

Grace Episcopal Church
Lexington, North Carolina

December 2024
January 2025

The Grace Vine

Grace Episcopal Church
419 S. Main Street
Lexington, NC 27292-3234
336.249.7211

The Rev. Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org
<https://gracelexingtonnc.org/>

Sunday Services:
10:30 a.m. in the church and live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube
9:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages
Adults only during the summer months
-Wednesday Noon Prayer Service in the historic chapel-
First Wednesday of every month
Includes a Rite 1 Eucharist service.

TURN ON THE LIGHT

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through him,
and without him nothing was made that has been made.
In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5

The darkness has not overcome it . . .

The darkness of our lives has not overcome the light of Christ.

The darkness of the world has not overcome the light of Christ.

The darkness of our lives and the world will *never* overcome the light of Christ.

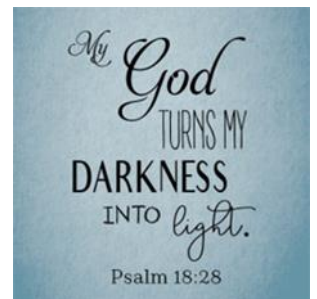
Amen!



The Christmas story began in the night, in the darkness. Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem in the dark and their greeting was dark. There is no room for you, they heard, but the barn is available. In a modern reference this would be akin to an offering of a storage shed behind an overcrowded budget motel.

The light of the world, Jesus, came to earth at night almost unseen, unrecognized, and unheralded. His prospects would seem bleak and impossible, except we know from the Psalmist that "*darkness is not dark to you, the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.*" Jesus is self-illuminating by his divinity, holiness, and eternal beauty. There is no darkness in him. Wherever he goes, he turns on the light for all who come to him.

You and I have no such self-illuminating ability. We have no way to spiritually soothe ourselves, much less to save ourselves. And left to ourselves we fall into despair, fear, ugliness, depression, sin, and yes, darkness. But then comes Christ at Christmas. Then comes the light of the world into our hearts and lives. "*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined,*" wrote the prophet Isaiah.



As the children of God, our lives are filled with joy and the Apostle Paul teaches us to be joyful in all circumstances because of what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. Yet, our broken human nature and frailty make it easy to lose our joy and fall into fear, anxiety, and darkness.

(continued on page 2)

Turn on the Light *(continued from Page 1)*

Humanism would suggest that we can find ways to conquer these afflictions and turn on our own inner lights. The prophet Isaiah, the Holy Scriptures, and the Holy Spirit would counter that human enlightenment is not enough, that there is no health within us, and that we cannot illuminate ourselves, much less save ourselves. Thus Christmas. Thus, Jesus comes into the world as the ultimate divine light to focus powerful glowing beams upon the path to God and away from our loneliness, waywardness, and gloom. Only God can do that. Only God can turn on the light in our darkness. And Jesus is God.

At Christmas, the blazing, dazzling light of divine love, grace, glory, and rescue comes into the world – better, into our hearts and lives. At Christmas, Jesus comes, and he is the very incarnation of all those wonders.



Throughout Advent, we proclaim and cling to the four Christ inspired themes of hope, peace, joy, and love, one for each Sunday of the season. On Christmas Eve, we light the center Christ Candle of our Advent Wreath, indicating that Jesus is the light of the world who is the incarnation and embodiment of all four themes. This is a holy season. Holy because it draws us into the light and nearer to God the Father, by the coming of God the Son, through the power of God the Holy Spirit.

For some, this season is enriched by times with family, dear friends, church family members, and even strangers we may be blessed to love. For others, this season is a lonely struggle. Christmas is perhaps most of all for those who are alone and for those who struggle without the fullness of God's joy. It is to them that Jesus comes rushing so lovingly, caringly, and tenderly. Christmas is about Christ, nothing more and nothing less. And he is the only remedy for lonely, struggling, and broken hearts. He is the only light for the darkness that has overcome them, and he privileges us to be "lights to the world" in his name. He privileges us to be light bearers when we carry him in our hearts. He privileges us to turn on his light for those who need him.

We approach Christmas reminded that the holiest places on earth are within an arm's reach. Taking time to converse with the lonely, to embrace a stranger, to give to the poor, or to visit the sick, is a time for us to turn on the light of Christ in the midst of another's darkness. Jesus calls us to do that for him. *"In as much as you do these things for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do them for me."* Matthew 25.



