My brothers and sisters in Christ,
I bring you greetings in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We are now in the season after Pentecost, the green season. I always have associated this with the growing season, green representing growth. The lessons we read or hear during this season instruct us how we as disciples (students) and apostles (proclaimers) grow in our faith. As we grow in our faith, we are strengthened in our faith. As our faith is strengthened, our faith also is being challenged. Sometimes we fall down and sin, that is, we experience a break in our relationship with God. At times we simply ignore the fact we have sinned. We may even attempt to justify it. After all, my pledges are on target therefore the sin is not that bad.

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”
1 John 1:8-10 NRSV

One sin always before us is how we treat our brothers and sisters. If we are not loving them as God loves us, then we are sinning. Even though one has a right to have an opposing opinion, it does not give one the right to disrespect that sister or brother. Disrespect is seen in forms of abuse, mentally or physically and sometimes both. This is not love. Before we say, “I am not disrespectful,” to witness this and ignore it is a sin of omission. It remains a sin.

In our liturgy we proclaim in part that we are one in Christ and He is one in us. This means Jesus the Christ is in us, all of us. If I see a woman, I see Jesus. If I see a Hispanic person, I see Jesus. If I see an LGBTQIA+ person, I see Jesus. If I see a poor person, I see Jesus. If I see a rich person, I see Jesus. There is no room for disrespect because disrespect is not love and God is love. It is with great joy, I witness Grace demonstrating this love. When I observe the volunteers in the food pantry, there is never an expression of “look at what I am doing for you or how much better I am.” No, it is always an expression of God loves you and so do I. This is us growing in our faith.

The question was raised in adult forum, “How are we, Grace, going to address the issue of racism?” There was no judgment but acknowledgment that we are not where we want to be. When we admit our sin of racism, we also admit we want to see Jesus clearer in our fellow brothers and sisters. This is us growing in our faith, a constant ongoing journey.

The peace of the Lord is always with us,

Fr. Michael
Online Worship: Where do we go from here?

Most of us could never have imagined just a few months ago that we would be watching Sunday morning worship online. Since mid-March, churches across the nation and the world have been either live-streaming or recording worship services in some form or another. Within the Episcopal Church, we have seen online worship services on YouTube, Facebook, and Zoom, ranging from Morning Prayer to Holy Eucharist, to Evening Prayer and Compline. We have been able to “enter in” to parish churches and cathedrals near to us and in faraway places, right in our own living rooms. For many of us, it has been the only way to remain connected, as the Body of Christ, to that which sustains us and gives us life.

As we have seen in very recent news just this past week, the COVID-19 pandemic is not over, which means the future of in-person worship services is still uncertain. What we do know is this: Grace will continue to offer online worship going forward, no matter what happens. When the time comes for us to begin re-gathering in person, we will continue to record and/or live-stream our services, giving each person and each family the option to attend in person or to watch online.

The wardens, staff, and clergy are currently working on a plan to make online worship a permanent part of what we do on Sundays at Grace. We are currently receiving proposals from audiovisual companies to install permanent video equipment in the church. New, state-of-the-art cameras and equipment will give us the capability to easily record and/or live-stream our worship services on our own, with the help of a just a few “tech-minded” Grace volunteers.

During these difficult and sad times, we know that online worship has been and continues to be a lifeline for so many, and we intend to continue that lifeline even after COVID-19. We are learning to “be the Church” in new and creative ways. With God’s help, we will continue to be a beacon of light in the darkness for members of our Grace family and for so many others who need God’s presence in their lives. May God grant all us the strength and the courage to persevere, as Grace Church has always done, bringing new life to the world, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Father Jason+

Throughout this pandemic period, the Clergy have continually kept us in touch virtually with services of Eucharist and prayer.

Litany of Repentance: Prayers for the Nation and World. June 4, 2020
As our nation and the world called out for justice over the death of George Floyd and so many others, Fr Jason and Fr Michael organized a parish discussion on successive Sundays during the Forum Hour. These “zoomed” sessions — which draw 40-50 folks each session — are facilitated by Tracy Enger, and draw insights from the book *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander. With a break for July 4th, the Forum sessions will continue throughout July.
Summer is here with graduation celebrations in new and creative ways. Lots of drive by festivities with balloons and bubbles, signs abound, and we wonder what will be happening when school resumes in the fall. Grace and Grace School make plans and contingencies for the summer and beyond. But our focus on worship and fellowship, evangelism and education, outreach and stewardship continue as always, albeit in many different ways. The spirit of Grace is present and joyful, and here is my perspective as we enter July.

Worship and Fellowship – We continue to film Sunday worship services in our nave and host Sunday virtual coffee hour and adult forum. We also post a Sunday Spanish-language service for LaGracia and friends and a posted Wednesday Evening Prayer service with Fr Michael. All these have a faithful following, including viewers from Florida and California and many other locations. We await word from Bishop Susan about lessening restrictions on in-person worship at Grace where we can be together under careful guidelines about spacing, masks, spiritual Eucharist only, hand sanitizer, congregational singing, and other guidelines. The Commonwealth of Virginia is moving to Phase III restrictions on July 1, and we hope the Diocese will follow soon after. We will have to ask Diocesan permission to return to our church building, and contingency plans are underway to see how we can make that happen. We know that many parishioners will not want to come back until they feel safe or until a vaccine is available or other safety precautions have been put in place. For those reasons we anticipate continuing our worship video even when in-church worship is taking place.

Our Coffee (Half) Hour at 9:30 continues to be a time for community and fellowship. Join us for some creative sharing of our lives and the joy of seeing each other on Zoom screens. We began a book discussion series in Adult Forum focused on the reading of The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. This has been profoundly moving as we listen to narratives from members of our community who talk about their closest feelings and experiences. The sharing has been extraordinary. Thank you to Tracy Enger for facilitating this discussion, to Fr Jason for moderating, and Fr Michael for praying and sharing his perspective.

The Grace at Home series continues to entertain us with scripted, or not, views of our lives during self-isolation. Thanks to the Joyner family for song and the Cline family for adorable family photos and a new puppy!

We said a heartfelt farewell to Jenni Faires in June with a drive by in the Grace parking lot and a bag of gifts to send Jenni on her way. Thanks to many generous donations we were able to present Jenni with a check for more than $6,700, testament to our love for her and her ministry.

