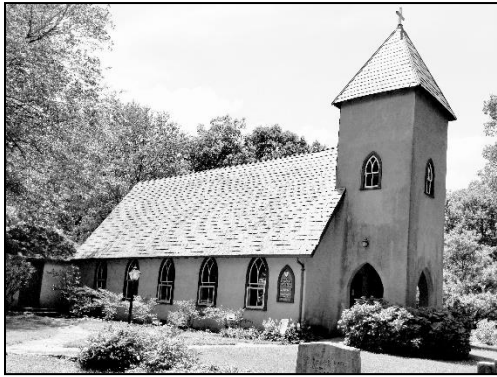


GRACE NOTES MARCH 2020



**Grace Episcopal Church
Grace Church Lane
Casanova, Virginia 22728**

**Rector: The Rev. James H. Cirillo
Telephone: (540) 788-4419**

**gracechurchcasanova@gmail.com e-mail
www.gracechurchcasanova.org website**

Services every Sunday at Grace Church on Route 602 in Casanova at 9:00 AM, followed by coffee fellowship in the Family Center near the church.

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Dear Ones,

The time in which we live is often unsettling. News, TV, radio and internet, portray threats of war, financial instability abroad, danger to our homeland security, both physical and financial and the political infighting that has been going on the past few years. With all this in front of us constantly, folks often live with too much stress, not enough time and a knot in their stomach. The reason we often have too little time is because our society has to come to expect that we can do everything out there and in trying to do so, we run out of time and create more stress and perhaps that knot in the stomach as well. We live into what one author calls "The Tyranny of the Urgent." That tyranny is running from urgent thing to urgent thing while often neglecting the things that are important but which will wait. The question to ask becomes are the urgent things really worth doing?

I read somewhere several years back that many folks in business spend 85% of their time doing things that only represent 15% of their business productivity. Thus, they spend only 15% of their time working on the 85% lions share of productivity. I'm sure you can see what's wrong with that picture. The 15% of productivity (85% of time) is often the urgent stuff that screams at folks to get done but which often is not really very productive when accomplished and the important but not urgent stuff sits there and waits while productivity languishes.

A personal rather than business example of this might be exercise. How important is exercise? Most would agree that it is quite important but how many of us put off doing something in the way of exercise for whatever is the reason du jour. Excuses include: I don't have time; I don't have the energy; I can't afford to belong to a gym. I am as guilty as anyone of this and have used all of these excuses. The energy will come as we consistently exercise but we may have to work through some extra tiredness for a short time. The time spent exercising will soon be made up in feeling better and therefore having more energy and being more productive. Who needs to

spend money to join a gym when we can walk through the beautiful countryside? At some level, the reasons why we don't exercise are the very reasons why we need to exercise.

How much of this do we carry over into the spiritual realm of our lives? The reality for many is that the spiritual realm as a whole is generally important but not urgent so it takes a back seat to the things that scream to get done. How easy it is to put off prayer, the reading of Scripture and even corporate worship for other things. The more we neglect these spiritual exercises, the more out of balance we feel, just as with physical exercise. The more out of balance we feel, the more we react to the things that scream at us to get done. The more we react, the more that knot forms in our stomachs because we feel more out of balance. You get the idea. It's a vicious cycle. Somewhere along the line we have to stop and re-align ourselves with God. We need to listen to and spend time with Him who is important and ignore the urgent things that may still be screaming for attention. We have just such an opportunity at hand. We call it Lent. By the time you read this, Lent will have begun and it will continue through all of this month and into April.

Lent. That time of year when we take a look at ourselves in the light of God's mercy and grace. In the words of the Book of Common Prayer: *"I invite you, therefore, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word..."* I invite you to live more into the important than you do the urgent. I invite you to seek God to bring you peace within since the world around us is not much at peace. The deeper we move into God, the less impact the storms around us tend to have on us.

An example of this reality can be seen in this brief story. "Several years ago, a submarine was being tested and had to remain submerged for many hours. When it returned to the harbor, the captain was asked, "How did the terrible storm last night affect you?" The officer looked at him in surprise and exclaimed, "Storm? We didn't even know there was one!" The sub had been so far beneath the surface that it had reached the area known to sailors as "the cushion of the sea." Although the ocean may be whipped into huge waves by high winds, the waters below are never stirred. This, I believe, is a perfect picture of the peace that comes from Christ's Spirit. The waves of worry, fear and heartbreak have little effect on those resting in Christ. Sheltered by His grace and encouraged by His Spirit, we receive the perfect tranquility that only Christ can provide. To do so, however, takes time away from the urgent, just like taking time for exercise.

Allow me invite and encourage you to take some time, make some time, to ignore the urgent for a while each day and focus on that important aspect within your life called God. He is there waiting for you to spend time with you. It's not urgent so He will wait, though maybe you shouldn't.

