



Celebrating 119 Years of God's Grace!

GRACE NOTES – March 2021

The News from GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Vicar's Vision

I am following a Lenten series produced out of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta and hosted by Bishop Wright. It is exploring the prayer of invitation we prayed at the Ash Wednesday service, I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. What follows is part of his reflection on self-examination.

Self-examination means we pause and check-in with our soul. And we ask our soul two questions: What are my patterns? And, do they increase well-being? Ultimately the practice of self-examination is a gift because it moves us from blindness to gaining new sight. Recent laundry commercials tell us about something called nose blind – where we smell a smell so often we get used to it and cease to be able to detect or describe it no matter how odorous. Self-examination invites us to consider the possibility of what we could call “soul-blindness,” or the inability to detect or describe the ways in which our soul is blind. Soul-blindness happens because of un-named or unprocessed pain or being overrun by fears or because of ignorance or unwillingness to reconsider convictions. The most pervasive example of soul-blindness is the ability to recognize flaws in everyone without being able to see our flaws.

Jesus talked about the ability of seeing specks in others' eyes while refusing to see the log in our own eye.

– An excerpt from Bishop Wright's 5 Lenten Questions video series.

Blessings,
Anne



Unity Garden

Help needed to get the 2021 Unity Garden ready for planting. We have results of the latest soil test and have purchased fertilizer to be spread the first week of March. Seeds of all our favorites are assembled and ready for early planting. Greg is already growing some under lights at his home. New varieties have been added according to suggestions from the community. Plans are shaping up that will need tilling large watermelon and pumpkin patches outside the fenced area. Also, a piped water supply from the church and a garden shed are definite needs.

Below is the Early Spring (March-April) working plan for the 2021 Unity Garden. In May, tomatoes and summer squashes will be added on outer rows.

Let Barbara know what you would like to do to support this outreach project:

- Help spread fertilizer.
- Start seeds at home.
- Donate your favorite vegetable seed packets.
- Set up an hour to help plant seeds.
- Bushhog the watermelon/pumpkin patches.
- Till the watermelon/pumpkin patches.
- Donate to the garden shed project.
- Coordinate garden water supply with Ron Morris' Parking Lot Committee.
- Help design garden shed structure.
- Help make an organization design for interior storage areas of shed.

Barbara Nye, (434) 985-2402



TO KEEP A TRUE LENT

Written by Robert Herrick

Is this a Fast, to keep
 The Larder lean?
 And clean
 From fats do Veal and Sheep?
 Is it to quit the dish
 Of Flesh, yet still
 To fill
 The platter high with Fish?
 Is it to fast an hour
 Or rag'd to go,
 Or show
 A downcast look, and sour?
 No; 'tis a Fast to dole
 The sheaf of wheat
 And meat
 Unto the hungry soul.
 It is to fast from strife,
 From old debate
 And hate;
 To circumcise thy life.
 To show a heart grief-rent;
 To starve thy sin,
 Not bin;
 And that to keep thy Lent.

Lovingly shared,
 Ann Mingledorff
 Senior Warden

Junior Warden's Report

Better weather is around the corner which will allow us to spend more productive time outdoors and to start work on some projects. The Ford Avenue side of the church will be a focus this spring. These are the first things we would like to do during some Blue Jeans Saturdays.

- ❖ Continue caulking, painting, and plexiglass replacement on remaining stained-glass windows
- ❖ Paint Ford Avenue entrance door
- ❖ Power wash & repaint Ford Avenue handicap ramp
- ❖ Sand & paint wrought iron railing on front steps
- ❖ Sealing of wooden deck and stairs off of kitchen - add anti slip strips

If you see something on the list above that fits well with your skill set, please let me know. We don't have to wait for Blue Jeans Saturdays to get started.

We will continue the work on both sides of the Ford Avenue entrance to turn this into a usable area for gatherings. Most of the plants and soft soil have been removed and now we need to level the area and make a firm surface.

For our outdoor activities, it would be nice to have some cornhole sets. If you are handy or crafty, you might be able to make some cornhole boards or sew some cornhole bags. Last summer we had the loan of a cornhole set and it was a big hit with our neighbors during our harvest celebrations at the Unity Garden.