Caring for Others – Our Food Pantry efforts and accolades continue with steady visits from our Chirilauga neighbors. The June numbers are not in yet, but we expect them to be on par with the 1,543 bags of groceries and supplies distributed in May. We are gaining partners who provide collection spots for donations (Kiskadee, St Elmo’s, Trader Joe’s), donations of snacks or supplies (Regal Cinema, St Rita’s, 1st Assembly of God, Mindy’s Catering, Embassy Suites, USA Rice, Visit Del Ray), and many other individual donations. We give thanks for our dozens of volunteers who come to sort, bag, and distribute, including several from other churches or friends or neighbors. Our Crisis Assistance Fund continues to help families with rent assistance, utility bills, and other expenses. We give thanks to Judy Willard and Jen Pease who are the backbone of this project and continue to provide amazing leadership and organizational skills.
Communications – We communicate weekly with our Friday eNews as well as a weekly message for families from Chrissie Crosby (read below for an announcement of her new position). We make changes to our website as needed and the newly revamped monthly Grace Notes provide in-depth conversations. If you are not receiving all of these communications, or know someone who is not, please send a message to Peter Hanke, our new Parish Administrator, at parish.administrator@gracealex.org to be sure you are on our distribution list. You can edit or initiate your own Breeze account which is our official parish membership database. If you aren’t sure how to do this, Peter can help you get started. Communication is essential in the time of COVID-19; we want to hear from you and you from us.

Stewardship – We continue to be supported by the intentional giving in support of our budget and in support of the Outreach efforts via the Food Pantry and Crisis Assistance. Know that your pledges and gifts are deeply appreciated. Links to Tithe.ly, our electronic giving program, are found on the website and in our weekly communications to you. You may make pledge offerings via the green button found on the Friday eNews, on our website, or by using Tithe.ly or you may mail your check directly to the parish office (3601 Russell Road, Alexandria 22305). Our office is open every day from about 7:30-4:30 for mail and telephone communications.

Administration and Staff – Our several search and discernment committees have offered two new hires for Parish Administrator and Family Ministries and Evangelism. Peter Hanke joined us in mid-June as our new Parish Administrator. Peter’s credentials are presented on page 6.

In early July, we will welcome Chrissie Crosby to the position of Interim Coordinator of Family Ministries and Evangelism. Chrissie is well known to Grace families, children, and youth as an enthusiastic participant in our ministries, pilgrimages, pageants, Bible study, and music. Chrissie will serve until the end of January 2021 when we have a clearer idea of our new rector, budget, and pledging and the process of creating digital and social media presence in our parish. We welcome Chrissie with her creativity and energy and service toward these critical parts of community.

The job description and parish profile for the new Rector position has been posted on the appropriate diocesan and Episcopal job sites. The posting will be open until the end of July 2020 and then a review of candidates and candidate interviews will take place. There are many positive changes coming to Grace in the near future, and we are energized by the prospect of new clergy and staff.

The Vestry and Wardens encourage your questions and comments as we work together to keep Grace strong and vital in a time when dedication and patience are required by everyone.

Chrissie Crosby performing during the 2016 Vacation Bible School at Grace
Welcome to Peter Hanke, Our New Parish Administrator

Peter J. Hanke has joined Grace Church in mid-June as our new Parish Administrator.

A lifelong Episcopalian, Peter brings a strong sense of vocation and extensive professional expertise to this position. His demonstrated administrative, software, and interpersonal skills will serve Grace well. He is drawn to our church for its focus on worship, the bilingual programs, and through his interviews with parishioners, vestry, lay staff, and clergy members.

Peter is a seminary graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and served the past two years as parish administrator at Christ Church in Kensington, Maryland. He formerly worked with the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE), US Department of Energy (DOE) assisting with human resource records management and is particularly adept in software systems and website operations. As a management and communication consultant, he was contracted as Task Lead for the Chaplain-Psychological Health Provider Collaboration in the Defense Health Agency. He currently serves as a licensed Lay Pastoral Leader in the Diocese of Washington DC for the NIH Clinical Center as a supply chaplain for Sunday Protestant services. He lives with his wife in Bethesda and has a teenage daughter.

Over the coming weeks, please take a moment to contact Peter to welcome him to Grace. He is looking forward to meeting each member of the congregation. He can be reached at parish.administrator@gracealex.org.

The vestry deeply appreciates the work of Stephanie Reed, Ruth Corlett, and June Huber in guiding the search process by assessing the position needs, recruiting and reviewing candidates, and providing excellent advice during the search. We are also grateful to Father Jason and Mother Leslie Steffensen for bringing Peter’s name forward.

Congratulations to the Rev. Deacon Jeremy Means-Koss!! Jeremy was ordained on June 16 to to the transitional diaconate in the Bishop’s Chapel at the Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond. Fr Jason and Mary Stewart were presenters, along with Jeremy’s husband, Brendan Means-Koss.
Hymn Histories for July

July 5

601, “O Day of God, Draw Nigh”—This hymn was written in 1937 for a hymn sheet for The Fellowship for a Christian Social Order. Author R. B. Y. Scott expressed hope for peace and justice on the verge of a cataclysmic Second World War. But the hymn is much more than that. In the Companion to the Hymnal 1982, the editors expend over three full pages in an attempt to deal with some of the theological issues this text raises. Rather than attempt to delve into all of these issues, suffice it to say that these words seem more appropriate than ever before. The tune ST. MICHAEL dates from 14th-century Geneva. It has been revised many times along the way. The harmonization by William Henry Monk in our hymnal was first published in Hymns Ancient and Modern in 1861.

718, “God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand”—This, our national hymn, was written for the centennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1876, by the Rev. Daniel Crane Roberts, then Rector of St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church, Brandon, Vermont. Fr. Roberts sent his text anonymously to the commission revising the Hymnal. The text was accepted and first appeared in the Hymnal in the 1892 edition. George W. Warren composed his majestic tune NATIONAL HYMN for use with this text to be used as a hymn for the centennial of the adoption of the United States Constitution in the Columbia celebration on October 8, 1892, at New York City’s St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church, where he was organist.

July 12

440, “Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word”—The German hymn “Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier” was first published (anonymously) in 1663 under the title “Before the Sermon.” The text alludes to Acts 10:33 where Cornelius tells Peter that “everybody is ready to listen...” The text also has a direct quotation from the Nicene Creed in the second line of stanza 3 and an allusion to part of a Eucharistic Prayer in stanza 1. The tune LIEBSTER JESU was first published in 1664.

690, “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”—This wonderful Welsh hymn, translated into English, first appeared in our hymnal in 1826. It is rich with imagery recalling today’s Old Testament Lesson, Baptism, Resurrection, and Eternal Life. The final stanza from the first English translation by Peter Williams in 1771 reads: “When I pass through the Jordan, cruel death in full force, You Yourself went through it first, why should I fear any more? Victory! Make me to shout it aloud in the flood.” The tune CWM RHONDDA was composed for a Baptist Cymanfa Ganu (Singing Festival) in 1903 and was linked to several Welsh hymn texts. Most hymnal editors turned their editorial noses up at this tune until it became very popular in the mid-20th century.

