

Parish News for the week of September 16

Welcome to Grace Episcopal Church.

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUNDAYS

Christianity and Culture , Parish Hall, 9:15

September 23 British Music Nationalism with Tim Gaylard
September 30 Nine Lessons and Carols with Tim Gaylard

Confirmation, Canterbury Room, 9:15

We are hosting a joint confirmation class with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church here at Grace Episcopal Church for 7th-9th graders. Mary Price and Holly Pickett will lead the class, which is designed to prepare youth to understand, appreciate, and affirm the baptismal vows made on their behalf when they were younger.

Rise and Sing, 3rd floor of the Parish House, 9:15 to 9:30

Please join our new Minister of Music, Martha Burford as we start each Christian Education time playing instruments and singing songs of praise!

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

We have converted the old preschool classroom into an Atrium – a Montessori-based enrichment space where children can hear, ponder, and celebrate the essential messages of the Christian faith as revealed in the scriptures and the liturgy with hands-on activities (“works”). We think that the children will enjoy the higher level of activity that this format offers them. Please come visit the new space and encourage your children to try it out. If you or your High School age child would like to volunteer one Sunday a month to help with the Atrium, please contact Megan Hess. hessm@wlu.edu.

Nursery

A nursery is provided starting at 9:00 am and continuing through the 10:30 am service.

Children’s Chapel resumes today

Children's Chapel is offered during the 10:30 service. The children follow the children's cross to the chapel after the reading of the Gospel and a special prayer. Children's Chapel is a time for the children to hear the gospel story at their developmental level and pray for the needs of the church and the world. They return to the church at the passing of the peace. You are welcomed to attend Children's Chapel with your child!

Weekdays beginning September 18

Godly Play/Cherub Choir, Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:30, Atrium, 3rd floor Parish House (ages 3 through first grade) Godly Play provides a time and a space for children to engage with God and with the story of God’s people in the Bible. A Godly Play session includes a time to gather in a circle to listen to a story, a time of wondering, and a time for children to respond to the story through art or creative play. In addition to Godly Play, a Cherub Choir begins at 4:00 p.m., with parents free to join at 4:20-4:30 to learn Family Songs for Blessings.

This Week

Mon	5:00 PM	Vestry
Tue	7:00 AM	Men’s Prayer Breakfast @ Faith Build Site
	8:30 AM	Faith Build
	6:30 PM	EFM
Wed	4:30 AM	Gadsden
Thurs	5:00 PM	Vestry
	7:00 PM	EFM Grads

Pastoral Needs

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

The Rt. Rev’d Mark A. Bourlakas, Bishop
The Rev’d Dr. James Hubbard, Interim Rector
(frjames@graceepiscopallexington.org)

James Keane, Chaplain (chaplain@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Parish Staff

Sharon Massie, Program Director (sharon@graceepiscopallexington.org)
Martha Jones Burford, Minister of Music (martha@graceepiscopallexington.org)
Lisa McGuire, Administrative Assistant (lisa@graceepiscopallexington.org)
Angie Fafatas, Financial Secretary (bookkeeper@graceepiscopallexington.org)
Connie Bryant, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

Merce Brooke, Lynn Dent, Gail Dickerson,
Don Ellis (Sr. Warden, don318@comcast.net),
Keith Gibson (Jr. Warden, gibsonke77@gmail.com),
Tom Gosse, Catherine Harcus, Susan Lawrence, Peggy Riethmiller,
Tracey Riley, Woody Sadler, Steve Shultis.
Joanne Robblee, Clerk
Greg Lemmer, Treasurer

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Music

Adult Choir (We are flexible about what age that means!) Thursday rehearsals 7-8:45 prepare us for Sunday morning liturgies, special worship services, and other events. Sunday morning rehearsals at 9:30 fine tune our leadership of the 10:30a.m. Eucharist.

Cherub Choir (ages 3-1st grade) follows Godly Play from 4-4:20. We will sing, play instruments, learn songs for liturgy and daily prayer. Parents are invited to join us from 4:20-4:30 to learn Family Songs for Blessings.

Start date: Tuesday, Sept. 18.

