**Grace Church Lane**

**Grace Episcopal Church**

**Casanova, Virginia 22728**

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**One Solitary Life**

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher.

He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself...

While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves. While He was dying His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth – His coat. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen long centuries have come and gone, and today He is a centerpiece of the human race and leader of the column of progress.

I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that were ever built; all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life.

*This essay was adapted from a sermon by Dr James Allan Francis in “The Real Jesus and Other Sermons” © 1926 by the Judson Press of Philadelphia (pp 123-124 titled “Arise Sir Knight!”). If you are interested, you can read*[*the original version*](http://www.anointedlinks.com/one_solitary_life_original.html)*.*



**AN UPDATE FROM YOUR DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE**

As explained in our monthly update, we’d like to keep you informed as we continue to work toward the goal of finding a new “sheepdog.” The normative process for transition is:

1. Vestry converse with Diocese Transition Ministry Office
2. All say goodbye to departing priest
3. Vestry call an interim priest (see Senior Warden’s Report)

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1. Vestry call a Search Committee (referred to by the Diocese as a Discernment Committee (DC))
2. DC perform self-study of the seeking church with input from all
3. Publish a Vestry- and Bishop-approved Community Ministry Portfolio (overview of Grace church) *[published for 8 weeks]*
4. Improve church website, where needed, and keep updated for the benefit of potential candidates
5. DC receive names and select a finalist, based on Office of Transition Ministry vetting *[posting will remain open for 8 weeks]*
6. Vestry vote on finalist and, if affirmed, Vestry extends a call
7. Vestry and candidate negotiate terms and set out in a letter of agreement
8. Senior Warden and Bishop sign letter of agreement
9. Vestry and new priest conduct Mutual Ministry Review after first year of service

We are still playing the waiting game. The Portfolios for our churches are in the process of being posted on the Diocese website for potential candidates to view and while we were told this would be accomplished within the seven-day period after our meeting with them, it still has not been posted. The posting will remain open for 8 weeks and after that point, open until filled. Thank you for your patience and prayers. Sincere love and blessings, Judy Ball, Pat Williams, **Kathlene Bilger,** Linda Winslow**, Tom Bilger,** & Mary Neal Your Discernment Committee (DC) aka Search Committee



**SENIOR WARDEN’S NOTES**

Thankfully, we continue to be able to worship outside each Sunday at 10AM. We’ve moved, however, from the shaded Rectory yard to the sunny Labyrinth. That said, we are planning to have just one Christmas Eve service which will probably be around 4 or 5PM. Plans are still be worked, but we foresee heaters and/or a speaker system and/or worship from your vehicles. All will be weather permitting, of course. Stay tuned to FACEBOOK and your e-mail for our final plan.

Peace,

**Mary Neal**

 for

**Bryan**

**TREASURER’S REPORT – OCTOBER 2020**

Income for the month of October was $7,170.75 (budget $10,423.75). Expenditures totaled $3,858.55 (budget $10,193.42), resulting in income for the month of $3,312.20.

Interest earned on our Raise the Roof Fund during the month of September was $0.10 and a Christmas tree ornament was sold benefiting the fund $15.00. The balance in the roof fund account at the end of the month was $12,539.69.

On September 30 the annual payout of $2,561.61 on our endowment fund was reinvested. The book value of the fund is now $60,073.49.

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**

We continue to need the funds that our parishioners have been so generous to provide. This gives us the opportunity to provide our families with fresh products i.e.: meats, dairy products. Monies can be mailed directly to: Grace Church, PO Box 18, Casanova, VA 20139 OR put in an envelope and left in the collection plate on Sundays. Please make payable to Grace Church with a notation on checks “for FMS.” Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Grove 



**PHOTO CHALLENGE ****

So, how are you doing in the Photo Challenge on our website? We post a new photo each Monday. If you haven’t done so already, check out the Grace website at www.gracechurchcasanova.org for some fun with Grace photos! How well do you know Grace Church? Check it out and keep your score.