July 19

365, “Come, Thou Almighty King”—The Methodists of the 18th century, partly in reaction against the prevalent rationalistic and unitarian tendencies in the Church of England of the day, and partly as an affirmation of doxological theology, sang many specifically Trinitarian hymns, mostly by the brothers Charles and Samuel Wesley, Jr. This text first appeared in an anonymous tract bound in with the British Library copy of several editions of George Whitefield’s Collection of Hymns for Social Worship (London, 1757). It was simply titled “An Hymn to the Trinity.” The tune MOSCOW was composed specifically for this text by Felice de Giardini, an Italian musician working in London who had close associations with leading Anglican evangelicals. It was first published in Martin Madan’s A Collection of PsalmTunes.
Never Published Before (London, 1769) known as the Lock Hospital Collection since it was used in the Lock Hospital chapel and sold for the benefit of the institution. The unusual poetic meter of this hymn matches that of the tune AMERICA. This text and tune have been paired in our hymnal since the 1871 edition.

Calling All Instrumentalists
While congregational singing may be prohibited for some time, I am looking for ways to vary our Sunday musical offerings. I invite any parishioner who plays an instrument and might like to offer a hymn or solo to please get in touch with me. Additionally, we need at least two more people for our warm and hospitable handbell choir so that we may use all the octaves of bells that we own. [See phot on page 18]

An Update from the Rector Discernment Committee
Grace’s Rector Discernment Committee continues its work searching for the next leader of our church.

In mid-June, the Diocese of Virginia formally approved our Community Ministry Portfolio — our announcement of our open rector position and our statement of who we are at Grace to potentially interested candidates. Our complete portfolio is now live on the website of the national Episcopal Church’s Office of Transition Ministry. Only clergy have access to that website.

We have also announced our opening on the Diocese of Virginia’s website [http://www.thedioocese.net/resources/ministries/jobs-and-transitions/open-positions/] and on the Episcopal News Service’s website [https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/jobs/rector-403/].

The Diocese of Virginia’s manual for the transition process has guided Grace’s Discernment Committee thus far. We thank you for participating in listening sessions and sharing your comments, participating in the survey this spring, and providing us the materials we needed to craft our Community Ministry Portfolio.

Now we will begin reviewing applications and considering candidates for interviews. At this point, the diocese requires complete confidentiality from the committee.

We’ll receive applications through the end of July. We envision that interviews will take place in late summer and early fall. Just as many of you are, we are excited about what the future holds for Grace. We ask for your prayers as we work to discern which candidates’ gifts align with our parish’s needs.

NOTE: The “Job Description” as posted on the Episcopal News Service is shown on page 15
Continuing Social-Emotional Learning at Home this Summer

Grace Episcopal School may officially be on summer break, but this summer is going to be unlike all of the others. Our administrators and teachers will busy themselves, preparing for a lengthy list of possible eventualities that we may face this fall or even throughout the school year. While our families will continue to power through these unusual times with dreams of normalcy, the group we are all thinking most about are our students and children around the world.

This spring led to uncharted territory for us all. Our students’ well-being, both socially and emotionally, has been tested, leaving many families wondering how to best support their children through these summer months. The most obvious change for children is a sudden socialization void in their lives. School offered an almost infinite number of interactions for students each day between time with teachers and classmates, and suddenly they are limited to socializing with their siblings, parents, and potentially a select number of neighbors, family members, or friends. If that wasn’t enough, their interaction opportunities become limited even more with the adults of the house busy taking calls, attending teleconferences, and completing reports all day.

Our Early Childhood Director, Mary Kate Holland, suggests that families create opportunities to interact by playing games: card, board, outside, or sport games act as a simple way to encourage social-emotional development at home. She shares that, “Games offer an excellent opportunity for our students to practice taking turns, sharing, rule following, and problem solving; all skills they would practice throughout the day in the classroom.” Assigned chores or household responsibilities also allow children to feel like they are participating members of the team. Still, children crave interactions with others of their own age, so we encourage families to think creatively in order to offer these interactions. Some of our families have continued to hold class lunch Zooms and Zoom playdates are now the cool thing to do. Creating art and cards for loved ones, neighbors, or special friends is another way to offer interactions with others in a socially distant way. With many camps closed this summer, there are an array of opportunities for children to participate in virtual synchronous activities like an art class or a book club with peers.

The fear of getting COVID-19 seems to the biggest fear we have encountered. Our Early Childhood Director suggests that families talk about COVID-19 in an age appropriate way and give children ways they can feel more in control. Children can practice washing hands, remaining at a safe distance, and wearing masks so as we slowly move back into a more typical world, these safe practices are already a part of their routine. Mary Kate Holland advises that, “Empowering children to take control of these safe practices allows them to feel good about helping others. It also helps to reinforce that they are strong and healthy and will remain strong and healthy by taking part in these routines.”
In addition to missing classmates, teachers and friends, several families have shared that children are also struggling with a less obvious byproduct of COVID-19, anxiety, which presents itself in so many different ways. We encourage our families to practice communicating feelings with their children, not just when the feelings are fresh, but also when natural in conversation. During these discussions, parents might be able to help their children identify what prompts the feelings of anxiety, as well as identify what tools they have for working through these emotions. These can include anything safe and respectful that allows the child to find a place of calm. Our students have practiced different mindfulness strategies at school, like “taking 5” where they trace their fingers, using one hand to move along the fingers on the other hand, breathing in when they go up the finger and out when they go down the finger. They are also encouraged to identify activities that help them feel calm like doing art, running around the playground, or climbing a tree.

Some of our families have also identified that their children are experiencing emotional unrest and confusion surrounding the tension of the Black Lives Matter movement, as they become exposed to some of the anger and deep divisions of social injustice that have come to light in recent weeks. We encourage families to have developmentally appropriate conversations about the importance of social justice, empathy, and inclusion. Listening carefully to their questions will allow parents to gain insight into children’s perceptions of current events, helping to guide further conversation. We suggest parents find ways to empower their children to treat others fairly, through the use of children’s books, videos, and various online resources.

Unfortunately, the challenges we’re currently facing aren’t likely to disappear soon, and it will take time for our nation to heal. School in the fall is going to look very different, even when in-person, and social distancing will be a familiar practice for some time to come. It is essential that we focus on supporting our children, giving them time and room to acclimate to the changes they will find in our School’s “new normal”. We are incredibly proud of the way our community has handled the challenges of distance learning and beyond with grace, and remain committed to helping our students continue to learn and grow into exceptional girls and boys.

Sasha Karamyshev was presented her diploma in the rain!! What a wonderful group of teachers to create a meaningful event in the midst of lockdown. Congratulations Sasha!!!
On June 25, 100 VOICE (Virginians Organizing for Inter-Faith Community and Engagement) leaders and several Episcopal bishops including Bishop Goff met with Governor Northam regarding eviction proceedings in Virginia. The state emerged to a lesser Covid lockdown on June 28, and the Landlord and Tenant Courts reopened. The state-wide moratorium on evictions that the governor imposed in March expired. The lockdown put many vulnerable people out of jobs, and behind on rent. Landlords can begin movements to evict tenants. As we learned during the actions over the death of George Floyd there is systemic racism in housing and our economy. These at-large problems contributed to our brown and black brothers and sisters being disproportionately rent-burdened. Now, the effects of the COVID-19 virus and the income lost during the pandemic are putting them in a vice leaving them at risk of eviction and living on the street. Between 600,000 and 1 million renters in Virginia are expected to have trouble paying their rent.

Throughout the lockdown VOICE leadership met several times with the governor and his staff educating them about rent problems in the community. At the latest meeting the governor issued an appeal to General District Court Judges to extend a moratorium on eviction proceedings. The governor also pledged $50 million dollars in rent relief using Federal funds provided to the state through Federal Covid relief legislation. This emergency money is expected to allow the state to implement a Virginia Rent and Mortgage Relief Program. Governor Northam promised to make rent relief a priority in the August General Assembly meeting. It is estimated that $150-$200 million dollars is needed to provide adequate rent relief to tenants throughout the state. The governor paid attention to this issue because of a VOICE-led listening campaign that identified food and housing problems as a number one concern of Virginians. They heard from over 2000 Virginians with your Outreach Committee members providing key thoughts and ideas at our May meeting.

Also attending the governor’s meeting was Attorney General Mark Herring who will send a request to General District courts to extend the eviction moratorium to allow the rent relief program to be implemented. Our elected officials need help in conveying the idea to the courts that the moratorium on evictions should be extended. Your help is needed. VOICE is circulating a petition to the local District Courts that urges the eviction moratorium to continue. Please share and sign the petition HERE (link: https://secure.everyaction.com/NFJY6qSOkOuBfkALruJA) If you have questions or wish to get involved, contact me at Jennifer.Eckel@GraceAlex.org.
I have been a part of Grace Episcopal Church for my entire life. I have always known the soft and wise eye-opening sermons spoken each Sunday, my closest friends that I met through the church’s youth groups, and of course the annual trip to Shrine Mont. I began my spiritual journey as a very young child, with my very earliest memories of the church starting at the elementary school experience here at Grace. I met the community that would surround me for the next chapter of my life and learned what it meant to be a Christian. Shrine Mont has been a major influence on me over the years because it gave us a place to mingle and befriend people for the first time, that and Grace Episcopal Church youth groups is how I developed most of the relationships with my closest friends, something I am lucky to have been a part of. At the turning point of my maturity known as the J2A pilgrimage, I truly understood the strength of the bonds my friends and my church community held as we would spend the next two weeks or so traveling abroad across Italy, a journey I’m sure has changed everyone who experienced it in a way that will stick with them for the rest of our lives. The journey truly was a mind-boggling experience that many of us couldn’t even begin to describe in a proper manner.

Not too long ago a friend from outside the church had said to a few of us “you guys often talk about this pilgrimage you all went on, what was so memorable?” and I believe we all agreed unanimously “The car ride back from the beach” and he responds with “what happened” leading us to say “absolutely nothing”. It was moments like these that made the entire trip special to us. For some context I’ll explain: one of the last few days in Italy our group traveled to the Amalfi coast for the day, stopping in Pompeii, and later onto the beach. It was getting late so we decided to head back to where we were staying in Rome, and one of the sponsors suggested instead of going back to Rome the same way we came, we would take an alternate route, as I would later name “The scenic route” which would take an extra 4 hours of driving, cruising a foot away from a one-hundred-foot drop cliff right above the beautiful town of Positano in what seemed like pitch-black roads and bridges. The majority of the van ride was filled with sleeping, stressful panicking, missing highway turns due to a lack of Italian, deep conversations among us youth, and stopping at convenience stores to solve directional problems. We would eventually get to the hostel around 2 or 3 AM and I assume we went straight to sleep. Moments like these which seemed rather ordinary at the time eventually seemed to be a rather extraordinary moment that impacted many of the people in that convoy. An extraordinarily ordinary moment.

Being a part of these church experiences have always been a constant which has shaped me into the person I am today, within the next year moments like these will soon become a rarity in my life as I leave to pursue my studies. Although saddened, I am delighted to have been able to have these experiences many people in the world search their entire lives for and am filled with encouragement by my family and close friends to continue on with my education. As next year follows with no interruptions, I plan on studying Anthropology and continuing my 11th year of playing rugby. I am overwhelmed with gratitude toward my church and the opportunities that it has given me for my future and will never forget my humbling origins.
While I missed my high school years here, so much of who I am today started at Grace Church. My first memories are from singing high up in the choir loft with the St. Nicholas choir, which was, of course, named after me. My best memories are from J2A, where we would sit in that tiny, claustrophobic room and just talk about stuff. Howell was such a strong presence, both in these meetings and then in the pilgrimage. I felt like I was on a journey with the kids I grew up with. A spiritual experience that was impactful in many ways. These were experiences I will always remember and friendships that I will always have. I plan on studying Musical Theater at the University of Cincinnati College of Conservatory Music.
Dear Grace Family,

It is with a very grateful heart that I write two simple words that don’t nearly do justice to the love you have shown me in the last month: thank you.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the
- Personal and heartfelt notes
- Hand drawn cards from so many children
- My neighborhood drive by and the church parking lot drive by (which turned out to be a spontaneous park and get out of your car moment)
- All the Coffee Hour love
- Phone calls
- Emails
- My “purse” filled with all kinds of goodies that also contained the
- “OH MY GOSH ARE YOU KIDDING ME” purse that so many of you so generously contributed
- Memories upon memories of an incredible four years

Grace is a special church. I have said this many times before. And while I will miss you all terribly, the strength of the parish lies with the people. The love I have felt is beyond measure and I have now become a Grace missioner – quite literally – with the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. Thank you, thank you, for welcoming me and my family into the Grace community. We won’t be strangers and until we meet again, may God’s peace and love fill your hearts with everlasting joy.

Love,

Jenni
One of the highlights of our digital farewell to Jenni was the perforance by Richard and his ianceé, Sarah Zeglevski

Grace Episcopal Church seeks a rector to shepherd the parish as we strive to follow the Gospel imperative to love and serve Christ in all persons. Founded in 1855 and located just outside Washington DC, Grace is a diverse, welcoming, Eucharistically-centered parish that deeply values the Episcopal liturgy. Sunday worship ranges from Rite II said services to “high-church” Rite I Choral Eucharists to our Spanish “La Gracia” service. Multiple opportunities for corporate worship occur during the week. Beyond our walls, we aim to serve our neighbors, community, and the wider church. Grace operates a vital food pantry, commissions youth and adults for regular mission trips to rebuild devastated communities throughout the country, and sponsors programming and outreach in our local community as well as Haiti and Tanzania. As a church community, we also value fellowship and fun. The vitality of the parish is apparent in the wide range of youth programming Grace offers, including the Journey to Adulthood program for middle and high-schoolers, robust Christian education for younger children, a boys and girls choir that follows the Royal School of Church Music curriculum, and a strong youth acolyte corps. We share our campus with Grace Episcopal School, an independent partner of the church that provides accredited PreK-Grade 5 education.

