

This Week at Grace Church

Parish Office closed Monday October 14 in observance of Columbus Day

Sunday, October 13

- 8:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
- 9:15 a.m.** Christianity & Culture
- 9:30 a.m.** Christian Education
- 10:30 a.m.** Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
- 2:00 p.m.** W&L Chamber Choir
Rehearsal (Brooke Fam Ctr)
- 5:00 p.m.** Taizé (Nave)

Monday, October 14

- Parish Office Closed** - Columbus Day
- 7:30 a.m.** AA (Conference Rm)

Tuesday, October 15

- 7:00 a.m.** Men's Prayer Breakfast
(Parish Hall)
- 4:30 p.m.** Call Committee (3rd Fl)
- 5:00 p.m.** Finance Committee (CR)
- 5:30 p.m.** Rockbridge Youth Chorale
(Brooke Family Ctr,
Canterbury Rm)
- 6:30 p.m.** EfM (Welles Rm./Library)
- 6:30 p.m.** Boy Scouts (Parish Hall)
- 7:00 p.m.** AA (Conference Room)

Wednesday, October 16

- 8:00 a.m.** Music Jam (Brooke Fam Ctr)
- 12:00 p.m.** AA (Conference Room)
- 3:30 p.m.** Godly Play/Cherub Choir
- 4:00 p.m.** St. Francis Choir
- 5:30 p.m.** Threshold Singers (Brooke
Family Ctr)
- 7:00 p.m.** A capella Group rehearsal
(Brooke Family Ctr)
- 7:00 p.m.** *Way of Love* Book Group
(Canterbury Rm)
- 9:00 p.m.** Compline
(Brooke Family Ctr)

Thursday, October 17

- 6:00 a.m.** Sunrise Rotary (PH)
- 6:00 p.m.** Bridge (Parish Hall)
- 7:00 p.m.** Adult Choir Rehearsal
(Brooke Family Ctr)

Friday, October 18

- 8:00 p.m.** AA (Conference Room)

Saturday, October 19

- 10:00 a.m.** AA (Conference Room)
- 11:15 a.m.** Al Anon (Conference Rm)

RARA Product of the Month: Canned Pumpkin

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

SPAM ALERT

Please do not send money, gift cards or their PIN numbers, or other numbers of value to Fr. James or any other Grace Church staff.

We will never solicit direct contributions. Thank you!

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Parish News for the week of October 13
Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church.
We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUNDAYS

Classes for Adults, Youth and Children resume today!

Christianity and Culture, Parish Hall, 9:15

Today - Walking the Labyrinth as a Spiritual Practice, Sarah Elliot
Labyrinths are ancient patterns that have existed in a variety of forms for 4,000 years or more. The spiritual practice of labyrinth walking has experienced a world-wide revival since the turn of the 20th century. Explore the history of labyrinths and learn how to use labyrinth walking as a personal or corporate prayer practice.

A series honoring Peyton Craighill, *Religion and Opera* with Tim Gaylard
"Opera and Religion: the cases of four different composers."

Oct. 27: Puccini's Sister Angelica as a symbol

Nov. 3: Wagner and the Knights of the Holy Grail

Youth & Young Adults, Canterbury Room, 9:30

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

**Adult Inquirer's Class, Sundays
Library, 9:15 – 10:15**

The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas, sixth bishop of our diocese, is visiting our church on Sunday, December 22, for Confirmation. If you desire to either be confirmed or received as a member (having been confirmed in another denomination) or reaffirm your faith you may do so at that time.

VMI Parents Weekend

Please join us today in the parish hall after the 10:30 service for cake, cookies, lemonade and fellowship with VMI cadets and their families.

Taizé Eucharist tonight 5 p.m.

Join us for this service of scripture, prayer, music, and communion.

Book Group, The Way of Love Bible Challenge New Time! 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Canterbury Room

We are reading and discussing *The Way of Love Bible Challenge*. The books are available in the parish office for \$12.00 or \$9.99 on e-readers. We will meet weekly thru November 20.

Grace Episcopal Church Car Decals

Decals are available in the parish office for a dollar. These are static cling decals that attach to the outside of your car window. If you are interested stop by and see Lisa.

Music Ministry

Adult Choir Weekly Rehearsal,
Thursday, 7-8:30. All are welcome!

St. Francis (Junior), Wednesdays, 4:00-4:40 p.m.

Godly Play/Cherub Choir Wednesday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Ukulele Choir, Wednesdays, 4:45-5:25 p.m.

