

Grace Notes



January 2026

Grace Episcopal Church

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Midland, Virginia 22728

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A Word from Our Priest

My sisters and brothers,

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

Happy New Year! As we enter this new season, many among us have fresh ideas and plans to begin. Others will focus on completing projects that were started in the past year. Regardless of our individual goals, we all share the hope and prayer that we will grow to become better people in the coming months.

As we gather at the start of this new year, let us take a moment to reflect on God's faithfulness through every season of our lives. No matter the challenges or triumphs we have experienced, we are reminded that His love and grace are unchanging and ever-present.

Let us remember that with the help of God, we can accomplish all things. It is important to recognize that when we attempt to manage life on our own, we risk stumbling along the way. Yet, even in our moments of weakness and failure, God is present to support us. If we fall, He is there to lift us up. Truly, our help comes from God.

A blessed New Year to all!

Thanks be to God.

I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a blessed New Year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Michael B. Guy Sr.".

Michael B. Guy Sr., S.T.S. ✠

January
Calendar of Events

Jan 4 Sunday Service, 9am at Grace
 Jan 6 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
 Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
 Jan 7 Center Lunch 12 noon, the Parish Hall
 Jan 9 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, the Parish Hall
 Jan 10 Sew What, 9:30am, Grace, Family Center

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Jan 11 Sunday Service 11am at Grace  
 Annual Congregational Meeting  
 Jan 13 Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall  
 Jan 14 Center Lunch at 12pm, the Parish Hall  
 Vestry Meeting at 3pm, the Family Center  
 Jan 16 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, the Parish Hall

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Jan 18 Sunday Service, 9am Grace
 Jan 20 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
 Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
 Jan 21 Center Lunch 12 noon, the Parish Hall

Jan 23 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, the Parish Hall
 Book Club at 12pm, TBD

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Jan 25 Sunday Service at 9am, Grace  
 Jan 27 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, the Parish Hall  
 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's  
 Jan 28 Center Lunch at 12pm, the Parish Hall  
 Jan 30 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, the Parish Hall

*Hello 2026!*

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

JANUARY 11, 2026

IMMEDIATELY AFTER 11:00AM MASS

ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS  
 AND A VOTE ON COMBINED SERVICES

POTLUCK LUNCH

AFTERWARD IN THE FAMILY CENTER



*Birthdays & Anniversaries*

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Richard & 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 |



**Treasurer's Report – November Data**

Income in the month of November was \$8,955.92 (budget \$9,709.92); expenditures totaled \$6,690.64 (budget \$9,709.92), resulting in a gain for the month of \$2,265.28.

In November the book value of the Endowment Fund was \$76,596.52. Market value as of November 30 was \$92,103.38, a gain of \$474.42 for the month.

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

## Thank you, Volunteers: Wreaths Across America at Grace

On Saturday morning, December 13<sup>th</sup> a group of local volunteers honored veterans buried in the Grace Church Cemetery by placing a Christmas wreath on each of their graves. It was part of the nation-wide effort known as "Wreaths Across America". Based on the very positive response from the participants, we foresee continuing this meaningful effort each December.

*Left to right: Sharon Sweeney, Judy Ball, Fr. Michael Guy, Mignonne Spellmeyer, Bryan Jacobs, Joy Goodenough, Jim Hurlock and Sue Ballantine.*

*\*\* Photo credit to volunteer Rhonda Drwinga.*



## for Supporting Our Adopted Family

Many thanks to all who bought and wrapped gifts for our family that we adopted from the shelter this Christmas. The response was overwhelming, and I'm sure we made one family feel special and loved this Christmas.

To each and everyone, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Mignonne*

## Prospect of Combined Sunday Services

The vestries of Grace and St Luke's have been discussing the possibility of moving to a combined service schedule. Services would alternate location on a monthly basis and would be at 10:00am.

This is being considered at this time due to dwindling attendance and also the need to try to hire a new organist. Hiring a new organist would possibly be easier when only hiring for one service a Sunday rather than two. It will also be a savings in covering salary.



**The plan will be brought up for vote at the annual Congregational Meeting, scheduled for Jan 11th, immediately after the 11 AM service at Grace** (We will be switching service times with St. Luke's to accommodate the meeting). We will also have a pot luck lunch gathering in the Family Center afterward.

## January Serving Schedule

| Day                                                                 | Readings                                                                     | Altar                                        | Assistant    | Offertory         | Coffee Host          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <b><i>Second Sunday After Christmas<br/>Jan 4, 2026</i></b>         | Psalm 84<br>Jeremiah 31:7-14<br>Ephesians 1:3-6,<br>15-19a<br>Matthew 2:1-12 | Barbara<br>Jacobs/<br>Mignonne<br>Spellmeyer | Bryan Jacobs | Susan Payne       | Sharon<br>Sweeney    |
| <b><i>The First Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Jan 11, 2026</i></b>  | Psalm 29<br>Isaiah 42:1-9<br>Acts 10:34-43<br>Matthew 3:13-17                | Joy<br>Goodenough/<br>Diane Gulick           | Judy Ball    | Joy<br>Goodenough | Pot Luck             |
| <b><i>The Second Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Jan 18, 2026</i></b> | Psalm 40:1-12<br>Isaiah 49:1-7<br>1 Corinthians 1:1-9<br>John 1:29-42        | Barbara<br>Jacobs/<br>Sharon<br>Sweeney      | Bryan Jacobs | Sue<br>Ballantine | Sue Ballantine       |
| <b><i>The Third Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Jan 25, 2026</i></b>  | Psalm 27:1,5-13<br>Isaiah 9:1-4<br>1 Corinthians 1:10-18<br>Matthew 4:12-23  | Joy<br>Goodenough/<br>Mignonne<br>Spellmeyer | Judy Ball    | Susan Payne       | Marilyn<br>Ottevaere |