Christmas is most purely the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a spectacularly appropriate time to exchange gifts to honor him. And perhaps the very best gift we can give each other is the gift of turning on his light in every place of darkness.

Ed†



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE

Advent I, II & III

10:30 AM—December 1, 8, 15
Rite 1 with Holy Eucharist

Advent IV

Lessons & Carols

10:30 AM—December 22

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24
5:00 PM Family Service

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25
10:30 AM Service in the Chapel

First and Second Sundays after Christmas

10:30 am - December 29 & January 5

Epiphany

Feast of Lights

Sunday, January 5, 2025
5:30 pm in the Church



Grace Church Christmas Party



Friday, December 20, 2024

6:00 ~ 9:00 pm

in the Parish Hall

Parishioners are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert
The Church will provide paper products, tea/water, and ice

Hot Dogs and S'mores will be provided for kids

A Christmas movie will be played in the nursery for the
children that attend.

*Come and experience our first big event in our
newly-renovated Parish Hall.
It looks amazing!*

Able-bodied attendees are requested to park in the Piedmont Funeral Home
parking lot and allow persons that may need assistance use the
Grace Church Main Street parking lot

Our First Major Capital Campaign Renovation

By: Ed Kelaher

The Parish Hall The Parish Hall Kitchen The New Grace Church Nursery

An exciting part of our Vestry's Capital Campaign vision is for the renovation and improvement of many areas of our buildings and outdoor campus. Our Campaign booklet illustrates most of those projects. Many of these projects have been desired for years, or even decades. To see them in actual progress and eventual completion is rewarding and fulfilling to most everyone.



The very first renovations directed by the Vestry, and overseen by our Junior Warden, Marjorie Parker, are our Parish Hall, the Parish Hall Kitchen, and the creation of a new Children's Nursery in the area once used as a Parish Hall stage. This wing of our education and office building was constructed in 1953.

These extensive and very complicated challenges would normally require a coordinating general contractor at a significant 5-figure cost. Grace Church is blessed however to have John Taylor, a Facilities Manager of exceptional vision, energy, focus, and determination. Though employed to work a small number of part-time hours each week, John has regularly provided 50 and 60 hour weeks for many months.

Working closely with our Junior Warden, Staff, and



some of our Vestry's Building and Grounds Committee members, John laid out a remarkable physical plan and the necessary scope of work. He thereafter contacted, interviewed, and obtained bids from many contractors until the Church was provided with quality contractors at fair prices.

John's work included the coordination of contractors for demolition, new carpentry, finished carpentry, a new water and drain pipe system, electrical replacements, an entirely new HVAC system, internet upgrades, dry wall applications, painting, a new ceiling system, floor refinishing, and the first insulation our 1953 building has ever seen. And that's not everything.



We are also very thankful for Richie Wiederhold and Shep Husted who devoted themselves for months providing huge chunks of the work on a contract basis. Thank you, Richie and Shep!

Beyond that, John performed a great amount of the work himself, including countless trailer-towing trips to the county waste facility with demolition debris. His deep faith, devotion, care – and determined intensity – have given Grace Church impressive and beautiful results - ***all amazingly under budget!***



We now have a very special and newly furnished Nursery in the old stage area, immediately adjacent to our playground. For many years, the two bathrooms on either side of the new Nursery were completely inoperable but are now beautifully renovated, including a baby changing table.

Our First Major Capital Campaign Renovation

Continued from Page 4

The Parish Hall Kitchen has all new cabinetry, granite countertops, hardwood floors, lighting, ceiling, plumbing fixtures, and appliances – stove, refrigerator, and dishwasher. The improvements include **the complete renovation of the laundry/utility/storage room** adjacent to the Kitchen, including a new hot water system, electrical/breaker wiring upgrades, stainless steel shelving, alarm system control boxes, hardwood flooring, ceiling system, and lighting.



Finally, there is our spectacular new Parish Hall itself! The refinished hardwood floors are stunning. The new lighting system is recessed into the new ceiling system, now elevated at a dramatic 10½ feet. The new sheetrock walls and paint give the entire room a new look to send us into the decades ahead. Brand new dining tables, 100 lovely, upholstered chairs, and other furnishings are now on site and in place.

