have room to be God. To seek us out, to love us, to forgive and befriend us.

Second, we are “renewed” by Word and Sacrament. If during Lent we make some extra room for God in our lives, we find renewal and refreshment, both in the story of God’s love for us that we read in the scriptures, and in Jesus’ own sacrifice of love made present for us in bread and wine on the altar.

So, how should we “prepare with joy” this Lent? The last phrase of this Proper Preface repeats a promise made again and again in scripture: the promise that if we follow Jesus, we will find the “fullness of grace.” As we look forward with gratitude to this fullness of grace, I’d like to suggest that in making room for God—in our repentance, fasting, and self denial—we choose not only to give something up for Lent, but to give something forward, too.



Giving forward, for me, means taking time or money that I would normally spend on myself, and setting it aside for the future of Grace Church and our community. So if I fast on Fridays, I take something from my restaurant budget and make a special gift beyond my normal pledge. Similarly, I might skip a movie on the weekend and carve out an hour to pray or read scripture. Here could be an opportunity to take what I would have spent on a theater ticket and popcorn and make an extra gift to the food pantry. Another option—take those two hours that would have been spent at the movie and sign up to serve at the winter overflow shelter for the homeless.



If during Lent we prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast, if we prepare for a greater union with God, I think we will invariably remember that the ultimate joy of God is to give. God reveals his glory by giving us himself in the person of Jesus Christ. By our own giving, I believe we take steps into that fullness of grace that is at the center of God’s desire for our lives.

—Bill Malone

Music Director Search Committee

Since Grace Church's Director of Music, Kyle Babin, will be leaving this summer to begin his studies at seminary, Father Malm has convened a committee to assist him in the search for a new music director. The committee would very much appreciate any comments or suggestions that members of the congregation may have with respect to the music program at Grace Church and the next Director of Music.

Members of the search committee are: Stephanie Reed, chair; Barry Barr; Alison Campbell; Michael Heintz; Summer Jones; Cindy MacIntyre; Erica McFarquhar; and Robby Schrum. The email address for the committee is music.searchcommittee@gracealex.org and snail mail may be addressed to the Music Director Search Committee via the church office. Members of the committee will be happy to speak with parishioners individually when you see us at church, or you can reach us at home by phone.

From the Library: Art of Contemplation

The need for contemplative values today is great, as we are often swept up into the demands of family, work and community. Daily, we make decisions with lightning speed, without seeking insight to understand the word of God and his will. In *It Draws Me: The Art of Contemplation* [248 MCD], Mary McDonald emphasizes the importance of assimilating contemplation into daily practice. This book utilizes Thomas Merton's unpublished notes on *lectio divina*; discussion of the origin, composition and spirituality of icons; and Song Dynasty paintings as aides for readers to strengthen their connection with God.

The library has eighteen books addressing contemplation's role in today's society. Check out the listings in the *Looking For Something to Read?* binder in the library.

Ex Libris

A Lenten Quiet Day with Bishop Gulick: April 12

Come prepare for Holy Week as Bishop Ted Gulick leads us through a day of retreat, prayer, and contemplation of the cross of Jesus Christ. The quiet day will take place here at Grace Church from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm and is free to all Grace parishioners and friends. A light breakfast and a simple lunch will be provided.

Please help us prepare by signing up at <http://bit.ly/graceretreat> or calling the church office. If you're interested in child care during the retreat, please contact Mother Elizabeth at family.ministries@gracealex.org about possible arrangements.

—Teresa Preston



Chili Bowl—2014

Grace Church parishioners came out blazing for the 2014 Chili Bowl on January 26—contributing the most money for the church’s general fund in the event's history.



The Chili Bowl raised \$4,924.82—obliterating last year’s record by more than \$1,200. A huge thanks to all who attended, cooked, donated, and ate. Your generosity will help Grace fulfill its mission in the world.

The competition was fierce this year. Several participants rose to extol the virtues of their chili at the annual meeting the morning before the competition started.

J2A took the People’s Choice, with more than \$1,190 in donations. EYC was second for the second consecutive year, with more than \$950

in donations. And a new entrant to the field—the Grace Golfers—snagged third place, with over \$360 in donations.

TNT claimed its second straight Judges’ Choice Award, for its Brazilian Chili. The Golfers’ Birdie Chili was the runner-up for the judges, and the Mission Team’s Haiti Chili grabbed the final spot on the judges' medal stand.

The judges also singled out La Gracia for a special “Judges’ Choice Commendation.”

Rite 13 was the winner for Best Theme for the second consecutive year with its Mary Poppins chili. The Rite 13ers really did look like street urchins, with soot all over their faces and chimney-sweep props. The choir’s Pentecostal Chili and the Pastoral Care’s Comfort Station took second and third, respectively, in the race for Best Theme.



Rounds of applause go out to all this year’s contestants in the Chili Bowl. And thanks to this year’s judges—Bill Malone, Elizabeth Legere, and Phil Smith—as well as the many folks who helped with set-up and clean-up. And super-special thanks to Mother Leslie for serving as Chili Master this year.

Fewer than 11 months to prepare your recipe for the 2015 Chili Bowl. See you next year!

—Robby Schrum

2014 Altar Guild Tea—Save the Date

Reservations will be accepted beginning at 9:00 am on Monday, March 10, for the **14th Annual Altar Guild Tea** at Grace Church, to be held on Saturday, May 17, from 2:00 to 4:30 pm. The theme will be “Missed Manners,” a light-hearted look at manners and etiquette through history with examples of what to do and not to do in a variety of social situations. Guests will be seated at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary for the program and the tea service will follow at 3:00 pm in the Merrow Hall Auditorium. You and your guests will be treated to freshly brewed English tea, elegant savory tea sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and a variety of delicious sweets. Wearing of hats is strongly encouraged! Tickets are \$35 and proceeds go to the General Fund of Grace Church. Tickets sell out early so circle March 10 on your calendar to call the church office at (703) 549-1980 to make your reservations.



—Anne Caputo

Annual Diocesan Council and Technology



For the first time, members of the diocesan Annual Council participated in a real-time electronic survey where we texted responses to a series of questions and were able to view the responses as they were submitted live, via large screens, on the Council floor.

We were asked to consider the importance of the diocesan priorities in our congregations, the diocese collected data on the use of social media for ministry, and we discussed challenges and sources of energy and excitement. Many people, like me, found the exercise to be fun, interesting and energizing. Others asked how to adapt the process for congregational use. And some people said that the process was fun—but ultimately asked, “What’s the purpose?”

In the coming weeks, the diocese will offer a series of online articles that will explore, in depth, the results and implications of this survey. In the meantime, they’re excited to share the results. Visit thediocese.net/Stretch/Info for a full breakdown of the survey results. Stay tuned to the diocesan website and the *Virginia Episcopalian* magazine for more info.

—June Huber

65 Years 65 Stories –A Transformation!

We know that there are many more enthusiastic storytellers here at Grace. We hope that you will let us share your stories. We have decided to transform our project of collecting 65 stories commemorating our 65 years on Russell Road into a general column of memories of Grace. We're calling it "Grace Stories."

We invite you to answer any of the questions that we have posed so far, or just tell us a story about any interesting current experience or long ago memory connected with Grace. It can be on any subject of your choosing. We'd love to hear from you. We're posting a new question for your consideration this month. Write about that, about any of the questions that we've posted so far, which we've listed below, or another subject of your choosing. Send your stories to grace.notes@gracealex.org by March 15, or in the future, by the 15th of the month before you would like your story published. And don't worry if you've already sent us a story. We'd love to hear from you again.

Here's a new question for the month of April.

When has Grace been of particular service to you? Why was that experience important?

Some of the earlier questions were:

How did you find Grace? Or how did Grace Church find you?

What's your favorite part of our church? Is it a particular part of the building or a specific stained glass window? Why is it so meaningful to you?

What's been one of your favorite experiences doing mission or outreach work for Grace?

What's one of your favorite memories of the Advent and Christmas seasons at Grace?

If you were a child at Grace or have a child at Grace, what's one of your favorite stories about the children's programs at Grace?

From the Parish Register

Transfer In

✚ Stephen Lovell from All Souls Church, Washington, D.C.

Transfers Out

✚ Winnifred Samuda to Grace Church, Windsor, Connecticut

Mission and Parish Life

Grace Church Monday Night Lenten Series: March 10th – April 7th

Nightly Schedule:

6:30 PM: Holy Eucharist

7:15 PM: Simple Supper

7:45 PM: Speaker – 30 minutes speaking, 15 minutes of Q&A

“Mission in Matthew” – March 10th

The Rev. Dr. John Yieh
Professor of New Testament
Virginia Theological Seminary



“Incarnate Splendor: The Mission of Anglo-Catholicism” – March 17th

Dr. John Orens
Professor of European History
George Mason University



“VOICE and Mission in the Local Community” – March 24th

Ms. Jennifer Knox
Associate Organizer for VOICE
Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement



“World Christianity and Contemporary Mission” – March 31st

The Rev. Dr. Robert Heaney
Professor of Christian Mission
Virginia Theological Seminary



“Views of the End Times” – April 7th

The Very Rev. Ian Markham
Dean and President,
Virginia Theological Seminary



*In coordination with the Alexandria Episcopal-Lutheran Lenten Series
This speaker will begin at 7:30 pm.*

March 2014 Special Events

3/2/2014	Evensong followed by Holy Communion (5:00 pm) Youth Sunday Evening Fellowship (5:30 pm)
3/4/2014	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (6:00 – 8:00 pm)
3/5/2014	Ash Wednesday (HE 7 am, Noon, 7:30 pm), Children's Eucharist (6:00 pm) La Santa Eucaristía (7:30 pm)
3/7-4/11/2014	Friday Stations of the Cross and Holy Eucharist (12:15 pm) Confessions from 11:30 am – 12:00 Noon
3/9/2014	Daylight Saving Time Begins
3/10-4/7/2014	Monday Night Lenten Supper Series (Theme: Discerning Mission)
3/28-3/30/2014	PYM 6th & 7th Grade Weekend at Shrine Mont

"FINAL THINGS"

A Lenten series for the City of Alexandria
Sponsored by its Lutheran (ELCA) and Episcopal congregations

Each evening will include **Holy Eucharist at 6:30 p.m.** and a **"Simple Supper" at 7:00 p.m.** (provided by the host parish), followed by the **program from 7:30-8:30 p.m.** This is a cooperative venture of all eight City of Alexandria Episcopal Churches, and Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church, the only ELCA church in the City of Alexandria.

WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE	WEEK FOUR	WEEK FIVE
				
<p>Is there a heaven, and (if so) how do I get there?</p> <p>led by the Rev. Dr. Lloyd A. "Tony" Lewis, Jr. Wednesday, March 12</p> <p>Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N Alfred Street Alexandria VA 22314</p> <p><i>Tony is a New Testament scholar who recently retired from the faculty at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS).</i></p>	<p>How might someone who is not Christian end up in heaven?</p> <p>led by the Rev. Dr. Kate Sonderegger Wednesday, March 19</p> <p>St. Paul's Episcopal Church 228 S Pitt Street Alexandria VA 22314</p> <p><i>Kate is a systematic theology professor at VTS.</i></p>	<p>Is there a hell, and (if so) who's going there?</p> <p>led by the Rev. Dr. Craig Phillips Wednesday, March 26</p> <p>Christ Episcopal Church, 118 N Washington Street Alexandria VA 22314</p> <p><i>Craig is Rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Arlington, Virginia, and an adjunct systematic theology professor.</i></p>	<p>What if I do bad things?</p> <p>led by the Rev. Dr. Kate Sonderegger Wednesday, April 2</p> <p>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 100 W Luray Ave Alexandria VA 22301</p> <p><i>Kate is a systematic theology professor at VTS.</i></p>	<p>Views of the End Times</p> <p>led by the Very Rev. Dr. Ian Markham Monday, April 7</p> <p>Grace Episcopal Church 3601 Russell Road Alexandria VA 22305</p> <p><i>Ian is Dean and President of VTS. He also teaches systematic theology courses there.</i></p>
<p>Meade Memorial Church www.meadechurch.org</p>	<p>St. Paul's Church www.stpaulsalexandria.com</p>	<p>Christ Church www.historicchristchurch.org</p>	<p>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church www.gslutheran.net</p>	<p>Grace Church www.gracesalex.org</p>

Seeking Nominations

Each year, the Alexandria Commission for Women celebrates outstanding women, men and youth who have made a significant impact on women and girls in Alexandria. This year's event is special because the city will be celebrating both the 40th Anniversary of the Commission for Women and the legacy of Vola Lawson, a Grace Church parishioner who died on December 10, 2013. Vola was instrumental in the founding of the Commission, the Alexandria Walk to Fight Breast Cancer, and was a champion for women's rights. This year's event will be held on Monday, March 31, 2014. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact June Huber at june.huber@gracealex.org.

Purse for Father Malm

The Vestry has approved the collection of a gift purse for Father Malm, as a result of a groundswell from loving parishioners and colleagues wanting to contribute to the Malm family. Now that his family and our parish are celebrating positive news of Father Malm's progress, a purse will enable gifts of support, of celebration and thanksgiving for progress, and of wellness recovery for Father Malm and his family. Please be aware, all contributions to the purse are gifts to the Malm family and as such are not tax-deductible, are not considered a donation to the parish, and are not added to an individual's record of contribution to Grace Church. Please make checks payable to Grace Episcopal Church with the memo "Father Malm Fund" and place checks into the Sunday offering or send to the parish office by mail.



Daylight Saving Time (United States) 2014 begins at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 9!

Don't forget to "spring forward" an hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 8, in order to get to church on time on Sunday.

