

Parish News for the week of May 12

Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church.
We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

Pastoral Needs

Please contact the church office (office@graceepiscopalexington.org), Fr. James (frjames@graceepiscopalexington.org) or Sharon Massie (sharon@graceepiscopalexington.org) if you have a pastoral need. Please let us know if you are having upcoming surgeries, etc. Your church family cares about you!

Grace Episcopal Schedule (All campus) Week of May 12

Monday	7:30 am	AA (Conference Room/3rd Floor)
	5:00 pm	W&L Chamber Chorus Rehearsal (Brooke Family Ctr)
	5:00 pm	Finance Committee (Conference Rm/3rd Floor)
Tuesday	7:00 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parish Hall)
	11:00 am	Worship Committee (Conference Rm/3rd Floor)
	3:30pm	Godly Play/Cherub Choir (Atrium/3rd Floor)
	5:30 pm	Our One Word (Canterbury Room)
	6:30 pm	EfM (Welles/Library)
	7:00 pm	AA (Conference Rm/3rd Floor)
Wednesday	8:00 am	Blue Grass Jam (Brooke Family Ctr)
	12:00 pm	AA (Conference Rm/3rd Floor)
	4:00 pm	St. Francis Choir (Brooke Family Ctr)
	5:30 pm	Threshold Singers Rehearsal (Brooke Family Ctr)
	8:00 pm	NA (Conference Rm/3rd Floor)
Thursday	6:00 am	Sunrise Rotary (Parish Hall)
	6:00 pm	Bridge
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Brooke Family Ctr)
Friday	4:00 pm	W&L Chamber Chorus Rehearsal (Brooke Family Ctr)
	8:00 pm	AA (Conference Rm/3rd floor)
Saturday	10:00 am	AA (Conference Rm/3rd floor)
	11:15 am	Al Anon (Conference Rm/3rd floor)

123 West Washington Street, Lexington, VA 24450
540-463-4981 www.graceepiscopalexington.org

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rise and Sing
9:15 to 9:30, Undercroft

Christian Education in the Atrium for ages 3 -12
9:30, 3rd Floor

Christianity and Culture with Holt Merchant, 9:15 Parish Hall
5/12 - The First Great Awakening: "Damned, Damned, Damned"
5/19 - The Second Great Awakening: "Flight from Calvinism"
5/26 - The Second Great Awakening: "Camp Meetings & Circuit Riders"

Confirmation, Canterbury Room, 9:15

Taizé Eucharist Tonight

The second-Sunday Taizé contemplative Eucharist will be tonight 5 pm. Join us for this service of scripture, prayer, music, and communion.

Under Construction: A Habitat for Humanity VBS

July 1-3 - 9 to noon.

Ages 4 to rising 6th graders

Location: Lexington Presbyterian Church, 120 S. Main Street, Lexington
PARTNERS: Grace Episcopal, Lexington Presbyterian, Manly Memorial Baptist and Trinity United Methodist Churches

Under Construction: A Habitat for Humanity Vacation Bible School

will engage children with Bible stories, crafts, music and stories from the community focused on Habitat for Humanity's local ministry, building and repairing safe homes for families. During our time together we will be building a special hands-on project with members of Habitat for Humanity to auction off at the end of VBS! Teachers and teen volunteers are needed! Please contact Sharon Massie if interested in volunteering!

See graceepiscopalexington.org to register.

Donate to The Bishop's Dollar Fund

This year during the season of Easter, Bishop Bourlakas extends his annual invitation to reflect on our blessings as members of the body of Christ. The movement to share out of our gratitude is one of the fruits of faithful reflection. We encourage generous support of The Bishop's Dollar Fund to continue to address a variety of needs throughout the diocese not otherwise covered through our annual budget. You can mail donations to the Diocesan Office (PO Box 2279, Roanoke, VA 24009) or donate online at www.dioswva.org/online-giving.html.

Episcopal Relief & Development

Nick Moga the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia Coordinator for the Episcopal Relief & Development of will be visiting Grace Church next Sunday, May 19 and will be giving the homilies at both services to talk about their work in disaster recovery.

Music Notes
Community Hymn Sing Sunday, June 30,
details TBA.