Your Sheepdog,
Jim+

March Announcements

Lenten Education Opportunity

We will have our Lenten education program during Adult Education on Sunday mornings again this year during Lent using “The Easter Experience” which we began before Lent. As we have done recently, we will be using a DVD presentation along with a study guide.

Ruritan Dinner

We will host the Ruritans for dinner on Thursday March 12 at 7 pm. If you would like to help with the dinner, please see Penny or Pat and let them know.

Fifth Sunday Café

Our next Fifth Sunday Café will be held on the Sunday March 29th at St. Luke’s, Remington. We will be in their Parish Hall for this, which will begin at 10 a.m. rather than our usual 9 a.m. Please bring your covered dish for the brunch when you come. This will be mid-Lent and we will have Communion that day.

Rector’s Discretionary Fund

Just a periodic reminder about this fund. The loose plate offering (cash) collected on the first Sunday of every month is designated to be used for the Rector’s discretionary fund. Donations may be made at any time by check made out to the church and designated for the Rector’s discretionary fund. It will then be recorded as extra giving and passed on to the rector for this fund. (FYI: This fund remains with the church when the rector departs.)

Spring Dinner – April 18, 2020

Included in this issue of Grace Notes is a list of the committees to assist at the Spring Dinner on April 18 from 5 until 7. If for any reason you are unable to help us out, please contact the person designated as Chair of your committee to let them know. We also ask that each Chairperson contact their committee members to arrange a schedule, especially for servers and table monitors, so one person is not required to serve during the entire dinner.

Hope to see everyone there – and bring your friends and neighbors for an excellent dinner.

GRACE CHURCH WEBSITE: WWW.GRACECHURCHCASANOVA.ORG

Check out the website, there have been some updates! But we still have a little work to do, such as updated pictures from Grace Church events in 2019-2020.

Pictures, questions or other items of interest that you wish to have posted can be sent to the website email address: website@gracechurchcasanova.org or you can contact Kevin Holmes.

AMAZON SMILE FOR GRACE CHURCH

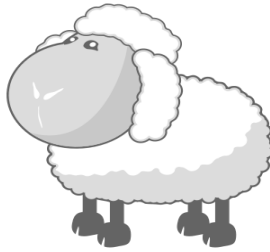
Don't forget to sign up with Amazon Smile to have 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible items given to Grace Church at no cost to you! You can also go to the Grace Church website home page and click on the link there.

*******AmazonSmile Shopping App for Android Users Now Available*******

You can now support Grace in the Amazon shopping app on your Android device! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations to Grace from your Android device.

- * If you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, open the App on your Android device.
- * View Settings and select AmazonSmile.
- * Follow the in-App instructions to complete the process.

AmazonSmile is not currently available for IOS users – we'll let you know when it becomes available.



Feed My Sheep

Our ministry continues with your ongoing support of food donations. St. Andrews and St. Luke's has also partnered with us. We continue to provide food for 70+ families. Each family receives one bag each week and a large supplement of basics and extra treats.

We have a very diverse clientele:

Single parents (Moms and Dads) raising children.

Grandparents raising multiple grandchildren.

Elderly people living on insufficient incomes.

We have one grandmother, who lives in an apartment complex, that we deliver 12 bags/boxes to and she divides it up to help feed 18 families.

Our needs are simple. Canned fruits ; veggies, meats ,cereal, juices and snacks . If you shop at "big box" stores we will be glad to divide it up. Please no gallon size cans. Also please double bag canned / heavy foods. Non perishable requiring minimal preparation are best. Not everyone has the appliances that we are so accustomed to.

Thank you for your continued support in this vital mission.

Carol Grove



Treasurer's Report – January 2020

Income for the month of January was \$10,990.44 (budget \$10,423.75). Expenditures totaled \$10,895.21 (budget \$10,193.42), resulting in income for the month of \$95.33.

There were no obligations due and unpaid at the end of January.

Contributions to and interest earned on our Raise the Roof Fund during the month of January totaled \$204.40. There were no expenditures. The balance in the roof fund account at the end of the month was \$14,966.77

The book value of our endowment fund as of January 31 was \$57,511.98.

Please continue to pray for Grace Church that it will grow spiritually, financially and numerically. If you have any questions about this report or any financial matter, please contact me.