March Birthdays

3/1	Eugene Alford	3/18	Betsy Bamford
3/1	Baynes Cheron	3/18	Lucy Tschetter
3/1	Yanira Rodriguez	3/19	Valerie Fowler
3/1	Peter Zuidema	3/19	Willa Johnson
3/2	Shirley Tyler	3/19	Mariah Ortiz
3/2	Kemp Williams	3/19	Robby Schrum
3/3	Beau Grimes	3/20	Barry Barr
3/3	Vi Legere	3/21	Taylor Ballenger
3/3	Cindy MacIntyre	3/21	Christopher Stuard
3/3	Alice Russell	3/22	Kathleen Arthur
3/3	Tyler Smith	3/22	Paige Medley
3/3	Jonathan Wolcott	3/22	Liz Rugaber
3/4	Stacey Glazier	3/22	Ethan Woodhead
3/4	A. J. Nannini	3/23	Mia Giacomo
3/7	Meghan Cummings	3/23	Pat Hansen
3/7	Chuck Dodd	3/23	Easter Thompson
3/7	John Weise	3/26	Lisa Doelp
3/8	Ada Rairigh	3/26	Georgia Gillette
3/9	Scott Knudsen	3/26	Kathy Zucca
3/9	Charlotte Noren	3/27	Simon Kupczyk
3/9	Gregory Ruff	3/28	Dev Gaidhane
3/9	Leslie Steffensen	3/28	Kirk Steffensen
3/10	Sarah Martin	3/28	Nicolas Zola
3/10	Anabel Rodriguez	3/29	Amelia Bennett
3/10	Lynn Rohrs	3/29	Jai Gaidhane
3/10	Heather Wishart-Smith	3/30	Brad Bergmann
		3/30	Riley Butcher
3/11	Joyce Stancil	3/30	Samuella Hunt
3/11	Karen Wille	3/30	James Murphy
3/12	Natalie Kupczyk	3/30	Marianne Skorupski
3/13	Catherine Reuther	3/31	William Chriss
3/14	Liz Saalfeld	3/31	Audrey Gannon
3/14	Mai-Lan Smith	3/31	Kate Schneider
3/16	Jean Thompson	3/31	Madeleine Wells



Parish Staff

Robert Malm	..... Rector
(rector@gracealex.org)	
Leslie Steffensen	..... Assistant to the Rector
(assistant.lector@gracealex.org)	
Elizabeth Locher	.....
Assistant for Parish Life and Family Ministries	
(family.ministries@gracealex.org)	
Kyle Babin	..... Director of Music
(music.director@gracealex.org)	
Christine Byrnes	..... Head of School
(office@graceschoolalex.org)	
Ruth Young	..... Chapel Coordinator
(ruth.young@gracealex.org)	
Charlotte Payne Wright	.. Parish Administrator
(parish.administrator@gracealex.org)	
Beth Wiggers	..... Office Administrator
(parish.office@gracealex.org)	
Pedro Hernandez	..... Sexton
Chandler Whitman	..... Seminarian
(chandler.whitman@gracealex.org)	
Joshua Messick	..... Seminarian
(josh.messick@gracealex.org)	

Vestry

Class of 2014

Elizabeth Legere	..... Sr. Warden
John Berry	..... School Board
Erica McFarquhar	..... Member at Large
Mai-Lan Smith	..... Evangelism
Kemp Williams	..... Register

Class of 2015

Eric Bonetti	..... Jr. Warden
Lisa Medley	..... Youth
Barbara Read	..... Pastoral Care
Mary Ann Ryan	..... Outreach
Eric Waskowicz	..... Education

Class of 2016

Jeffrey Chiow	..... Fellowship
Lina Dobbs	..... Communications, La Gracia
Bill Eckel	..... Treasurer
Bill Malone Stewardship
Easter Thompson Worship

Alternate

Leo Ribeiro TNT
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Non-Vestry Coordinators

Eugene Alford Stewardship
Gary Carter Fellowship
Mickey Craven	..... Pastoral Care
Chad Eckles	..... Worship
Kristine Hesse	..... Communications
Rich Kelly	..... Youth
Cindy MacIntyre	..... Evangelism
Andrea Santos	..... TNT
Tania Wilkes	..... Outreach

Easter Flower Request

You are invited to participate in decorating the church with beautiful Easter flowers. Please complete this form and return it no later than Wednesday, March 26, with a check for \$35.00 to the parish office or place it in the Sunday offering. Make your check payable to Grace Episcopal Church and write "Easter Flowers" on the memo line. Please circle one of the choices below and print the remainder of the message the way you would like it to appear in the Easter flower bulletin:

"In loving memory of" or "In thanksgiving for"

Given by (print the name or names of the donors exactly as you want them to appear).

Envelope Number _____