Choral Evensong, Feast of St. Simon & St. Jude, 10/27, 5 p.m.

Taizé Service, 11/10, 5 p.m.

Holden Evensong, 11/24, 5 p.m.

Lessons & Carols with Trinity United Methodist, Southern Virginia University & Grace Episcopal, 12/8, 7:30 p.m.

Rockbridge Area Hospice - Singers Welcome

Threshold Singers offer the gift of song at the bedsides of those who are at thresholds of living and dying, coming by invitation in groups of 2-4 singers. Our gentle songs bring ease and comfort to clients, family, and caregivers. Practices are held Wednesdays at 5:30 in the Brooke Family Undercroft at Grace Church.



Wednesday night Contemplative Prayer at Grace 9:00 p.m. in the Brook Family Center.

30 minutes of music, silence, poetry & prayer. Time to write, watercolor, be present, light candles.

Wednesday, Oct. 16 "Finding Home"

Faith at Home: Ecumenical Parent Discussion Group and Dinner

Sundays, October 20, November 3 and 17,
Welles Rm/Library, 4:30 – 6 pm, Grace Episcopal Church

Childcare is available in the nursery

Please join us as we discuss Wendy Claire Barrie's *Faith at Home*. *Faith at Home* offers practical ideas and advice for families to engage children in discovering God in the everyday events and special occasions every day of the year. Books are available for purchase for \$14.00 in the office at Grace Episcopal or you may download on your e-reader from Amazon.com.

Questions? Email Sharon Massie sharon@graceepiscopallexington.org or Katie Masey katie.masey@gmail.com

Congregational Meeting, Sunday October 20

Fr. James will be holding a second meeting regarding the process & progress of obtaining a new organ. Several people involved will talk candidly about where we are in terms of recommending to the Vestry a way forward. There will be two meetings to make it more convenient.

9:15 a.m. in the Christianity & Culture hour in the Parish Hall and 4:00 p.m. in the Nave. The session should last an hour.

2019 UTO Fall Ingathering - Sunday, November 10

God's blessings never cease. That bit of truth explains why each Sunday at the Holy Eucharist our response to the celebrant's plea is simply "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

Let us keep in our hearts the joy of praise and thanksgiving in our welcome to The Rev. and Mrs. Tuck Bowerfind at the beginning of Advent. What better timing could we ask for? Throughout our patient wait for this new beginning for Grace Episcopal Church, think back on God's blessings during the search for a rector, and be thankful. Now let us count our blessings.

A good way to start is for the love, guidance, leadership and dedication of our church staff: Interim Rector (Father) James Hubbard, Chaplain James Keane, the indefatigable Minister of Music Martha Burford, our versatile Program Director Sharon Massie, Administrative Assistant Lisa McGuire, Student Activities Coordinator Patrick McGuire, Bookkeeper Angie Fafatas, and Sexton Connie Bryant. Next come the great corps of faithful volunteers, many who serve in multiple ways: the Vestry, lay readers, chalicists, altar guild, flower guild, ushers, acolytes, choir, greeters, plate counters, members of various committees, standing and ad hoc; of the latter, the now joyfully retired Call Committee.

Think back also about the past few years of the capital campaign for the restoration of our aging church and parish hall. That arduous undertaking culminated in a grant award from the United Thank Offering in 2018. It met the criteria of that year's focus inspired by Presiding Bishop Curry's vision of the Beloved Community. Today, in addition to the parish hall's Canterbury Room serving the college students and cadets, the undercroft is at last open not only for our parish's needs but for those of the surrounding community as well.

To the blessings mentioned above add your own personal ones. Pick up a UTO Blue Box (available in the office) to keep at home and begin the rewarding discipline of daily thanksgiving with a simple prayer and a coin to share your blessing. Then before Ingathering Sunday count your offerings, deposit them, and write a check payable to Grace Episcopal Church with "UTO" on the memo line. Use a UTO envelope provided at church for the offering, either check or, if yours is in cash, provide your name. For those not familiar with this historic ministry for mission, at ingatherings twice a year our offerings first are sent to the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, and then, combining with those from other dioceses, to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. There the funds are invested until grants are awarded the following year. The miracle of individual gratitude makes possible annual UTO grants. Every cent goes to mission.

In thanksgiving every day,
Julia Littlefield, UTO Parish Coordinator

Budget Envelopes

If you would like budget envelopes for 2020, please call the parish office or email Angie (bookkeeper@graceepiscopallexington.org) by Friday, November 15. Please indicate whether you want weekly or monthly envelopes. Thank you!