

**Grace Episcopal Church**

**Grace Church Lane**

 **Casanova, Virginia 22728**

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

🙠 **A Re-Gathering of Grace** 🙣 **• Services will be performed outdoors, in the Church yard
• All participants will be required to wear face masks/face coverings while on church property
• Everyone shall maintain separation of 6 ft. NOTE: members of the same household can be seated closer together.
• All participants shall provide their own chairs
• Hand sanitizer will be provided.
• Services will be either Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. If Holy Eucharist is performed, the Communion will be performed WITHOUT the distribution of the Elements
• No Hymns will be sung. Certain Service elements will be said rather than sung
• No food shall be served during or after the service (Coffee Hour)
• Gathering and conversing on Church grounds after the service IS allowed however, masks will still be required, social distancing will be maintained and physical contact is to be avoided (ie: hugging)**

We are happy to announce that plans to re-gather at Grace have been submitted and approved by the Diocese. We began worshipping again on June 28th, 2020. The following list shows the guidelines we are adhering to each Sunday. So far, weather has cooperated; Praise God! Please join us.

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 **A Word from Bishop Susan**

**A Sower Went Out to Sow**

**A Meditation for the Sixth Week After Pentecost**

This season, I never went out and sowed or planted a thing in our city yard. Between Covid-19 and my continuing cancer treatment, I haven’t gotten to the nursery or the box store to pick up my usual annual supply of marigolds and impatiens and salvia. I never did till the soil and sow the seeds that would add a rich variety of color to the lush greenness of the garden. And yet, there is color and texture and wonder. The perennials that have been there for a decade multiplied many times over this year. Native plants have had their way, including some I’d never seen before. The purples and yellows and oranges of flowers that have grown on their own, without my planting or planning or intervening, fill my spirit with thanksgiving. I never went out to sow any seeds, and yet they grew.

The seeds that I have tried to be intentional about sowing this season are of a different kind. They are named in the prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi. Where there is hatred, let me sow love with wild abandon. Let me toss seeds of love far and wide, not knowing where they will land or where they might take root. Let me just fling them out as if there is an endless supply - because in Christ Jesus, there is.

Where there is injury, let me scatter seeds of pardon. Whether I caused the injury or not, let me sling forgiveness far and wide.

Where there is discord, let me hurl harmony. Because I don’t have all that much harmony of my own, let it be God’s oneness that I broadcast to the world.

Where there is doubt, let me pitch seeds and signs of faith.

Where there is despair, let me grab hold of hope in Christ and pour it into the world with reckless unrestraint.

Where there is darkness, in every place of shadows, let me launch a healing salve of light.

Where there is sadness, let me juggle joy until it falls to the ground and bounces up again alive and full and good.

Let me strew seeds and signs of God’s gifts everywhere. Let me scatter and litter the world with them. Because if the flowers in my garden grow even when I don’t sow them, how much more will God’s gifts of hope and light and love and joy take root when I do scatter them far and wide?

Lord, you have made us instruments of your peace. Use us in ways simple and profound to scatter and sow the wonders of your grace. Then bless those wonders so that they may take root in this world that is so in need of your healing, life-giving presence. Amen.

**Updates from Bishop Susan**

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| **226th Annual Diocesan Convention Moves Online**Our Annual Diocesan Convention, originally scheduled for November 12-14, 2020 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington is moving online. Anticipating that it will not be safe or wise, due to the novel Coronavirus, to gather over 600 people in a hotel ballroom across three days this fall, we will hold a one-day virtual Convention instead. The date is Saturday, November 14. Your Diocesan Staff, the Bishops, the Executive Board and Chancellor are working together to plan a stimulating Convention experience that meets canonical requirements and allows us to be in community with each other even when we are practicing distancing. Our staff will also provide technical guidance to those who can’t easily access online platforms. Details will be sent to you in the early fall. In the meantime, I invite lay delegates and all clergy to reserve November 14, 2020, on your calendar for the 226th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia.    **Fall Clergy/Spouse/Lay Professionals Conference Moves Online** The Fall Conference, originally scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, October 19-21, is also moving online, anticipating that a large gathering at Shrine Mont on those dates will not be safe or wise. The three Bishops of Virginia will offer teachings and reflections on our three diocesan priorities - reconciliation across differences, creation care and evangelism. The sessions will take place via ZOOM on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, October 20 and 21. You will receive more details soon. In the meantime, I invite clergy, lay professionals and spouses to reserve those mornings on your calendar. *Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us in the Diocese of Virginia as we plan to gather virtually in the fall for Convention and Conference. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**(Collect for a Church Convention, adapted).* |

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**SR WARDEN’S NOTES**

This has been quite the year for being the Sr Warden on our Vestry. First Jim announces his retirement, then the COVID-19 outbreak and now trying to get back to having some type of

services in spite of the restrictions that we have to deal with. So, here’s a few items for update:

* We will continue to have Sunday morning services at 10 am each Sunday in the church yard (weather permitting). Please continue to follow the guidelines and wear a face

mask, bring a chair and if you have a copy of the Book of Common Prayer.