All new doors and the replacement of awkward old steps and handrails are also now in place.

Remember that all these areas have new windows, replacing the original 1953 windows, installed a year or two ago with the help of a partial grant the Church received.



BIG NEWS!

Our annual Parish Christmas Party will be the first-ever event for our new Parish Hall.

Come celebrate on Friday evening, December 20.

On Sunday December 22, immediately following our worship service, we will have the formal dedication ceremony for our new Parish Hall, together with a special fellowship and refreshments hour.

Advocacy Day Postcard Campaign 2025

By: Barbara Presnell

The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina is inviting us to participate in Advocacy Day 2025.

Participation is easy, and it offers us as individuals and as a congregation an opportunity to express concerns for issues affecting all people in our state and community.

In January and February, the Social Concerns Commission will announce several opportunities—social hour after services, collection during services, email responses, and more—for congregants to write on postcards issues for which they feel great concern. Advocacy issues might include gun violence prevention, creation care, affordable housing, racial justice, homelessness, education, elder care, mental health,

gender equality, gender identity, and more. Social Concerns will collect the postcards and deliver them by hand to the Diocesan House by March 1.

Your job is to prayerfully consider issues affecting you, your family, your friends and neighbors, and others who live among us.

Our parish voice will join with the chorus of voices across the state to advocate for what is decent, right, and just in a local and global community of faith, loving all others as Jesus has commanded us.

Please address any questions to Pam Harvey (pharvey@ctilex.com) or Barbara Presnell (bpresnel@triad.rr.com).

Capital Campaign Renovations: What's Next?

By: Ed Kelaher

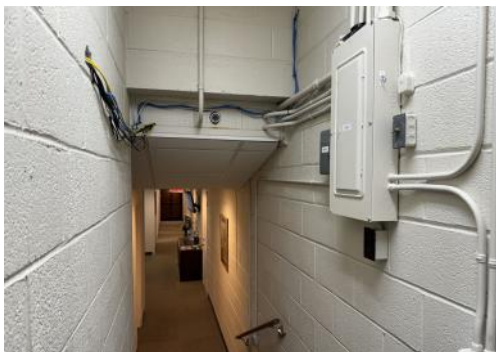
Our extensive Parish Hall, Parish Hall Kitchen, and Children's Nursery renovations are all but behind us. This was Phase One of our ambitious renovation plan. Thank you, God! So, what happens next?

After some weeks to celebrate Christmas and to give our Facilities Manager and Junior Warden some time to gather themselves, progress will continue with Phase Two throughout our education and office building. Here's what you should expect.

1. All the 1953 windows on the first and second floors will be replaced – 18 in total.



2. All the unsightly electrical panels, conduits, and visible wires in the main hallway will be relocated or buried in the walls or ceiling.



3. All the unsightly HVAC aluminum ducts will be removed or concealed.
4. The rainwater damaged stucco/plaster walls of the Chapel will be properly repaired and restored, with the entire Chapel to be painted. The rainwater seepage problem has already been fully remedied, together with all issues concerning crawlspace water accumulation.



5. The Chapel will also receive electrical renovations where needed.

6. The awkwardly high and risky steps leading from the hallway into the Chapel's altar area will be replaced by 2 steps of proper height.



7. A ramp will replace the hallway stairs adjacent to the current Rector's Office providing coast-to-coast wheelchair access from the Commons Room to the Parish Hall and back – including unhindered access to the existing handicap designed bathroom.

8. The current Rector's Office will be renovated to provide the moving of its entry door to allow ramp construction, a 4-foot enlargement of the room, a vestments closet, a new drop ceiling, new ceiling lighting, bookshelves, and new flooring.



9. New sheetrock/drywall will be installed throughout the first and second floor hallways and in rooms with bare cinder block walls.

There will be more aspects of the Phase Two renovations, but this list is fairly comprehensive.

Once completed, likely in the spring of 2025, we will move on to Phase Three, which will include significant renovations to our main Church building, the refinishing of the Commons Room metal roof, the resurfacing of our 5th Avenue parking lot, and more. Please look to our Capital Campaign brochure for a more complete listing of the work to be done.

Remember that much of this wonderful plan will depend on the fulfillment of our Capital Campaign goal of \$1,000,000 – with a bit more than \$200,000 still hoped for from the remaining gifts to be given.