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***Which Virgin?***

*A ten-year old, who was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible because of his grandmother’s teaching, asked his grandmother: “Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?”*

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CURRENT UPDATE ON 2020 CHILI COOK OFF AND PACKAGING EVENTS

Dear Community,

This year there will not be a Chili Cook off or packing event.  We want to continue with feeding the hungry overseas though and will continue to work with RAH, Rise Against Hunger.

This year is no exception to feeding those in need; we will be donating the amount that we normally raise at our Chili Cook off to a program devised by RAH.  We will donate $5000 to a program to help those in Zimbabwe.

The money will help many in The Gokne North District of Zimbabwe.   This area is 1 of the top 10 most food insecure districts in Africa.   The area is in mid Africa on the Eastern side between Mozambique and Botswana and has extreme weather due to recurring droughts and mid-season dry spells, flooding is also something they deal with often.  School employees and community members are being trained to grow grains and sunflower seeds.  This will help with the nutritional security of school children and their households.  It also helps with school attendance and enrollment of school children.

If you were involved at the beginning of the fundraiser with buying RAFFLE TICKETS - Thank You, we will be having the drawings after St Andrew the Apostle Independent Church’s Sunday Mass on FB Live Nov 15, 2020.  If you would like to join us for Mass we have Mass at 9am, you need to go to Facebook.com/Ronald.Stephens.313 and you will be able to join us for Mass or view the recorded Mass anytime.  The drawing will be after the church service.   I will be contacting all of the winners.

Thank you to our wonderful team from both churches. Ann, Beth, Lori, Maggie, and Jean and from Grace Episcopal, Judy, Penny and Pat

Cheryl Berry November 1, 2020



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| **DATE****2020** | **DAY** | **LESSONS**  | **LAY READER** |
| December 6 | 2 Advent | Isaiah 40:1-11Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-132 Peter 3:8-15aMark 1:1-18 | Bryan Jacobs |
| December 13 | 3 Advent | Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11Psalm 1261 Thessalonians 5:16-24John 1:6-8, 19-28 | Dee Garrett |
| December 20 | 4 Advent | 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26Romans 16:25-27Luke 1:26-38 | Judy Ball |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve | Isaiah 62:6-12Psalm 97Titus 3:4-7Luke 2:(1-7)8-20 | Mary Neal |
| December 27 | 1 Christmas | Isaiah 61:10-62:3Psalm 147Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7John 1:1-18 | Bryan Jacobs |

Altar duty for December: **Barbara Jacobs**

**STATUS OF COVID-19 IN FAUQUIER**

**SCHEDULE OF READERS**

Because the Diocese must make gathering decisions on a location-by-location basis, the local status of COVID-19 is being shared here for informational purposes.

In the Rappahannock-Rapidan Health District (RRHD,) of which Fauquier County is a part, the positivity average is 12.3%. It was 10.6% Monday (November 16th) and 11.6% Friday (November 13th.). April Achter, epidemiologist with the RRHD, said, *“The rise in percent positivity is to be expected, as we have a significant number of positive results related to the outbreak in Culpeper [at a correctional facility].”*

Fauquier’s average number of new daily cases in the last week was 16; in Culpeper, that number was 27. Culpeper added 53 new cases on November 16th and 28 new cases on November 17th. Achter explained *"The outbreak [in a correctional facility in Culpeper] is responsible for the majority of the increase, but not all. Like the rest of the U.S., we are seeing community spread as a direct result of people getting together in groups and not following the public health recommendations." Quoted & paraphrased from Fauquier Times news*

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| --- | --- |
| **Carolyn Martin** | **8-Dec** |
| **Melba Hendrix** | **19-Dec** |
| **James Ottevaere** | **25-Dec** |
| **Carol Grove** | **26-Dec** |
| **Carol Cordell** | **28-Dec** |
| **Penny DePompa-Davis** | **28-Dec** |
| **Lora Moline** | **28-Dec** |
| **Jim Ruffner** | **30-Dec** |
| **Jennifer Coates** | **31-Dec** |
| **Greg McLeod** | **31-Dec** |

**Birthdays**

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**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.