Grace seeks an inspirational, thought-provoking preacher with love for Episcopal liturgy, a pastor with a gift for building community, and a collaborative leader with strong staff-management skills. Salary and benefits are competitive and adhere to the Diocese of Virginia’s guidelines.

Grace Notes July/August 2020 Page 15
I collect prayer books. Most of them are various editions of the Book of Common Prayer from several Anglican provinces – New Zealand to Canada – and a few rare original copies, such as the 1789 American BCP. I also have supplemental Anglican prayer books such as St. Augustine’s Prayer Book and The Practice of Religion, as well as worship books from other Christian traditions, including Eastern Orthodox, Methodist, Presbyterian, Moravian, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic.

I recently came across a book titled St. Gregory’s Prayer Book, which I took to be another supplemental Anglican Book. The order for Mass seemed to be directly from Rite I of the 1979 BCP, beginning with the Collect for Purity, on through the General Confession and absolution and the Prayer of Humble Access (1928 version) and the Thanksgiving after communion.

But, it turns out this is not an Anglican book. Rather it is a prayer book for the three Roman Catholic Ordinariates in North America, Great Britain, and Oceana (New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and the South Seas). The Ordinariates, established by Pope Benedict in 2009, are essentially large geographical dioceses established to give Anglicans and Episcopalians who seek unity with Rome a home while allowing them to retain much of their Anglican patrimony, including a married priesthood. They are somewhat akin to the Eastern Uniate churches that use Eastern Orthodox liturgies and polity but are in communion with Rome.

What struck me reading through this prayer book is the impact the Book of Common Prayer continues to have throughout the English-speaking world. Pick up a copy of the worship books of the Presbyterian, Methodist, or other churches and you will find language lifted directly from the BCP. And to take a more distant example, those married in a secular Las Vegas wedding chapel are just as likely to promise “to have and hold, for better for worse, for richer and poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish” as they would if joined in a parish church.

There are an estimated 2.3 billion Christians, of which 50% or more are in English-speaking countries. Of these, there are fewer than 2 million Episcopalians in the United States and perhaps 70 million Anglicans around the world, a small percentage of the world’s Christian population. Yet the influence of words of worship penned by Thomas Cranmer nearly 500 years ago still resonate with millions more. It appears that even the Roman Church, which burned Cranmer at the stake in 1556, is now prepared to recognize his genius.

Thomas Stillwell Schott
Thoma Schott died at age 72 on May 21, 2020. He was born and raised in New York City, attended Stuyvants Hight School, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Trinity College. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and returned home to complete his Juris Doctor degree at the University of Virginia Law School. He retired from a career in printing with RR Donnelley formerly Bowne. He was predeceased by his wife Patty, and is survived by two children and two grandchildren. He possessed an ever curious mind on politics, religion, and sports.
Lots of Helping Hands: Thank You Food Pantry Volunteers!

As the COVID-19 crisis extends into the summer, the Grace Church Food Pantry (GCFP) continues to serve between 350 to 400 families each week. What was a small pantry operating out of a large closet off the Church Office lobby (staffed by about 30 Volunteers) has grown proportionally to meet this great need.

GCFP wouldn’t be able to operate at this current level without the following dedicated Volunteers: Jennifer Pease (Vestry Mission & Outreach Chair) and Judy Willard (non-Vestry Mission & Outreach Chair) partner to run Food Pantry operations.

Jen focuses on the ground support at the church, working with Volunteers, GCFP Partners, and other donors to support day-to-day operations. In addition to serving clients that come to the church, food and other supplies are distributed weekly to special families in collaboration with our Sexton Pedro Hernandez, former La Gracia interim minister Father Pedro, and Tenants and Workers.

Judy manages Food Pantry orders, including Capital Area Food Bank deliveries and reporting and other bulk purchasing. She also works with “Power Shoppers” on special orders and manages the volunteer schedule on LotsaHelpingHands.com (LHH).

Paul Bellantoni configured and administers the online volunteer site LotsaHelpingHands that provides scheduling and communication capabilities. (illustrated in figure at right). Paul’s outreach and continued management of volunteer requests has assisted in creating a pool of over 130 volunteers.

All of this would not be possible without our army of amazing volunteers!

“Power Volunteers” Kristine Hess, Lynn Rohrs, Jennifer Eckel, Chrissie Crosby, Lorna Worley, Ann Berry, Alison Campbell, and Eleanor Reed manage distribution, unloading, and bagging shifts.

“Super Shoppers” Vaile Vest, Priscilla Zeigler, and Erin and Bobby White visit discount stores weekly to find the best deals on select food items, other supplies, and fresh produce.

In addition, each shift is supported by many dedicated volunteers, who generously share their time and talent, both onsite at the Food Pantry and at home purchasing and bagging individual packages of diapers and toiletries. Our mission to feed and help our less-fortunate neighbors would not be possible without the continued support of our many volunteers and GCFP Partners. Stay tuned for updates and featured stories in future issues of Grace Notes!

NOTE: Volunteer safety is paramount! Each shift on the LotsaHelpingHands calendar is limited to a specific number of volunteers to maintain social distancing guidelines. All volunteers wear masks and gloves. Unscheduled assistance is not permitted to ensure the safety of volunteers and others working at the church.
More Grace at Home

The Rushings in Nashville TN

The Clines and Grandparents Wolff

Home schooling
In honor of Memorial Day, we commemorated Grace Church members and former members who have served in the Armed Forces. During the 24 and 31 May online forums we read aloud the names of active duty, retired, veteran, and deceased service members, followed by specific remembrances and photos of several well-known parishioners. More than 40 families participated in each forum, and many contributed more personal memories. Evan Robinson, Jean Reed, John Berry, Frank Waskowicz, Jonathan Doelp, and Jay Legere compiled and presented the lists, remembrances, specific stories, and photos – greatly assisted by input and suggestions from other members of the parish, particularly those with good memories!

