**Grace Episcopal Church**

**5096 Grace Church Lane**

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a WORD FROM THE MINISTER

My sisters and brothers, I greet you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the ✠ Holy Spirit.

Happy New Year! The church year always begins with the first Sunday in Advent which this year was November 27th. We follow a three-year lectionary cycle signified as A year, B year, and C year. We have just completed the C year and now begin A year. Each of these years has a primary gospel. Year A is St. Matthew, year B is St. Mark, and year C is St. Luke. St. John is integrated in all three years.

Advent means “to come.” It is a solemn season of preparation and reflection. Our vigilance is on the coming of Jesus Christ. In the Advent season we do not sing the Hymn of Praise. We do not conduct weddings, or Baptisms. The exception is if there is an emergent need to do so. During this time of the year, the days are short and the darkness comes early. This dusk can have a dark blue, purple look. The color of the Advent season is blue or purple. In keeping with this season of preparation and reflection, consider adding a new devotional discipline to your daily schedule.

Christmass is not misspelled. It was to designate Christ Mass which became Christmas. We leave the solemn season of Advent and enter the festival season of the birth of Jesus Christ. Those carols we did not sing in Advent now ring with loud enthusiastic proclamation. Do not let Madison Ave. fool you. Christmas is not one day but a twelve-day festival. Christmas is from December 25th to January 6th. See the gift that God has given us. It is not just a one-day gift, but an everyday gift. Please join us for this great celebration of Jesus’ birth. On December 24 beginning 4:30 pm we will celebrate at Grace and 7:00 pm we will celebrate at St. Luke. On December 25 we will celebrate the birth of Jesus at St. Luke beginning 10:00 am. This is a joint service with Grace and St. Luke. Please join us as we give thanks for the greatest gift, Jesus Christ.

On January 1, 2023, we will celebrate **The Name of Jesus.**  This is a joint service that will be celebrated at Grace Episcopal starting at 10:00 am.

We have been given the greatest gift one could ever receive; it is the gift of life. This gift was made possible by God, given because he loves us. This is not hard to understand because God is Love. Let us share this gift of love with each other.

A blessed Christmas and a blessed New Year to you!

The peace of the Lord is always with us,

Fr. Michael B. Guy Sr.,S.T.S.✠

SR WARDEN’S NOTES

Dear Grace Family,

As you read this you will likely be celebrating the Savior’s birth and preparing to ring in 2023. The New Year always brings about new happenings and anticipation for what is to come!

A new Sr. Warden will be elected at the next Vestry meeting. Prior to that meeting, Grace will hold its Annual Congregational meeting where two Vestry members will depart and two will join the Vestry. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Annual Meeting on **January 15, 2023**. Thank you to Betsy Anderson who completed a one-year term that had previously been vacated.

My term, covering another previously vacated position, ran for two-years during which time I was also Sr. Warden. I so appreciate all of the hard work of the Vestry members and all of you who step up to make Grace the sweetest little church in Fauquier. I pray for good things to come to Grace and that God’s Spirit will permeate every part of it.

Thank you for supporting me as Sr. Warden and for being my sounding board and aid through the last two years. Your generosity in allowing me to rent Redlands for two months while searching for another house is a cherished memory that I shall never forget.

Happy New Year!

Blessings and love,

**Mary Neal**

Sr. Warden

Annual Congregational Meeting DETAILS: Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 15, 2023, in the Family Center immediately following the church service. The Vestry has elected to have a **Potluck Lunch** before/during the meeting; therefore, St. Luke’s has agreed to trade service times with us that day. **Grace Church will hold its service at 11:00AM** and St. Luke’s will hold its service at 9:00AM. So, bring a dish to share and prepare to meet around 12 noon on January 15, 2023, at the Family Center.

TREASURER’S REPORT – **November 2022 data**

Income for the month of November was $9,513.45 (budget $8,464.00); expenditures totaled $6,650.10 (budget $8,464.00), resulting in income for the month of $2,863.35.

The book value of our endowment fund is $62,847.24; market value as of October 31 is $61,073.51, a gain for the month of $360.57. The report for November is not yet available.

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.

FEED MY SHEEP (FMS)



**Feed My Sheep**

**Many thanks for all of your generous contributions!**

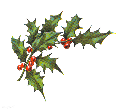
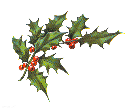
“How can I contribute to “Feed My Sheep?” you ask?

**Cash can be put in the collection plate in an envelope. Checks should be made out to Grace Church with a notation FMS and sent to Judy Ball or Grace Episcopal Church, PO Box 18, Casanova, VA 20139.**

**Gods Peace,** Carol Grove 😇

THANK YOU, GRACE ! 





THANK YOU for your generosity

All of your beautiful gifts for our adopted family were dropped off at Vint Hill's Transitional Housing Office on December 7th.  The program's coordinator was so grateful.  I'm sure that our contribution will make one family very happy on Christmas Day.

Thank you,

Mignonne

Birthdays for January

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Richard and Carol Payne | Jan 3 |
| Shannon Perreault | Jan 4 |
| Brandon Dawson | Jan 11 |
| Stacey Yacoub | Jan 11 |
| Louie Warren | Jan 11 |
| Richard Payne | Jan 12 |
| Judy Ball | Jan 13 |
| Will Shipe | Jan 21 |
| Deborah O’Meara | Jan 30 |

Weekly events

* **Yoga** at Grace Parish Hall on **Tuesdays at 4PM and Fridays at 10AM**.
* **Sew What?** and any other creative tasks you would like to bring will be held at ***St. Luke’s Parish Hall in Remington*** this month on **January 14th** from 9:30 to 12:30.
* **The Center lunch** is held each **Wednesday at noon**, Grace Parish Hall. Bring a dish to share!

**January Serving Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Readings** | **Altar/ Flowers** | **Assistant** | **Offertory Presenter** | **Coffee Host** |
| [**New Year's Day**](https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=57) **January 1, 2023** | **Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Psalm 8**  **Revelation 21:1-6a**  **Matthew 25:31-46**  **OR**  **Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8**  **Galatians 4:4-7 or**  **Philippians 2:5-11**  **Luke 2:15-21** | **Betsy Anderson/ Diane Gulick** | **Diana & Howard Charnock** | **Sue Ballentine** | **Sharon Sweeney** |
| **First Sunday after the Epiphany**  **January 8, 2023** | **Isaiah 42:1-9**  **Psalm 29**  **Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17** | **Barbara Jacobs/ Mignonne Spellmeyer** | **Bryan Jacobs** | **Susan Payne** | **Sue Ballentine** |
| [**Second Sunday after the Epiphany**](https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=14) **January 15, 2023** | **Isaiah 49:1-7**  **Psalm 40:1-11**  **1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42** | **Carol Cordell/ Sharon Sweeney** | **Michael Calhoun & Sharon Sweeney** | **Barbara Jacobs** | **Joy Goodenough** |
| [**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**](https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=15) **January 22, 2023** | **Isaiah 9:1-4**  **Psalm 27:1, 4-9**  **1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23** | **Betsy Anderson/ Mignonne Spellmeyer** | **Betsy Anderson** | **Howard Charnock** | **Barbara Eanes** |
| **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**  **January 29, 2023** | **Micah 6:1-8**  **Psalm 15**  **1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12** | **Barbara Jacobs/ Sharon Sweeney** | **Judy Ball** | **Betsy Anderson** | **Marilyn Ottevaere** |

https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu (Year A)

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.

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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.

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* 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.