UTO 2019 Spring Ingathering

From The Rev. Canon Heather Melton, staff officer for the United Thank Offering, has come spiritual food for thought in preparation of our 2019 UTO ingathering. She writes, "The work of UTO is caught up in the belief that the resurrection is real and that new life can be found if we are simply brave enough to head out on the road," just as the women at the empty tomb did after the angel told them that Jesus had risen and was on his way to Galilee.

Here Heather reminds us that UTO's mission transcends those things we already do well at Grace Episcopal toward God's mission by encouraging us to undertake something spiritually new and different. As a recipient of a generous grant from UTO in 2018, our parish is now doing that very thing, inspired by Presiding Bishop's vision for the Beloved Community and fostered by the support, guidance, and leadership of Father James, Minister of Music Martha Burford, our Vestry, and lay leaders. Our historic church is following Jesus on the road to Galilee. Let us all count our blessings every day and mark each prayer of gratitude with an offering to our Blue Boxes at home. UTO envelopes for your offerings are available on the bridge or in the church office.

Don't forget: every cent goes to mission.

With daily thanksgiving, Julia Littlefield, Parish UTO Coordinator

Our One Word

Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 - 6:30

Ladies, please join us for an hour of simple food, drink and conversation. We will focus on the word "Strength" and explore if that word has been in our lives this week. Bring a friend!

**Augusta Convocation Picnic, Sunday May 19, 3-5 p.m.,
Boys Home, 414 Boys Home Rd., Covington**

Please join the Augusta Convocation and Boys Home for a picnic. Fried Chicken will be provided. If you last name begins with an A-G bring a Salad, H-O Vegetables or Pasta, P-Z Desserts. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. This will be a time of great food and fellowship with members of our convocation and Boys Home. RSVP to Sharon@graceepiscopallexington.org so we know how much chicken to provide. All are Welcome!

Product of the Month - RARA/May- Cereal or Oatmeal

While all donations of food are appreciated throughout the year, RARA has designated specific products that they would love to receive each month. Please leave your donations in the basket next to the Welles Room (library) in the Parish Hall



**Grace Episcopal Church Outreach Committee
Volunteer Opportunities**

Are you seeking ways to be a good steward of your time and talents within the community? The Grace Episcopal Christian Outreach Committee invites you to visit its webpage for a list of up-to-date volunteer opportunities. From serving meals to people in need and baking for fundraisers to building houses and advocating for children in the courts, everyone can find something that fits their ability and availability. (<http://www.graceepiscopallexington.org/outreach.html>)

**This week we are highlighting the following
organizations that needs your help:**

The Arc of Rockbridge is a local non-profit organization dedicated to providing a variety of social opportunities, advocacy support, scholarships, and other services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, with the goal of helping them live a "life like yours." They can always use extra pairs of hands at social events. If you would like to help in that or other ways, please contact Doris Fredricksen at thearcofrockbridge@yahoo.com or visit the webpage at <http://arcofrockbridge.dreamhosters.com/volunteer/>.

**South Sudanese Diaspora Network for
Reconciliation and Peace Conference**

Over Labor Day weekend, August 30 – September 1, 2019, Lexington, VA will be hosting the **South Sudanese Diaspora Network for Reconciliation and Peace** conference. One hundred South Sudanese diaspora members are expected to attend. Grace Episcopal, Lexington Presbyterian, Manly Memorial and First Baptist have pledged to help with this conference. We are expecting other churches to join in this effort. This weekend will culminate with a joyous celebration of The Feast Day of Marc Nikkel on Sunday at Grace Church. Many members of the diaspora knew Marc and were touched by his ministry in Sudan.

We need your help. We have offered to house the members of this group in private homes. If you feel the call and would be able to house one or two (or more) individuals please contact MJ Mayerchak (540.460.3138) or Sharon Massie (540.570.5408) Hosting would involve providing lodging, breakfast and transportation to and from the conference each day. If you have any question please contact Sharon Massie.

The **South Sudanese Diaspora Network for Reconciliation and Peace** is striving to create an environment for the diverse community of South Sudan to work together for peace through dialogue and to open up avenues for reconciliation. The network is engaged in cross-cultural dialogue that fosters respect for one another, promotes justice, peace and reconciliation, and works to counteract tribalism to end oppression, hate, violence and conflict.