Active Duty Service Members:
CPT Marta Conway (Chaplain), USA
LT Claire Eudy, USN
SSgt Chip Fowler, USAF
MAJ Jeff Killian, USA
LTG Benjamin Kong, USNR
CAPT Chris Slattery, USN
CAPT Julia Slattery, USN
A1C Nicholas Smoot, USAF
Col Blair Sokol, USMCA1
RADM Trey Whitworth, USN

Veteran and Retired Service Members:
Capt Vance Allen, USAF
LT Sam Baker, USN
LCDR Edgar Bates, USN
CDR Paul Bellantoni, USN (ret)
1LT Brad Bergmann, USA
COL John Berry, USA (ret)
Col Bob Blunden, USAF (ret)
Capt Jeff Chiow, USMC
MAJ Mike Cluff
MAJ Eric Coulson, USA
Capt Cindy Diehl, USAF
CPT Chuck Dodd, USA
Lt Col Jonathan Doelp, USAF (ret)
SFC Joe Donovan, USA
MAJ Bob Driscoll, USA
LTC Bill Ervin, USA (ret)
CAPT Chip Fowler, USAF (ret)
HMC Michael Guy (Reverend), USN (ret)
CPT Nora Lee Henderson, USA
CAPT Paul Hanley, USAF (ret)
LTC Phil Hickok, USA (ret)
Col Reg Jones, USAF (ret)

LT Summer Jones, USN
LT Caroll LeFon, USN
CDR Leland Lewis, USN (ret)
CDR Porter Lewis, USN (ret)
PO Chris Malm, USN
CAPT John Metz, USN (ret)
GM3 Chris Moody, USN
LT Barbara Morris, USN
CAPT Ward Morris, USN (ret)
COL Chuck Mullaly, Jr (Reverend) USA, ret
CDR Susan Nelsen, USN (ret)
LCDR Andrew O. Oberhofer, USN
CAPT Charlie Pease, USN (ret)
CAPT Mark Philbrook, USN (ret)
SSgt Doug Prince, USAF
LCDR Michael Quigley, Navy, USN
COL Chris Reed, USA (ret)
COL Jean Reed, USA (ret)
CAPT Evan Robinson, USN (ret)
LTC John Robinson, USA (ret)
LCDR Julie Rodriguez, USCG (ret)
CAPT Walt Salmon, USN (ret)
CDR John Scudi, USN (ret)
LTC Richard E. Stanford, USA (ret)
CDR Kirk Steffensen, USN (ret)
LT Leslie Steffensen (Reverend), USN
LCDR Easter Thompson, USN (ret)
CDR Richard Thompson, USN (ret)
Sgt Daniel S. Wakefield, USMC
COL Frank Waskowicz, USA (ret)
Lt Col Otto Wolff, USAF (ret)
MAJ Paul Winkel, USA
LTC Ronald K. Wishart, USA (ret)
Lt Heather Wishart-Smith, USN
CDR Howard Wyman III, USN (ret)
CAPT Conway Zeigler, USN (ret)

Deceased Members of the Armed Forces.
CAPT Joseph D. Adkins, USN (ret)
CDR H. Miller Andress, USN (ret)
COL Polk J. Atkinson, USA (ret)
CDR Garland O. Audilet, USN (ret)
LtCol Ross Bailey, USMCA (ret)
CDR Edward B. Baker, USA (ret)
COL Charles Barker, USA (ret)
RADM Fred Baughman, USN (ret)
COL Charles C. Blossom, USA (ret)
BG Albert R. Brownfield, Jr., USA (ret)
Capt Aubie W. Brunson, USMCA (ret)
LCDR Reginald D. Burgert, USN (ret)
MG Frank A. Camm, USA (ret)
CAPT Al Church, USAF (ret)
MAJ Wayne Cofer, USA (ret)
Lt Col Hamilton Coit, USAF (ret)
CAPT William W. Coons, USAF (ret)
COL Key Cowan, USAF (ret)
Col Van Crawford, USAF (ret)
COL John T. Dabinett, USA (ret)
COL Charles Daniel, USA (ret)
COL John Eales, USA (ret)
Lt Col A. C. Elcomb, British Army
COL Robert L. Ely, USA (ret)
COL Frank Engelhardt, USA (ret)
CAPT William Erickson, USN (ret)
COL Bernhard M. Ettensohn, USA (ret)
LTC Joseph Franklin, USAF (ret)
CAPT Charles Gardner, USA (ret)
Betty Jean Lawson

Betty Jean Lawson, a member of Grace Church for 63 years, died at age 96 on Friday, June 12th. Betty Jean or “Miss Betty”, as many called her, had been battling many illnesses over the past year and a half. She fought back after several hospital visits during this time and was living in her home.

Betty Jean was a retired budget analyst for the FAA. After her retirement from the government, she worked at Gunston Hall doing an assortment of jobs, including selling her famous Pepper Jelly; she enjoyed every minute of it. She also loved bowling, the Redskins, President Obama, her mountain house, gardening, camping, and road trips, which she took often.

She was a single parent who gave all that she had for her three children. Betty has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was the matriarch of West Mount Ida Avenue/Sycamore Street and was loved by all. She will be missed, and the neighborhood will never be the same.

In the fall, the family will have a Memorial/Celebration of Life Service here at Grace.
Patience

Patience has never been my strong suit; this is something that my husband Brad will readily confirm. It is especially true when I don’t know how long I have to wait, and even more so when I’m not sure what the result of waiting will be. I don’t mind waiting in line when I count fifteen people ahead of me and I know that when I get to the front of the line, I’ll be able to purchase theater tickets. But I’m impatient and stressed when I’m waiting for the as-yet-unknown result of a medical test or waiting to see if the weather will be good enough to go ahead with an activity I’ve been looking forward to. In Alcoholics Anonymous we describe this as, “I want what I want when I want it!” That’s me.

During this time of COVID-19, we’ve all had our patience stretched almost as far as it will go. We wait to learn if the number of cases in our area is going up or going down. We wait to find out whether a friend we recently spent time with has COVID-19 or just a bad cold. We wait to hear if Virginia will move ahead with another phase of re-opening more places and activities, so that we can finally get a haircut. We wait to hear whether schools will re-open in September with in-person classes, online education only, or a combination. We wait to hear when we’ll finally be able to worship together in person and in community – even if it’s very different from the way we’re used to doing it.

In addition to all this, some of us have additional issues with family, friends, health, or something else that have “added insult to injury.” I certainly have -- a couple of weeks ago I had what Brad and the hospital thought might have been a stroke. Turns out that it wasn’t, but we don’t yet know what it was, and we don’t even know if we’ll ever have a definitive answer. On top of that, I came down with what my doctor says is probably a virus (all tests were negative), and the recovery could be six weeks. It might be shorter, or it might be longer...

One day I decided to look for a prayer about patience that I could say every morning; a prayer that would help me to remember that God’s got my back and will see me through it. There’s at least one in the Book of Common Prayer and I found some others online, but none of them fit what I was looking for, so I went ahead and wrote one. Here it is.

_Dear Lord,_
_I do believe that you want only what is best for the world, for your people, and for me. Please help me to remember that all things will be done in your way and in your time, and not in accordance with my own personal desires. Help me to develop the patience to wait, in faith that your time will indeed come. Grant me the wisdom to recognize when that time has come, and the willingness to act upon it, where and when your Holy Spirit leads me. I humbly ask this in Jesus’ name, AMEN._

Praying this prayer every morning really helps me to get through the day. I’m sharing it with all of you, my Grace Church family, in the hope that maybe somewhere, at some time, it might help you too.
What drew me to Grace Church

I have always been envious of people with an easy faith, a belief system that seems to come to them as naturally and as steadily as a calming summer breeze. My faith has never been quite so assured. I was raised in rural North Carolina, in the Church of God, a Pentecostal pillar in the edifice of hard, hard religion. As a child, Christianity for me never meant a focus on experiencing God through the paradox of Christ’s humanity and divinity in this life, but rather it was a system of strict moral codes one needed to obey in order to wind up in good quarters in the next one. When I became an Episcopalian in graduate school, I found a church whose members live out their faith in this world. Even when my faith doesn’t come so easily, it remains grounded in the love and acceptance I feel from those Christians around me. And that love and acceptance is a constant stream of inspiration for me at Grace Church.

