

Grace Notes



March 2025

Grace Episcopal Church

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Midland, Virginia 22728

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A Word from Our Priest

My sisters and brothers,

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

On March 2, we will celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord. On this day we will gather the palms from last year to be burned and then used for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 5th this year. This marks the beginning of the Lenten season, a preparatory penitential time in the church year. The imposition of ashes with the Holy Eucharist will take place at Grace 11:00AM and St. Luke's at 7:00PM.

Lent is forty days not including Sundays, as Sundays are a celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection. During these forty days a practice of prayer, fasting and alms-giving is at the forefront. This is also a time for preparation for Baptism or reaffirming one's Baptism. In the early church Baptism only occurred once a year and that was at the Easter Vigil. We refrain from festival activities like weddings until Lent and Holy Week are complete. There are acceptable exceptions to this practice like an unexpected deployment to a hostile theater.

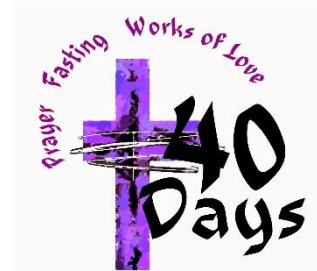
Lent is associated with self-penitence including the practice of self-denial, i.e. what I am going to give up for Lent? Some say strong drink (15-year-old single malt scotch) and chocolate head the list of items to give up. I say consider what you will continue after Lent. As soon as Lent is over, the chocolate is back. Could this be a time to start a new discipline such as morning and evening prayer that would continue to be practiced after Lent?

The color for Lent is purple to represent the royal sovereignty of Our Lord. The crosses are veiled suggesting what if this gift of grace had not been given. The Hymn of Praise and Alleluias or Hallelujahs are absent during the Lenten season. Deep reflection is strongly encouraged.

May we embrace this season of reflection and renewal with open hearts and steadfast spirits. Let us journey together, supporting one another with love and grace, as we deepen our relationship with God and prepare ourselves for the joyous celebration of Easter.

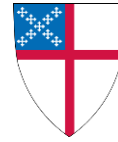
The peace of the Lord is always with us,

Fr. Michael B. Guy Sr., S.T.S.✠



March Calendar

- Mar 2 Sunday Service, 9am Grace
- Mar 4 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
Yoga at 4pm, the Parish Hall
Pancake Supper, IHOP Warrenton 4pm
- Mar 5 Ash Wednesday Service, 11am Grace
Center Lunch at 12pm, Parish Hall
Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm St Luke's
- Mar 7 Yoga at 10am, the Parish Hall
- Mar 8 Sew What at 9:30am, St Luke's
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- Mar 9 Sunday Service, 10am Grace  
Bishop Shand Visit w/lunch to follow
- Mar 11 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's  
Yoga at 4pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 12 Center Lunch at 12pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 14 Yoga at 10am, the Parish Hall  
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- Mar 16 Sunday Service, 9am at Grace
- Mar 18 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
Yoga at 4pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 19 Center Lunch 12 noon, Parish Hall
- Mar 21 Yoga at 10am, the Parish Hall
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- Mar 23 Sunday Service, 10am at Grace
- Mar 25 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's  
Yoga at 4pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 26 Center Lunch at 12pm, Parish Hall
- Mar 28 Yoga at 10am, Parish Hall  
Casanova Book Club, 12 noon, TBD  
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- Mar 30 Sunday Service, 9am Grace*
*Guitar Mass



Please Join Us

Bishop Shand Visit on March 9th
10:00am Service at Grace Church
With Luncheon Reception to Follow

Thank You Soup Kitchen Crew !

Thank you all so much for making the Valentine's Day soup kitchen a success! For those who prepared soup, cornbread, muffins, desserts, embroidered hearts, applause. Also, extra accolades to all who assembled and delivered the trays to friends and neighbors throughout the county! The count was 21 trays this go around. We have gotten messages of appreciation from recipients, so again many thanks to each and every one of you for making it happen. Indeed, it takes a village! *Mignonne*



Marilyn, Sue, Kathy and Barbara ready to roll with deliveries.

*No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.
~ Aesop*

Treasurer's Report: January 2025 Data

Income in the month of January was \$5,606.71 (budget \$9,709.92); expenditures totaled \$8,009.93 (budget \$9,709.92), resulting in a loss for the month of \$2,403.22.

Book value of the Endowment Fund at the end of January was \$73,059.87; market value as of January 31 was \$81,913.52, a gain of \$1,671.12 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

Vestry Meeting Highlights:

Vestry met on Tuesday 18 Feb 2025. Highlights of the meeting were the elections of Wardens & Officers as listed:

Sr. Warden - Bryan Jacobs
Jr. Warden - Marilyn Ottevaere
Treasurer - Judy Ball
Registrar - Barbara Jacobs
Delegate to Diocesan Convention - Bryan Jacobs
Lay Delegate to Culpeper Region - Bryan Jacobs

Additionally,

- There will be Shrove Tuesday pancakes at the Warrenton IHOP on March 4 at 4 PM
- Ash Wednesday services. 11 AM at Grace; 7 PM at St. Luke's on March 5
- Bishop Shand will be visiting Grace on March 9 - Service will be at 10 AM with a reception to follow in the Family Center
- Culpeper Region meeting 9:30 AM at St. Stephen's - Culpeper on March 19

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jeremy Jacobs	March 8
Andrea Wharton	March 10
Miranda Rhoads	March 12
Tammy Nofsinger	March 13
Harper Fields	March 14
Charlie Dawson Vaught	March 16
Ronnie Shipe	March 18
Carol Goshorn	March 24
Stephanie Butler	March 28



March Serving Schedule

Day	Readings	Altar	Assistant	Offertory	Coffee Host
<i>The Last Sunday after the Epiphany</i> March 2, 2025	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-43	Barbara Jacobs/Diane Gulick	Bryan Jacobs	Sue Ballantine	Sue Ballentine
<i>The First Sunday in Lent</i> March 9, 2025	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13	Joy Goodenough	Judy Ball	Joy Goodenough	Barbara Eanes
<i>The Second Sunday in Lent</i> March 16, 2025	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35	Barbara Jacobs	Howard Charnock/Michael Calhoun	Judy Ball	Mignonne Spellmeyer
<i>The Third Sunday in Lent</i> March 23, 2025	Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	Barbara Jacobs	Bryan Jacobs	Sue Payne	Marilyn Ottevaere
<i>The Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> March 30, 2025	Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3,11-32	Joy Goodenough	Sharon Sweeney/Michael Calhoun	Sue Ballantine	Sue Ballantine

NOTE: If you are unable to serve as listed above, please contact someone else on your team to substitute for you.