Judy Ball, Treasurer

2020

CALENDAR YEAR

MARCH

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|------------------------|--|----------|--------|--|
| 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 |
| 08 Worship 9 AM The 2nd Sunday in Lent Adult Ed 10 am Jeremy Jacobs ++ Daylight Savings Begins | 09 Open Doors 4-6 | 10 Andrea Warren ++ | 11 Senior Center 12noon | 12 | 13 | 14 Harper Fields ++ Turn your clock forward an hour, tonight! |
| 15 Worship 9 AM The 3rd Sunday in Lent Adult Ed 10 am | 16 Open Doors 4-6 Charlie Dawson ++ | 17 | 18 Senior Center 12 noon Ronnie Shipe ++ | 19 | 20 | 21 Chili Cook Off Grace Parish Hall 6 pm |
| 22 Worship 9 AM The 4th Sunday in Lent Adult Ed 10 am | 23 Open Doors 4-6 | 24 Carol Goshorn ++ | 25 Senior Center 12 noon Vestry 7 PM | 26 | 27 | 28 Stephanie Butler ++ |
| 29 The 5th Sunday in Lent Fifth Sunday Café St Luke's Parish Hall 10 am | 30 Open Doors 4-6 Parker Brumfield ++ | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 |
| 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 |

Birthday **

Anniversary ++

MARCH SERVER SCHEDULE

| DATE 2019 | DAY | LESSONS | LECTOR | ACOLYTE | ALTAR | COFFEE HOUR |
|--------------|---|--|--------|----------|--------------------|------------------|
| 3/1 | The First Sunday in Lent | Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11 | Judy | Bryan | Barbara & Diane | Sharon & Marilyn |
| 3/8 | The Second Sunday in Lent | Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17 | Dale | Judy | Jan | Dale & Sue |
| 3/15 | The Third Sunday in Lent | Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5: 1-11 John 4:5-42 | Betsy | Dale | Betsy | Mary & Penny |
| 3/22 | The Fourth Sunday in Lent | 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41 | Mary | Dale | Tammy | Judy and Barbara |
| 3/29 | The Fifth Sunday in Lent 5 th Sunday Café at St Luke's 10 am | Joel 2:1-2,12-17 or 103.8-14 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 103 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 | | | | |
| 4/5 | The Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday | Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45 | Kevin | Courtney | Mignonne | Mignonne & Dee |
| | | | | | | |



9th ANNUAL

Chili Cook-off to Benefit Rise Against Hunger*

When: 6:00 pm Saturday, March 21, 2020

Where: Grace Church Parish Hall, 5108 Weston Road, Casanova, Virginia

Casanova, Warrenton, and Fauquier County chefs will offer their best chili to be judged and then enjoyed by the community. The menu will also feature salad, corn bread, dessert, and soft drinks. Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Free will donations will be gratefully accepted at the door to help raise funds to support a Rise Against Hunger packaging event. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 to purchase 17,240 meals for children and families in need. The community is invited to the packaging event at the Parish Hall at 9:00 am, Saturday, May 9, 2020.

While Rise Against Hunger is an international relief organization, we also want to serve the hungry in Fauquier County. Please bring a non-perishable item with you on the 21st which we will distribute locally to those in need.

Casanova's Grace Episcopal Church, St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, and members of the Casanova community jointly organize and support the Chili Cook-off. Please contact Cheryl Berry (540) 341-7784 or Beth Monarch (561) 716-5220 for more information.

*Rise Against Hunger gets food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable people, and works to end global hunger. For more information go to <http://www.riseagainsthunger.org>.



ECW SPRING DINNER
Saturday, April 18, 2020 5:00 pm -7:00pm
Penny DePompa-Davis, Pat Williams Co-Chairs

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Jim Cirillo
Mary Neal
Dee Garrett

DECORATING

Mignonne Spellmeyer – C
Diane Gulick

MUSIC

Rick Anderson

ADVERTISING

- 1.Mignonne Spellmeyer – Sandwich Boards
- 2.Dale Cirillo & Marilyn Ottevaere – flyers, magazine, newspapers
- 3.Mary Neal - Facebook
- 4.Kevin Holmes – Website

FOOD SUPPLIES & ICE

Penny DePompa-Davis - C
Jim Cirillo
Dale Cirillo

SETUP

Arrive Friday 3:00pm
Pat Williams - C
Barb Jacobs
Judy Ball
Marilyn Ottevaere
Kevin & Courtney Holmes

MEAT COOKING

Jim Cirillo

PREPARATION &

KITCHEN HELP

Arrive 3:00pm Saturday
Penny DePompa-Davis - C
Pat Williams
Carol Grove
Marilyn Ottevaere
Barbara Eanes

MEAT CARVER

Jim Cirillo

TABLE MONITORS

Judy Ball - C
Mary Neal
Carol Cordell
Carol Grove
Courtney Holmes
Pam Ruffner

SERVERS

Karen Walton - C
Sue Payne
Dee Garrett
Sue Ballentine
Jan Richards
Betsy Anderson
Sharon Sweeney

DISHWASHERS

Marilyn Ottevaere - C
Courtney Holmes
Barbara Eanes

CLEANUP

Dale Cirillo - C

Pat Williams
Kevin Holmes
Judy Ball

50/50 RAFFLE &

CAKE AUCTION

Dale Cirillo
Diane Gulick (Cake)

MENU

Roast Beef
Red Potatoes with Parsley
Green Beans
Salad
Rolls
Pies, Cakes
Iced Tea, Coffee