***Please say your prayers and lovingly provide your gift to God.
As you see, the fruit of our gifts has been a true blessing of the Holy Spirit!***

Messy Church

By: Kathy Johnson

What is Messy Church?

Messy Church can be defined by many of our ministries or commissions and our Mission Statement.



Faith and the Arts: Messy Church's approach of blending art, music, drama, and thought-provoking questions encompasses the heart of the Faith and the Arts ministry. It's an engaging way to explore our faith.

Social Concerns or Outreach: One of the tenants of Messy Church is to look to your community to find ways to engage and share the Gospel. We invite not only our parishioners of Grace Church, but we also extend special invitations to our Sunday Lunch guests. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to a group of people that might not belong to a church but are looking for community.

Christian Education: Exploring different stories and themes means there is always something new to learn. Participants can connect with their faith in a variety of ways.

Worship: Messy Church includes a short Celebration or Worship time; tying together all the activities and themes of the day. It's a time to sing a song or two and to share a blessing before our meal.

Fellowship or Parish Life: Messy Church offers a time for fellowship; a truly enriching experience, blending faith, creativity, and community in such a meaningful way. The mix of activities, discussions, and a shared meal creates a wonderful atmosphere of fellowship and learning.

Messy Church is a unique way to involve our community, fostering a welcoming environment where everyone can feel included. These gatherings are about more than just exploring stories and creating art, they are about building community.

The Mission of Grace Episcopal Church is to be a welcoming community of faith guided by the life and teachings of Jesus.

Messy Church is for everyone, all ages!! Our next Messy Church is Saturday, February 1, 2025.

YAY Acolytes!

By: Kathie Goodman

I just want to tell each of the acolytes (and parents) how much I love having you in the Services!! I love being in the back of the Church with you each Sunday morning, answering any questions you may have (IF even I have the answers), sending you to retrieve the Cross & torches, lighting, and sometimes relighting, the torches, lining up & leading the procession.....YOU start the participation of the people.

A couple of reminders.....if you have to yawn - cover your mouth!! No slouching in the pews or stretching. If you are Crucifer and you are wearing

shorts, keep your vestment closed while sitting down - it looks like you do not have any clothes on. 🙈 Pay attention to the Service, it helps everybody.

A very special thank you when you jump in at the last minute to serve when someone is not there - you are loved!!

Most of all, be proud of what you are doing -- it is a very important part of our Worship Services!

Kathie G, Acolyte Grandma

Youth News

By: Cathy & Sims Riggan

The youth served dinner to the guests at the homeless shelter on Monday evening, December 2nd. 45 guests enjoyed lasagna, rolls, salad and cookies.

The youth went shopping for Pastor's Pantry today and delivered 3 carts full of non perishable food. This is an annual tradition and involved some friendly competition between grocery cart teams. The Pantry serves over 400 seniors monthly, many of whom are raising grandchildren for a total of 750 people. We learned a lot from the director when we dropped off the groceries. The money used to purchase the groceries was from funds raised by parking cars at the BBQ Festival.

On Sunday evening, December 15th we will gather in the Undercroft for our Christmas party, including food and games.





Elizabeth Purdy stands beside her creation of the gingerbread church for the Grace Church float in the Lexington Christmas Parade on December 2.





Grief Support Group

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

Contact Us Today

Tuesdays 6 - 8 pm :: Commons Room
January 7 - April 1, 2025
Grace Episcopal Church
Lexington, NC 27292
gracelexingtonnc.org :: 336.249.7211

New Grief Share Group starts January 7, 2025

Grief Share is a 13 week, Christ-centered grief support group program. A new group will begin January 7, 2025. Participants will meet on Tuesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Commons Room. There is no charge.

Each session includes a 30-minute video, followed by small group, discussion. This ministry is co-facilitated by Mary Crump and Pam Harvey. If there are any questions, they will be glad to provide more information.



These are just a few comments shared by participants at the end of the Grief Share sessions in Spring 2024.

Grief Share guided me through my journey and helped me to understand and navigate the unfamiliar feelings and thoughts I was having. It helped me be open and accepting.

It's okay to not be okay. It's okay to be angry. It's part of healing. Get it out!!

