

Grace Notes



March 2026

Grace Episcopal Church

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Midland, Virginia 22728

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A Word from Our Priest

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

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

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 re-affirming 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 of someone in the military.

Lent is associated with self-penitence which leads to the question of self-denial, i.e., what I am going to give up for Lent. Some say strong drink 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 of morning and evening prayer that continues to be practiced after Lent?

The Lenten season brings changes in the Sunday liturgy. The color for Lent is purple to represent the royal sovereignty of Our Lord. The Hymn of Praise and Alleluias or Hallelujahs are absent from our Lenten services.

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 Resurrection.

The peace of the Lord is always with us,

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

Fr. Michael B. Guy Sr., S.T.S. ✠

March Calendar

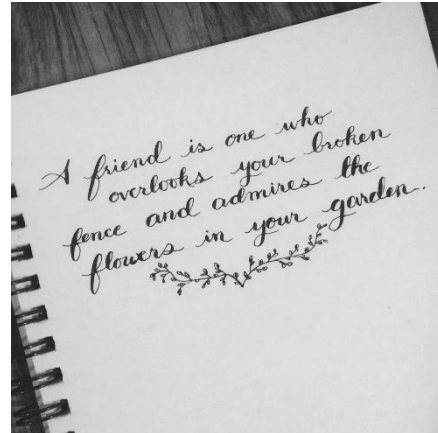
- Mar 1 Sunday Service, 10am at St. Luke's
Fr. Stuart Schatt, Celebrant
- Mar 3 Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 4 Center Lunch at 12pm, Parish Hall
- Mar 6 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, Parish Hall
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- Mar 8 Sunday Service, 10am St. Luke's
- Mar 10 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's  
Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 11 Center Lunch at 12pm, the Parish Hall  
Vestry Meeting at 3pm, Family Center
- Mar 13 Yoga at 10am & 11:45, the Parish Hall
- Mar 14 Sew What at 9am, St Luke's Parish Hall  
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- Mar 15 Sunday Service, 10am at St Luke's
- Mar 17 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 18 Center Lunch at 12pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 20 Yoga at 10am & 11:45, the Parish Hall
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- Mar 24 Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall
- Mar 25 Center Lunch at 12pm, Parish Hall
- Mar 27 Yoga at 10am & 11:45am, Parish Hall  
Casanova Book Club, 12 noon, TBD  
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- Mar 29 Sunday Service, 10am at St Luke's
- Mar 30 Bible Study at 1pm, Betsy Anderson's
Yoga at 2pm & 3:45pm, the Parish Hall



March Birthdays



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



Preview of Holy Week
Service Schedule

- 3/29 Palm Sunday ~ 10:00am St Luke's
- 4/2 Maundy Thursday ~ 10:00am Grace
- 4/3 Good Friday ~ 10:00am Grace
- 4/4 The Easter Vigil ~ 8:00pm St James
- 4/5 Easter Sunday ~ 10:00am Grace

Treasurer's Report: January 2026 Data

Income in the month of January was \$7,234.12 (budget \$9,144.25); expenditures totaled \$7,798.63 (budget \$9,144.25), resulting in a loss for the month of \$564.51.

In January the book value of the Endowment Fund was \$76,596.52. Market value as of January 31 was \$94,597.85, a gain of \$1,827.06 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

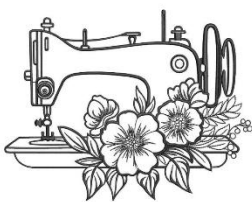
Soup Kitchen Wins Gold!

The soup kitchen team once again did a stellar job of getting the now traditional Valentine's Day "heartfelt" boxes assembled and out the door in record time. Not even the miserable post-blizzard conditions got in the way! Trays included homemade soup, cornbread, Valentine themed cookies and candy and even dog treats for those known to have canine companions! A splash of color from miniature flower arrangements provided the finishing touch, courtesy of Mignonne.

Thanks to everyone of you who dedicated time and effort to make this a success!

Sheri Finnichiaro doesn't let a little bit of slippery snow keep her from delivering to Pat Early's house. Borrowing from the US Post Office's unofficial motto "Neither snow nor rain, nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Fun fact: This actually is an adaptation of a quote from the Greek historian Herodotus 2500 years ago.

(Suchscience.net)



Sew What's Saturday Sewing Circle

The group will meet on Saturday, March 14th at St Luke's Parish Hall this month. Tap into your creative side (everyone has one) and join us! Questions? Please call or text Barbara Jacobs: 540 222-5385.