The liturgies we celebrate week after week, month after month, year after year remind me of our commitment to God and to each other. Even after they’ve been said and chanted and prayed and sung so many times that I know them all by memory, there is still new meaning in them every time I hear them when we gather to worship again. And at Grace Church, those liturgies are infused with what our former rector always called “the beauty of holiness,” a beauty that makes them dwell in our minds and become emblazoned on our hearts. The liturgy at Grace always fills me with the mystery at the heart of our Christian faith, a sense of God and Holy Spirit that passes understanding, that I can taste in the sacrament of eucharist, that I can see and smell in the incense as it rises into the rafters like our prayers on their way to heaven. At Grace we worship with all our senses. It is that experience that makes this place so special to me.

Although my husband, Jim Anders, is a cradle Episcopalian, I began coming to Grace in 2009 on my own. Like me, Jim had drifted away from church and hadn’t yet felt the call to return when I felt that need and began searching for a church more than a decade ago now. Since then, Jim has also felt the love and acceptance that abound at Grace, and he is now a member, too. You’ll often see us ushering together, welcoming others into this place that has welcomed us and that we cherish so much.

I live about 30 miles from Grace Church, and there have been moments when I’ve considered finding a place of worship closer to home. But then I realize that Grace is my home, too in the true sense of that word. It is a place I feel nourished and free to grow. It is a place where others accept me as I am, knowing that we’re all at different places in our journey and willing to help out our fellow travelers as we make our way, some sprinting, some hobbling along. It is a place filled with people I love and people that love me. Like so many others right now, I palpably feel the absence of Grace Church in my life. Our ministers have done a wonderful job helping us to get through this pandemic without losing our connection to each other and to the church, but I miss our gathering together in a sacred place to worship God in the beauty of holiness. Like so many others right now, I can’t wait to go home. Well, it’s for all the reasons above, and even more, that we continue at Grace Episcopal Church. It’s the people and the experience and it’s the sense of community and service to others. It’s the memories we have and the memories yet to be made. We love the Grace community and its fellowship. The memories our kids will have as they grow up in Grace will always serve them well in the adventures that await them. And we look forward to growing in our Grace experience.
Last October, David and I went to St. George’s College in Jerusalem to do a study pilgrimage of Art in the Holy Land. This was my third visit to Israel and Palestine, David’s second. The two of us spent ten days in Israel in 1996; I attended a study pilgrimage of the Palestine of Jesus at St. George’s in 2014 with Virginia Theological Seminary, and I also went back this January for St. George’s 100th birthday celebration. (Full disclosure: I serve on the Board of the North American Committee of St. George’s. I freely admit any and all biases. If you want to know about St. George’s College opportunities, we are BOTH happy to share!)

Every trip to this land raises new awareness for me. I feel invited at every turn to contemplate the bigger picture of each place I find myself in, what may have happened there, what has happened there, what brings us to stand there and be part of its history, and what this place and its histories mean to the entire cosmos. A study pilgrimage is not just about walking the walk, it requires the story of Jesus, the story that we know but that sounds much different in that space. No two visits are ever alike. The Holy Spirit makes sure of that.

In October we followed much of Jesus’s life as shown through art found at the various pilgrimage sites. Art is everywhere in Israel. It is in the landscape that morphs from red rock desert in the south, to white rocked hills in the middle to grey rocked sloping sides of glorious mountains in the north. It is in the colorful crowded walkways of the old cities of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and more. It is in the decoration of pilgrimage sites honoring a staggering variety of traditions among Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faith stories. It is in the arches, and columns and arenas and roads of ancient times, still in use today. Art is the walls that speak of the past, divide the present, point to hope for the future.

Sometimes the art is deliberate illustration, such as figures carved into wooden doors or stone capitals, detailing important stories from the Scriptures. In a brand new church in Magdala, on the edge of the Sea of Galilee, a chapel has a wall filled with a huge and beautiful image of the woman with the flow of blood touching Jesus’ robe. This picture needed no introduction; we were all awed into silence by its power.

Sometimes the art is representational, such as the flowering mosaics surrounding the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa mosques. Both of these buildings are breathtaking inside, full of God’s spirit and...
creation in so many colors and geometric patterns. Muslim art does not show human figures, so it relies on designs and motifs, very different from most of the Christian and Jewish art.

Sometimes art is showing how artists today reinterpret the ancient stories. One sculpture of Mary meeting Elizabeth, belly to belly, is at Ein Kerem where Mary went to stay with Elizabeth. Every mother who sees it comments on its power. In Nazareth, outside the Basilica of the Annunciation (which itself contains artistic representations of Mary from almost every nation in the world) stands an almost life-sized statue of the Annunciation. A friend who lived in South Africa said that the figures look like they are San people, the Bushmen of Namibia, tall, angular, very slim. The positioning of Mary, not quite looking at the angel, and the openness of the angel’s invitation are compelling to me. I am drawn to their gazes and gestures illustrating how God works in our lives.

Sometimes art is unexpected. The graffiti on the wall that separates Palestine from Israel reflects current turmoil and asks hard questions. It raises a strong concern that the land of the Holy One, the land where God walked as human to bring us to a closer relationship, that land is being divided, parcelled into mine and yours, with the ever-present prospect of grabbing more for me by taking what is yours. (When you travel with Palestinian drivers, eat Palestinian food, stay in the eastern part of Jerusalem with Palestinian staff and have to get through checkpoints in the wall to go to many of the Christian pilgrimage sites, you feel the Palestinians’ pain.)

Lastly, the art of the Holy Land inspires prayer. You might think being in this land would feel like walking prayer and sometimes you would be right. At the Sea of Galilee it is easy to picture Jesus and the crowds and the boats and how they all interacted. But walking through the crowded streets of the old cities you are bombarded with images, smells, and sounds that can overwhelm. Even while you try to imagine our Lord and Savior in this place, prayer can feel hard. I light a lot of candles in the churches because that one act slows me down, gives me time to breathe, to reflect, to look hard at the art and get lost in it until it begins to speak to me. Then the prayer fills me, my conversation with the creator of all this amazing space and art.