I liked that the program allowed you to see scenarios of real people and their experiences. I also liked the feel of friendship within our group.

I don't feel all is settled in my journey, but I do feel Grief Share group is a work in progress. It has given me the tools to face whatever situation may present itself.

I appreciate that you gave people time and support when they became emotional.



Our Capital Campaign

By: Ed Kelaher

When our Vestry boldly, prayerfully, and faithfully announced its Capital Campaign initiative to honor God with a \$1 million goal, many were very surprised and some even questioned if it could be done. After all, we are a small church. The deciding factor though isn't **how big our church might be** but instead **how big our God is within the hearts of our church!**

God is inspiring the hearts of the Grace Church family!

There is every reason to have faith that we will reach our total! Let's be clear though. We have not yet reached our aspired amount though we are between 75% and 80% of the goal with **many households** still indicating that a pledge is coming.



The most important criteria is overall participation.

Whether we reach our financial goal or not, the more important goal is to reach 100% participation of our people who are all in different situations. Our prayer is that **everyone** might give **something** so that we might be one together in Christ. Some of us are able to give perhaps \$1,000 over the 3-year campaign scope, while others might be able to give a six-figure gift right now. God knows that people are in different places financially but instead intends that we be in the same place sharing – with each of us to delightfully make whatever gift to the Lord we might be able.

Our campaign continues until December 31. Our Vestry members will be contacting many of the households who have not yet provided their gifts. Remember, gifts can be spread over the next 36 months or be given up front, or somewhere in-between. If you need a campaign booklet describing our vision and the application of the gifts, just contact the church office or anyone on the Vestry.

Please say your prayers and complete a campaign pledge card by December 31. Your gift will enable Grace Church to evermore fulfill its Gospel mission as we completely restore our buildings and set the stage for generations to come after us.

God bless you as you discern what God might be asking of you!



Marjorie Parker and Dan Briggs, Coordinators



Submitting Names for our Parish Prayer List

By: Ed Kelaher

Anyone compiling a list of the most sacred treasures of Grace Church would likely not think about placing our Prayer List at or near the top. Yet it is about the most sacred, holy, and sacramentally vital possession we have in Christ. This compilation of those saints most desperately, chronically, or situationally in need of God's care stands as a precious devotional for the focus of our prayers, service, sacrifices, and love. The Prayer List is so critically important that it is lifted to



God at almost every worship service – and especially at our Wednesday Noon Prayer Services.

For some of us, the Prayer List is an everyday spiritual centerpiece. If this is not true for you, please reflect upon the idea of incorporating the list into your daily life. Not only will you come closer to God and give a piece of your heart to those desperately seeking your prayers, but you will be changed and spiritually beautified by such daily devotions. Try it for a week. If it doesn't inflame your spirit, then try it for another week!

Because our Prayer List is so critically important to Heaven and Earth, we need to manage and attend it with our very best efforts. All too often we lose track of the identity of some names over a long time. Or those who submitted a name for prayer forget to tell us to remove a name once the prayer needs have passed. Faithful parishioners continue to pray earnestly in good faith for something no longer at risk or needed. So, here's a new way for us to follow.

A New Prayer List Practice

Beginning January 1, our Prayer List will include a provided name for 3 months, after which the name will be rotated off the list in good faith.

If someone requests that the name be included longer or that the name be reinstated, of course we will gladly, cheerfully, and faithfully do so.

Our goal is to include as many names as might be in need of prayers and love, while being responsible to ensure that faithful praying people are not praying unnecessarily.



Not only will our new practice make our prayers more effective and efficient, but it will serve to heighten and sharpen the attention and care given to the list by all of us. Holy management of the Prayer List requires excellence, thoughtfulness, awareness, and liveliness – all of which are improved by the mindful consideration of the current conditions and needs of those for whom we are praying in love and faith. Please continue to provide new names for our Prayer List whenever someone might be served by this ministry.

May God bless, protect, heal, and comfort everyone for whom we pray.



Help is needed to solve a long term mystery at Grace Church. There has been a beautiful mink coat hanging in the narthex closet for as long as anyone can remember. If you have any clue to the owner of the coat that has initials BSW please contact the Church. The coat is lonely!



