

GRACE NOTES FEBRUARY 2020



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

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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,

As we come into this month of Valentine's love and many focus on their dearest loved one for a day, let us open ourselves up to the love which God has for us every moment of every day. Not too many days after Valentine's Day, we will enter the season of Lent and begin to look toward Easter. We come to Lent looking for that certain something, that "Lenten discipline" that will help us to grow and learn and change for the better. For some it's giving up something, for others it's taking on something and for some it's both – give one thing up and replace it with something else. Whatever you choose, may it bring good to you and others. I hope that you will reflect on the following words and enact them in your life so that you will grow and learn and change and bring good to others.

"The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers – wider freeways but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families – more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, yet more problems; more medicine, but less wellness. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom..."

You may be surprised to learn that these are the words of one George Carlin – that coarse and sometimes vulgar comedian who also served as a commentator on life in our time. And though he may have been crude, he was often right in his assessment of things. Comedians often are since they tend to be very astute in their understanding of human nature and its inconsistencies. In fact, that's where much of their humor comes from. This particular piece by Carlin, has been floating around the internet for a while. It was apparently written shortly after the death of his wife, which could explain the nature of some of his insights and why they are worthy of reflection.

The best part of what he wrote comes in the second half as he reflects on relationships. We were made for relationships – with other people as well as with God. Yet the busyness of our lives, individually and collectively, often keeps us from really connecting in meaningful ways with

others and seeing the gift we have in them. Until it's too late. With that in mind, Carlin's words become not just a good thought for reflection but very personal. Let his words which follow be a reminder, rather than a painful reminder, to invest in those we love while we can. Who knows when the words just spoken will be the last we ever speak to one we love! So, this Lent (and beyond):

"Remember to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent. Remember to say, 'I love you' to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all 'mean it.' A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside you. Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment, for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak, and give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind. And always remember: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." (George Carlin)

So let us have that special day of celebration of love but let love be something we focus on every day. And let us use this Lent as a time to begin that with others, ourselves and with our God who loves us so much that He gave His life for us.

In the warmth of His love,

Jim+

February Announcements

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Following years of tradition, the men of Grace Church will hold a Pancake Supper from 5:30-7:00 pm on "Fat Tuesday" February 25 in the Parish Hall, 5108 Weston Rd. As always, the community is invited and welcomed to join us. Donations for dinner will be accepted at the door. Come join us for a breakfast-like feast of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes and all the trimmings before we enter the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is Feb 26 and we will hold services with the imposition of ashes at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall and 5:00 pm in the Church.

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.

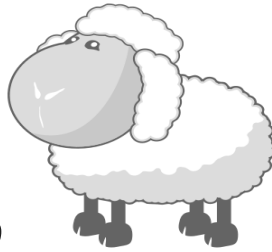
*******AmazonSmile Shopping App for Android Users Now Available*******

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



As we look forward to the upcoming year, we must look back at the many years Grace Church has been a driving force with Feed My Sheep. This past year we have helped provide groceries for 70+ families. With unquestioning commitment, I can rely on the pew being filled with food. Not only the basics but the luxuries for our families. Each of you should feel the joy of knowing you are providing for friends and neighbors. Grace church is not building a taller wall but a longer table.

Here is a list of foods we can always use...

Any canned fruits, juices, veggies, meats, dry cereals, poptarts condiments, puddings, jello.

Donations typically drop off in January and February so it's always good to have **extra** on hand.

If you shop at the big box stores we will be glad to break it down. Please no gallon size cans. If you would prefer to donate cash we will shop for you.

Grace is the one of the largest contributors. Let's keep up the good work.



Thank you, Carol Grove



Treasurer's Report – December 2019

Income for the month of December was \$12,411.47 (budget \$9,350.17). Expenditures totaled \$10,541.02 (budget \$9,350.17), resulting in income for the month of \$1,870.45.

There were no obligations due and unpaid at the end of December

Contributions to and interest earned on our Raise the Roof Fund during the month of November totaled \$79.43. A payment to the Contractor was made in the amount of \$56,701.10, the total balance due less a \$2,500 landscape retention. A \$1,000 check was written to Shiloh Baptist Church to aid in the rebuilding of their Church after it was destroyed by fire. The balance in the roof fund account at the end of the month was \$14,762.37.

The book value of our endowment fund as of December 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

FEBRUARY

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 Worship 9 AM The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple	03 Open Doors 4-6	04	05 Senior Center 12noon	06	07	08 Sew What 9 AM
09 Worship 9 AM The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	10 Open Doors 4-6	11	12 Senior Center 12 noon	13	14 Richard and Betsy Anderson ++	15 Chase Perrault **
16 Worship 9 AM The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany	17 Open Doors 4-6	18	19 Senior Center 12 noon Vestry 7 PM	20	21 Brandon Payne **	22
23 Worship 9 AM The Last Sunday after The Epiphany TJ & Emily Johnson ++ Jessica Warren **	24 Open Doors 4-6	25 Pancake Supper 5:30- 7:00 Parish Hall	26 Ash Wednesday services Parish Hall 10:30 a.m. Church 5:00 p.m. Paige Payne **	27	28	29
01	02	03	04	05	06	07

Birthday **

Anniversary ++

FEBRUARY SERVER SCHEDULE

DATE 2019	DAY	LESSONS	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	ALTAR	COFFEE HOUR
2/2	Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple	Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 84 or 24:7-10 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40	Dale	Judy	Jan	Dale & Sue
2/9	5th Sunday after Epiphany	Isaiah 58: 1-9a, (9b-12) Psalm 112: 1-9 (10) 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 Matthew 5:13-20	Betsy	Dale	Betsy	Mary & Penny
2/16	6th Sunday after Epiphany	Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 or Sirach 15: 15-20 Psalm 119: 15-20 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5: 21-37	Mary	Judy	Mignonne	Mignonne & Dee
2/23	The Last Sunday after Epiphany	Exodus 24: 12-18 Psalm 2 or 99 2 Peter 1: 16-21 Matthew 17: 1-9	Kevin	Dale	Tammy	Judy & Barbara
2/26	Ash Wednesday	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	Mary	-	-	-
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