I am always ready to go again once the state opens up for tourists. Until that time, David and I live vicariously through our friends who live there and are once again traveling the land of Jesus and posting about their adventures. Please, ask us anything. We can always go into more detail!
July Birthdays

July 1   Helen Sweeney
July 2   Sherryl Dodd
July 4   Kathryn Jones
July 5   Summer Jones
July 6   Isabelle Nider
July 7   Keegan Polson
July 7   Lara Whitlow
July 8   Michael Gentry
July 8   Richard McPike
July 9   Diana Kellogg
July 9   Robert Schultz
July 10  Will Barnes
July 10  Kimberly Boome
July 10  Haywood Torrence
July 11  Michael Dawes
July 12  Burrell Driscoll
July 12  Soma Fulwiler
July 12  Greg Hoppe
July 14  Claire Eudy
July 14  Marjean Kaufman
July 15  Evangelina Dobbs
July 15  Charles Hudson
July 15  Erica Jarrett
July 15  Clayton Manley
July 15  Ellen Flanary
July 16  Karlene Kelly
July 16  Emily Reuther
July 16  Christopher Rugaber
July 16  Margaret Skorupski
July 17  Elizabeth Bagley
July 17  Jeannette Litschewski
July 18  Christine Crosby
July 18  Owen Dowell
July 18  John Hall
July 18  David Murphy
July 18  Ruth Schrott
July 18  Celia Schultz
July 18  Sarah Warner
July 19  Cleve Corlett
July 19  Mason Hendricks
July 20  Lauren Feeley
July 20  Callan Henderson
July 20  Ai Hang Wang
July 20  Reba Winstead
July 22  Carl Eckel
July 22  Barry Rosman
July 23  Vance Allen
July 23  Reagan Cline
July 23  BL Moody
July 23  Pat Moore
July 23  Emmet Moore
July 23  Isabell Baltimore
July 24  Christopher Caputo
July 24  Emily Chamorro
July 24  James Haas
July 24  Jack Janeczek
July 24  Michael Jones
July 25  Kai Lin
July 25  Jane Reed
July 26  Jacqueline Acabal Perez
July 26  Eliana Fair
July 28  Annie Eason
July 28  Blake Elder
July 28  Julia McClung
July 28  Avery Meeks
July 28  Jane Weaver
July 30  Christopher Battle
July 30  Melissa Hayduckoh
July 30  Emma Imphong
July 30  Larry Wszalek
July 31  Stephanie Reed

August Birthdays

August 1   Joseph Foucart
August 1   Emily Graves
August 2   Colin Enger
August 2   Linda Grimes
August 2   Heather Hurley
August 2   Amy Phillips
August 2   Wendell Thomas
August 2   Julia Zeigler
August 3   Joanne Davis
August 4   Connor Mallon
August 4   Madeline Prosser
August 5   Thomas McElwain
August 5   Michael Ramm
August 7   Benjamin Bates
August 7   Amanda Foster-Baril
August 7   Jesse Galloway
August 7   Jenna Payne
August 8   John Barker
August 8   Diana Jarrett
August 8   Kimberly Reyes
August 8   Robert Schrott
August 9   Erica McFarquhar
August 9   Donald Wills
August 12  Beverly Borgia
August 12  Benjamin Hosek
August 12  Skyler Hunt
August 12  Claire Whitworth

August 12  Peter Schrum
August 13  Paul Winkel III
August 13  Elizabeth Carter
August 15  Arden Faires
August 15  Cynthia Fors
August 15  Erica Lagerson
August 15  William O’Shaughnessy
August 15  Kelsey Reeder
August 15  Matthew Ryder
August 16  Sofia Knowles
August 17  Jonathan Newell
August 18  Matthew Manley
August 18  Isaac Reyes
August 19  Michael Anderson
August 19  Carlos Martinez
August 20  Callan Dubsky
August 20  Pedro Ruel
August 21  Elizabeth S. Anderson
August 21  Sean Groves
August 21  Aidan Smith
August 21  Frank Waskowicz
August 22  Aidan White
August 22  Virginia Griffin
August 22  Melba Moran
August 22  Katharine Nider
August 23  Keith Giacomo
August 24  Heather Murphy
August 25  Neal Anderson
August 25  Jeffery Chiow
August 25  David Hoppe
August 25  Robert Lin
August 25  Francesca Rivella
August 26  Robert Blunden
August 26  Andrew Smith
August 26  Colin Stancil
August 26  Abigail Wells
August 27  George Acres
August 27  Blair Forbes
August 27  Christopher Ricketts
August 26  Glenda Benitez
August 28  David Boris
August 28  Mary Shaver
August 29  Margaret Eckel
August 29  Johanna Moore
August 30  Ella Di Giore
August 30  Stephen Lovell
August 30  Kelly Russell
August 31  Susan Hayduckoh
August 31  Kathleen Paige
August 31  Catalina Velasquez
August 31  Timothy Willard

Grace Notes July/August 2020 Page 25
Parish Staff

Michael Guy ............................................................... Interim Rector
  (interim.rector@gracealex.org)
Jason Roberson ...................................................... Associate Rector
  (assoc.rector@gracealex.org)
Peter Hanke .......................................................... Parish Administrator
  (parish.administrator@gracealex.org)
Chrissie Crosby ...................................................... Interim Coordinator for Parish Life and Family Ministries
  (family.ministries@gracealex.org)
Richard Newman .................................................. Director of Music
  (music.director@gracealex.org)
Patti Culbreth ....................................................... Head of School
  (pculbreth@graceschoolalex.org)
Beth Calaman ...................................................... Financial Administrator
  (bookkeeper@gracealex.org)
Pedro Hernandez ................................................ Sexton

Vestry

Executive Committee
Anne Caputo ....................................................... Senior Warden
Paul Bellantoni ................................................... Junior Warden
Mary Stewart ....................................................... Treasurer
Laura Weidenfeld ................................................ Register
Kemp Williams ................................................ Member at Large

Class of 2020
Khacki Berry ....................................................... Evangelism
Anne Caputo ....................................................... Senior Warden
Stephen Lovell .................................................. Stewardship Co-Chair
Mary Stewart ....................................................... Treasurer
Laura Weidenfeld ................................................ Register
Kemp Williams ................................................ Member at Large

Class of 2021
Paul Bellantoni .................. Junior Warden, Stewardship Co-Chair
  and School Board
Cleve Corlett .................................................... Assistant Treasurer
Diana Jarrett .................................................... Pastoral Care
Jennifer Pease .................................................. Outreach
Kemp Williams ................................................ Member at Large and Worship

Class of 2022
Alison Campbell ....................... Communications and School Board
Ford Chinworth ................................................ Stewardship Co-Chair
Jenny Cline ..................................................... Christian Education Co-Chair
Erin Kelly ....................................................... Christian Education Co-Chair
Stephanie Reed .............................................. Fellowship

Non-Vestry Coordinators
Tracy Enger ....................................................... Education/Youth
Kristine Hesse ................................................ Communications
Michael Jones .................................................. Worship
Cindy MacIntyre ............................................... Evangelism
Mary Toler ....................................................... Pastoral Care
Lynn Rohrs ..................................................... Fellowship
Judy Willard .................................................. Outreach