The Fun and Ease of the Holy Roller



Grace Episcopal Church





HOLY ROLLER

Call us at
(336) 396-2904
for a free ride
from your car to
the door

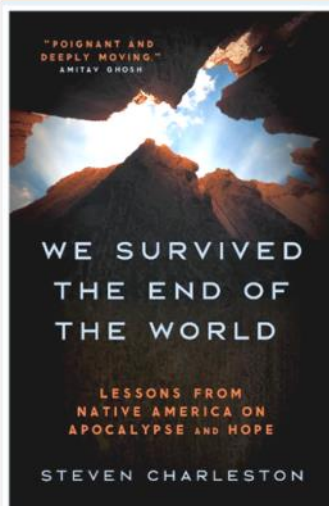
The new Capital Campaign acquisition of the Holy Roller 6-seat golf cart has been as much fun as it is convenience and resource for our congregation. Recently, our new cart made its debut showing throughout the Lexington Christmas Parade on December 4. Not only was the Holy Roller a delight to those who saw it and rode it, but it served to shine a light on Grace Church and raise a bit of awareness for us all.

Far and away, the best use of our new cart is shuttling our people back and forth from their parking spots to the church doors. This is especially important in bad weather or when mobility might be a challenge to someone.

If a ride from the parking lot to the church would be a help to you, *or if it would be simply fun for you and your kids to take a ride*, give us a call and we will be there for you!

We are also seeking team members to staff and operate the cart on Sundays and for other occasions. If you would enjoy being a part of this new ministry, please contact the church office.

While the Holy Roller might not be a wild ride, it's spirit of excitement and delight brings delight, convenience, and even laughter to us all. Give us a call and take a ride!



ADULT FORUM (book study) BEGINS NEW SERIES

Beginning on **Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Commons Room**, the Adult Forum (book study) will begin a new book and discussion session.

Our book is **WE SURVIVED THE END OF THE WORLD: LESSONS FROM NATIVE AMERICA ON APOCALYPSE AND HOPE** by Choctaw elder and retired Episcopal bishop Steven Charleston.

"You'd be hard-pressed to find an apocalypse more total than the one Native America has confronted for more than four hundred years," says the book's jacket cover. "Yet Charleston's ancestors are a case study in the liberating and hopeful survival of a spiritual community."

In the book, Charleston highlights four indigenous communities whose ongoing practices have given them courage and dignity to survive 400 years of struggle. Their models of spiritual strength and enduring hope serve as lessons for Christian communities as we face an uncertain future of war, pandemic, natural disaster, and environmental collapse. Here, we can learn from our brothers and sisters how not only to keep our faith but to strengthen it as we move forward.

Books are available for purchase (or order) at Pig City Books or your bookseller of choice. Please plan to join us in the Commons Room for meaningful discussions and personal growth. All members of the parish are welcome!

If you have questions, please contact Barbara Presnell (bpresnel@triad.rr.com) or Gail Rogers (grogers@lexcominc.net).