St. Francis Choir (ages 2nd grade up): In the effort to be open to families' schedules, we'll start the year with two offerings of St. Francis Choir during the week, attendance at one required, attendance at both is welcome. Attendance at Sunday morning rehearsals on the mornings St. Francis Choir sings is required.

Wednesday: 3:30-4:10 Start date Wednesday, Sept. 19

Thursday: 4-4:40 Start date Thursday, Sept. 20

St. Dunstan's Handbell Choir (Intergenerational participation welcome: 5th grade through Centenarians+) *Did you know that St. Dunstan is the patron saint of handbells? He's ready to get to work at Grace Episcopal, Lexington!*

Wednesday: 5:00-5:45 Start date Wednesday, Sept. 26

Rehearsal space TBA

Rise and Sing

Singing Songs of Praise 9:15-9:30 Sunday Mornings:

Taizé Style Service 2nd Sunday of each month. Singers and instrumentalists welcome to rehearsal at 4 for the 5pm service.

Are you a FRETTED INSTRUMENT PLAYER or DO YOU WANT TO BE?

Martha would LOVE to have a fretted ensemble rehearsal and to have fretted instruments (guitar, ukulele, mandolin...) accompany selected hymns and songs in the liturgies. FYI: Martha is a beginner ukulele player, so, experienced players are hoped for, as well as beginners, and we'll all be learning together.

Are you a singer who loves to sing solo or in small groups? To chant?

To help lead services such as Vespers? Stay tuned to learn about opportunities to help musically lead evening services that will begin in October on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7pm.

Have you thought about singing in small groups that visit the sick, the homebound, or those in hospice? Stay tuned, there's more to come.

Do you have a musical gift or ministry you want to suggest?

If you have questions about any things musical ministry minded, please call Martha at 540-463-4981 or email her at martha@graceepiscopallexington.org

House Book Group, beginning Wednesday, September 19, 7:30 PM
at the home of Peggy and Steve Riethmiller, 808 Possum Hollow, Lexington. We will read and discuss *Life Together in Christ, Experiencing Transformation in Community*, by Ruth Haley Barton. Books are available in the office for \$13.00 or on e-readers.

Table Fellowship Groups are Forming Now!

Table fellowship groups are forming for the 2018-2019 season. Groups meet for a meal about once a month. You can meet for brunch, lunch, dinner in homes, restaurants or anywhere you can imagine. The table fellowship groups are 8 to 10 people and are always a source of good food and fellowship. Our Table Fellowship groups are a great way to meet newcomers, old timers and those in between and build community at our church.

If you would like to join a group, please contact Tom Gosse, tom@thegosses.com by Wednesday, September 19.

Pocket Change 4 Change

Recognizing the ongoing need to support community outreach, the ECW's fund raising initiative called **Pocket Change 4 Change** was born.

Parishioners are asked to contribute "pocket change" each Sunday with proceeds going to both existing and new community outreach efforts. A collection box is located on the bridge. Questions about

Pocket Change 4 Change can be directed to Darlene Keane.

Faith Build

We've completed 6 weeks of the Faith Build, and the last three weeks have seen an amazing change. Check out the pictures on the Facebook Page. The walls are up, the interior walls are in place, and the roof is on. Thanks to all the members of the Grace family who continue to show up every Tuesday morning and spend 4 hours giving back. And thank you to all the members of the Grace family who have donated toward our monetary pledge. And, as a reminder, we're actually building two homes. In order to raise money to fund the construction of the physical house of concrete and 2X4's, the Outreach Committee is asking parishioners to build another house out of a puzzle, at \$10 per puzzle piece. As of now, the puzzle is about a third complete, meaning we are well on our way to meeting our financial commitment to Habitat. For the next few weeks, until it is complete, the puzzle will be on display on the bridge. You can stop by the church any day of the week to glue on as many pieces of the puzzle as you like and leave a check in the box next to the puzzle. In addition, someone will bring the puzzle to the patio or the Parish Hall (depending on the weather) after services on the next several Sundays. With each piece we sell, the puzzle gets closer to being put together and our financial contribution to the Faith Build house becomes a reality. Through the Puzzle fund raiser, and personal donations, we are almost half way to our goal. If you'd like to volunteer for some of the most enjoyable "work" you'll ever experience, please join us. Contact Pat McGuire: magsvmi85@gmail.com.