* We now have a Search Committee for Grace. Mary Neal, Judy Ball & Pat Williams have volunteered for this service. We are awaiting word from St. Luke’s on members from their congregation.
* As no one is currently living on the church property, we need volunteers to go by and check the buildings (Church, Redlands & Family Center) every day or so. If interested

you can contact me via voice or text at 540-222-0355.

* Looking forward to getting back in the church building and being able to celebrate communion again, we are in need of acolytes and lay readers. Over the last few months we have lost 2 acolytes and three lay readers. If interested, give me

a call and I’ll see about getting instruction scheduled.

* In the middle of July, it’s a little hard to think about the Annual Meeting, but it will be upon us before we know it and we will be needing candidates to fill open slots on Vestry. Two 3 year terms and one unexpired 2 year term. Please think about serving and contact one of the Vestry members.

Thanks

**Bryan**

**TREASURER’S REPORT –JUNE 2020**

Income for the month of June was $9,411.46 (budget $10,423.75). Expenditures totaled $4,520.62 (budget $10,193.42), resulting in income for the month of $4,890.84

Interest earned on our Raise the Roof Fund during the month of April was $0.15. The final payment to TYL of $2,500.00 was made in June. The balance in the roof fund account at the end of the month was $12,474.27

The book value of our endowment fund as of May 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

**CHANGES**

Sadly, we have accepted the resignations of Kevin and Courtney Holmes. We will miss these kind, loving Christians and the energy they brought in sharing God’s Word. Kevin was our webmaster and he was excellent! Would anyone be interested in taking on the webpage? If so, please contact our Senior Warden, Bryan Jacobs, voice or text at 540-222-0355. Courtney graciously accepted the role of Vestry Register and Grace Notes Editor and Publisher. Her roles have been assumed by Mary Neal, but if interested in performing one of those roles, please contact Bryan.

**FEED MY SHEEP**

A big thanks to everyone for their continued generous donations. We are providing for 70+ families that are local. Seventeen are families that have been displaced because of the COVID-19 pandemic.   We continue to need non- perishables. I’m removing the “cash envelope” from the back pew. We are more than happy to accept cash/checks and will do the shopping. Please send cash/ checks made out to me, Carol Grove, at 3227 Midland Rd., Midland, VA 22728.

Blessings for a healthy remainder of the Summer,
Carol Grove

**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.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries for July and August**

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| Ricky Perreault | 3-Jul |
| Jim & Dale Cirillo | 7-Jul |
| Owen Fields | 10-Jul |
| Pat Warren | 12-Jul |
| Tommy Perreault | 23-Jul |
| Greg Huddleston | 26-Jul |
| Barbara Jacobs | 29-Jul |
| Pat Williams | 30-Jul |
| Jack Perry | 31-Jul |
| Travis Fields | 3-Aug |
| Ansel & Melba Hendrix | 3-Aug |
| Emily Jacobs Johnson | 3-Aug |
| Art and Sue Payne | 7-Aug |
| Josh Warren | 7-Aug |
| Jeannette Cerv | 11-Aug |
| Marilyn Ottevaere | 14-Aug |
| Mildred Riddell | 15-Aug |
| Mary Neal | 16-Aug |
| Jeff Shipe | 17-Aug |
| Wesley Moline | 18-Aug |
| Bob Brewer | 20-Aug |
| Doris Pearson | 20-Aug |
| Dale Cirillo | 28-Aug |
| Nathan Butler | 31-Aug |
| Ancel Hendrix | 31-Aug |

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**AUGUST SCHEDULE READINGS**

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|  DATE 2020  |  DAY   |  LESSONS  | LAY READER |
|  8/2   |  Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  | Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7Romans 9:1-5Matthew 14:13-21 | Dee Garrett |
|  8/9  |  Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  | Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45bRomans 10:5-15Matthew 14:22-23 | Mary Neal |
| 8/16 |  Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  | Genesis 45:1-15Psalm 133Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28 | Judy Ball |
|  8/23  |  Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  | Exodus 1:8-2:10Psalm 124Romans 12:1-8Matthew 16:13-20 | Dee Garrett |
| 8/30 |  Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  | Exodus 3:1-15Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45bRomans 12:9-21Matthew 16:21-28 | Mary Neal |

 **MORE CHANGES FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE CASANOVA HUNT**