Prayer List

Adkins, Lou	Parishioner
Adkins, Mark	Fred & Lou's son
Amon, Amanda	Rick Mack's sister
Asebes, Ella	B & W MacKinstry's granddaughter
Batson, Paul	Friend of Frances Garner
Bolstad, Sissy	Frances Garner's sister-in-law
Brandon, Alice & family	Leslie Sheets' great niece
Branscomb, Susan	Grace Member
Broch, Lynn	Fran Moore's sister
Burke, Gayle	Parishioner
Byers, Seraphina	Mimi & Henry's granddaughter
Campbell, Jean	John Taylor's sister
Cleckley, Lynne	Parishioner
Clippard, John	Friend of Penny Taylor
Clodfelter, Joan	Parishioner
Cook, Tom	Summer Cook's father
Curia, Morgan	Former Parishioner
Deese, Roy	(Nursery) Beth Ray's father
DiRenzo, Dan	Friend of D & R Wiederhold
Dixon, Susan	Former Parishioner
Dube, Kim	M & H Duquette's niece
Ewbank, Renee	Parishioner
Froehlich, Charlotte	Friend of Ed & Patty
Gallen, Jenny	Friend of Teri Wagner
Garland, Shana	Friend of Talmadge Silversides
Giles, James	Friend of Georgeanna Sellers
Graham, Earnest	Diocesan Canon Missioner
Grimes, Jane	Parishioner
Hackney, Jim	Friend of Staley Nance
Hanna, George	K. Everhart's brother
Hare, Rob	Penny Taylor's brother
Harris, Kristen	Friend of Staley Nance
Hinkle, Nancy	Talmadge's sister-in-law
Hodges, Chris	Parishioner
Hudson, Brittany	Brenda Martinez's daughter
Hutchins, Nancy	Friend of Riggan family
Johnson, Alisa	Friend of Kat Danze
Johnson, Vickie & Mike	Parishioners
Jones, Andrew	David Jones' son
Jones, David	Parishioner
Kent, Brian	Donna Wiederhold's brother
Lee, Cara	Friend
Lendahl, Becky	Friend of Susan Terrell
MacKinstry, Warren	Parishioner
Marr, Liz	Friend of Ed & Patty Kelaher
Marshall, A. C.	Friend of Judie Reed
Mason, Debbie	Pam Harvey's sister-in-law
McKenzie, Kate	Kathy Young's granddaughter
McNeair, Charles	
Moore, Dan & Fran	Parishioners
Palmer, Howard	Friend of Beth Burke
Peoples, Walker	K & R Johnson's grandson
Pierce, Thomas	Friend of Kathie Goodman
Plott, Gabby	Friend of Judie Reed
Rojas, Jacklynn	M&L Cleckley's granddaughter
Routh, Melissa	Friend of Nancy Mack
Ryals, Christine	Friend of Katherine Everhart
Sanabria, Lucas	Ed & Patty's grandson
Santolla, Lynn	Friend of M & T Parker
Sheets, Suzy	Parishioner

Short, Patty	Friend of Penny Taylor
Silversides, Talmadge	Parishioner
Simmons, Morgan	Friend of Staley Nance
Smith, Clyde	Friend of Bill Herndon
Smith, Martha Ellen	Parishioner
Smith, Sharon	Friend of Tere Wagner
Sean Sullivan	Friend of M & L Cleckley
Touchton, Jackie	B. MacKinstry's sister
Tyndall, Brenda	Friend of K. Everhart
Van Dyke, Perry Grimes	Friend
Williams, Flynn	B & B Gilleland's grandson
Williams, Mary	Parishioner
Wylie, Paul	Friend of Logan Sheets
Young, Charlotte	Carolyn Wolfe's sister

Those while Traveling

Cameron Klass	Martha Ellen's granddaughter
Julia Klass	Martha Ellen's granddaughter
Josey Parker	M & T Parker's daughter

December Birthdays

Dec 1	Jason Hayes
Dec 1	Martha Ellen Smith
Dec 5	Mary Matthews
Dec 8	Shannon Jones
Dec 12	Lyndon Briggs
Dec 20	Owen Miller
Dec 23	Carol Jordan
Dec 25	Louie Cox
Dec 25	Sam Harris
Dec 29	Barry Wardle
Dec 29	Fisher Welborn
Dec 31	Claudia Russell
Dec 31	Da Williams

January Birthdays

Jan 1	Belvie Gilleland
Jan 4	Mike Wagner
Jan 7	David Keyser
Jan 8	Marisa Jones
Jan 9	Penny Taylor
Jan 11	Cameron Miller
Jan 16	Eric Thomas
Jan 17	Levi Keyser
Jan 21	Miles Cleckley
Jan 24	Fred Adkins
Jan 25	Mary-Cameron Welborn
Jan 26	Bebe Briggs
Jan 30	Richard Wolfe

December / January Ministries Schedule

	Dec 8 10:30	Dec 15 10:30	Dec 22 Lessons & Carols 10:30	Dec 24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm	Dec 25 Christmas Day 10:30	Dec 29 10:30	Jan 5 10:30	Jan 5 Epiphany 5:30 pm	Jan 12 10:30	Jan 19 10:30
Lector	Kathy Young	Karl Bolstad	Penny Taylor MORE NEEDED	Barbara Presnell	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Tere Wagner	Mary Matthews	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Sally Dodd
Intercessor	Elizabeth Purdy	Kristi Allred	n/a	Judie Reed	Volunteer Needed	Staley Nance	Elizabeth Purdy	n/a	Kristi Allred	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
LEM	Kathie G. Pam H.	Tommy B. Karl B.	n/a	Karl B. Mary M.	Volunteer Needed	Miles C. Kathie G.	Pam H. Tommy B.	n/a	Karl B. Staley N.	Kathie G. Miles C.
Acolyte(s)	Jack Analis Chandler	Fisher Tucker	Anderson Merritt Tanner	Hadley Ward Fisher	Volunteer Needed	Analise Jack Tucker	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Ushers	Sims Riggan Bill Gilleland	Richie W. Richard Wolfe	Joe Wallace Doug Hartzog	Wes Allred Chandler Allred	Volunteer Needed	Tommy Black Sims Riggan	Bill Gilleland Richard Wolfe	Volunteers Needed	Richie W. Doug Hartzog	Joe Wallace Tommy Black
Greeter	Frances Garner	Sandra Husted	Penny Taylor	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Donna Wiederhold	Mary Cameron Welborn	Volunteer Needed	Frances Garner	Sandra Husted
Flowers	NEEDED	NEEDED	Karl & Mary Bolstad	Optional	Needed	NEEDED	NEEDED	n/a	NEEDED	NEEDED
Social Hour	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	n/a	n/a	NEEDED	NEEDED	n/a	NEEDED	NEEDED
Altar Guild	December 2024: Patty Kelaheer, Sally Dodd, Belvie Gilleland, Kathie Goodman, Lynn Meeks, Mary Williams January 2025: Sandra Husted, Linda Cox, Marlene Jones, Mary Matthews, Sandy Reynolds February 2025: Patty Kelaheer, Sally Dodd, Belvie Gilleland, Kathie Goodman, Lynn Meeks, Mary Williams									
Homeless Shelter Meals: New Volunteers are always needed!! At this time, groups can deliver the food to the shelter and leave. It is your decision to stay and serve, but it is not necessary. Please plan to provide for approximately 65 people. January: John & Beth Burke, Penny & John Taylor, Shannon Jones February: n/a March: Sandy Reynolds, Belinda & David Thomas (MORE NEEDED)										
TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE										
Vestry Person of the Month for December: Dan Briggs Vestry Person of the Month for January 2025: Marilyn Taylor Vestry Person of the Month for February 2025: Wes Allred										

December 2024/January 2025

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8 9:30 am UC <i>Rector's Forum</i> 10:30 Worship - Rite 1 	9	10	11 5:00 pm CR Social Concerns 6:00 pm PH "Messy Church" meeting	12	13	14
15 9:30 am UC <i>Rector's Forum</i> 10:30 Worship - Rite 1  4:30 pm PH Youth Christmas Party	16	17	18 12:00 pm Chapel Wednesday Noon Prayer	19	20  6 - 9:00 pm PH	21
22 9:30 am UC <i>Rector's Forum</i> 10:30 Worship  ADVENT <i>lessons & carols</i>	Church Office Closed					
29	30	31	JANUARY 1 2025	2	3	4
Church Office Closed						
						
5 9:30 am PH <i>Rector's Forum</i> 9:00 am CR Book Study 10:30 Worship - Rite 2 + 5:30 pm Epiphany Service 	6	7	6:00 pm - PH Messy Church Meeting 6 - 8:00 pm CR Grief Share	8	9	10
9:30 am PH <i>Rector's Forum</i> 9:00 am CR Book Study 10:30 Worship - Rite 2	12	13	14 6 - 8:00 pm CR Grief Share	15	16	17
			12:00 pm Chapel Wednesday Noon Prayer			
9:30 am PH <i>Rector's Forum</i> 9:00 am CR Book Study 10:30 Worship - Rite 2	19	20	21	22	23	24
		6 - 8:00 pm CR Grief Share	12:00 pm Chapel Wednesday Noon Prayer			
9:30 am PH <i>Rector's Forum</i> 9:00 am CR Book Study 10:30 Worship - Rite 2	26	27	28	29	30	31
		6 - 8:00 pm CR Grief Share	12:00 pm Chapel Wednesday Noon Prayer	9:30 am PH Women's Bible Study		
				9:30 am PH Women's Bible Study		

Remember, if you will be conducting a meeting at Grace Church, you need to contact the church office to reserve a space! Email or call Maureen at (336) 249-7211
gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org

CR = Commons Room	Commons Room Activities
PH = Parish Hall	Parish Hall Activities
UC = Undercroft	Undercroft Activities