Thanks,
 Jean Byerly



ECW MEDITATION

A Lenten Haiku

The Lenten Season
 A time for introspection
 Be still, Pray, Listen

With a Grateful Heart,
 Jeannie

**† Birthdays, Baptisms, &
Anniversaries †
March 2021**

Let us give thanks and praise to God for these special days in the life of our parish family members and friends.

Birthdays



- 01 Ron Morris
- 04 Heather Meslar
Ann Dye
- 11 Suzanne Haney
- 13 Nina Wright
- 15 Eloise Virginia Pattison
- 16 Bobby Winslow
- 17 Lenny Grasso
- 22 Jeannie Palin
- 23 Cathy Lagana

Anniversaries

- 07 Bob & Debra Stohlman
- 17 Bob & Kathryn Thomas
- 20 Ryan & Katie Miller

Baptisms

- 02 Berowne Paradis
- 22 Alexandra McElroy
- 24 Ann McDaniel
- 27 Garnett Mingledorff



Lay Participation Schedule for March 2021

	03/07 3rd Sunday In Lent	03/14 4th Sunday In Lent	03/21 5th Sunday in Lent	03/28 Sunday of The Passion: Palm Sunday
<u>1st Lesson</u>	Exodus 20:1-17	Numbers 21:4-9	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Isaiah 50:4-9a
<u>Psalm</u>	19	107 1-3, 17-22	51 1-13	31 9-16
<u>2nd Lesson</u>	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Ephesians 2:1-10	Hebrews 5:5-10	Philippians 2:5-11
<u>Gospel</u>	John 2:13-22	John 3:14-21	John 12:20-33	(Mark 11:1-11) Mark 14:1 – 15:47
				(The Liturgy of the Palms)
Ministry	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
<u>LEM</u>	----	----	----	----
<u>Lector</u>	Gwen Atwood	Ann Mingledorff	Betty Moreland	Scott Mingledorff
<u>Intercessor</u>	Mary Hogge	Betty Moreland	Ann Mingledorff	Pat Peck
<u>Usher</u>	----	----	----	----
<u>Coffee Hour</u>	----	----	----	----
<u>Vestry Person</u>	----	----	----	----
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Ann Mingledorff	Ann Mingledorff	Ann Mingledorff	Ann Mingledorff

Everyone is welcome to join the service via Zoom. You can launch Zoom at 9:30 to chat with other parishioners before the service starts. For security reasons, an invitation is required.

Please email Linda Robbins at lindalrobbins@gmail.com to request your invitation.

For help in getting started or for technical assistance, please call or email Jean Byerly at (434) 985-7567 or jean_byerly@yahoo.com

ECW Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, March 6, 2021

11:00 am – 3:00 pm EST

“Embracing Listening and Honest Conversation as Spirit Disciplines”

Using the new resource created by The Episcopal Church, “**From Many, One: Conversation Across Differences**,” the Very Rev. Kim L. Coleman, ECW Chaplain and Archdean of the Diocese of Virginia, will lead attendees in examining why we should strive to cross the great divides that have developed in our national life through honest conversation with the “other.” By exploring insights that come from Holy Scripture, practical experience and personal story, attendees will discover how to transform hopelessness into faithful and sustained action. We welcome all to join us for this prayerful, Spirit-filled Quiet Day aimed at equipping Christians for the work of courageous conversations with the “other.”

11:00 am Welcome and Retreat Logistics

11:10 am Morning Devotions

11:30 am Gathering Time #1: Everybody has at least one! (Acts 10)

12:00 pm Quiet Time: **What do you love?**

12:20 pm Gathering Time #2: Honest Conversation Requires Active Listening

12:50 pm Quiet Time and Lunch: **What have you lost?**

1:15 pm Gathering Time #3 – Honest Conversation Goes Deep (John 4:1-30)

1:30 pm Quiet Time: **Where does it hurt?**

1:50 pm Gathering Time #4: Finding Hope in Our Dreams
What do you dream?

2:30 pm Closing Worship

This virtual gathering is powered by Zoom. To register, click the link below—follow the prompts:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMucuiqrj8uGtU6tdTBz2-9MnDH226ewD>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Quiet Day. Receipt of the confirmation email can take up to 24 hours.

We are asking for contributions to compensate our facilitators. The suggested amount is \$25; however, any amount is gratefully accepted. Checks should be mailed to the ECW treasurer: Kaaron Austin, 7319 Willson Road, Henrico, VA 23231. To ensure delivery, please do not alter the street address—the spelling is correct.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED