



January & February 2021

THE GRACE CHURCH

Grapevine

Digital Worship Opportunities

On Sundays at 9:30am, we premier a prerecorded service on Grace's YouTube and Facebook channels. You can watch live with others at the premier or at your leisure at any time afterward. The links are here and on our website for easy access:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceinRandolph>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRJqNVNNH_0qGTZoqpE4VcA

You may also wish to participate in Morning Prayer on Tuesdays to Fridays weekly at 8:30am with our partner, St. Luke's. It is live streamed at www.facebook.com/StLukesJamestown. Call 716-483-6405 for more details.

Ash Wednesday & Ashes to Go

On Ash Wednesday we will have a special pre-recorded, meditative service to mark the fast. The Bishop's has eased his suspension on in-person gatherings to allow us to offer "Ashes to Go" outside in front of the church from 9:30 to 11:30 on Ash Wednesday (February 17). Pull up in front for the parish house and give us a honk. We'll come out with ashes and blessed communion for you to receive at home. Call 716-483-6405 for more details.

Pastoral Letter

The strangeness of the last year has not ended despite the fact that we have begun a New Year. Despite the veil of pandemic, 2020 witnessed significant changes in the life of Grace Church, with Fr. Tom's retirement and the beginning of new partnership with St. Luke's Church, Jamestown. While my tenure as your Priest-in-Charge has been short (only since September), I have been learning lots about Grace Church and I have grown to love it dearly. As such, I cannot tell you how frustrating it is serving a congregation of people with whom I cannot physically gather. As I was recently reading the Bible and I was struck by this passage from the beginning of 1st Corinthians: "I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." This epistolary existence speaks perfectly to this moment—when we can't be together physically as a group. God IS faithful and we have been called to be not in fellowship with Jesus Christ, but with Christ's Body the Church. Please know that I am praying for you and giving thanks for you. If you would like to connect physically (at a social distance with masks on, my office hours remain 10:30 to 12:30 on Wednesday).

Annual Meeting to be held via Zoom on Sunday 1/24/21 at 11:15am

New York State Religious Corporation Law requires that we must hold our Annual Meeting even though we are prevented from meeting in person. We will hold a brief Annual Meeting to elect new leadership, to approval the budget and tend to necessary business. To join the Zoom Meeting from your computer, tablet or smart phone, please follow this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83613692798?pwd=QTcyaVJRa2kzS0ZmWUx4aUNEK1dwQT09>

You should not be prompted to enter a passcode; however, should you encounter such a prompt, that passcode is 980603. You can also phone on a landline using this number (929) 205-6099 and entering the Meeting ID: 836 1369 2798 and passcode: 980603.

Leadership Candidates Standing for Election at the Annual Meeting

For Warden (2 Year-term): Trevor Barton



I have grown up at Grace Church, and now I am raising my family here. I have held the position of Warden twice before, and I have helped to lead the parish through times of change. For the past two years, I have served as Treasurer of Grace Church, helping to modernize the church's accounting system to utilize QuickBooks On-Line, making the system, financial reporting and the parish audit easier and more efficient. I have been one of Grace Church's delegates to

Diocesan Convention for the last 22 years, and I have been a part of not one, not two, but three special elections of bishop of the Diocese of Western New York during my service as a Convention delegate. I have served, for the last, nearly 12 years, as the Verger of Grace Church, and before that, I served as Acolyte Master for 12 years. If elected as Warden, I will bring with me 20 years of professional, and practical business experience, working as a Retail Store Manager for 15 years, a Warden for several years, and as an accountant, going into my fifth tax season. I feel I will bring a wide array of useful experience to the position of Warden of Grace Church.

For Vestry (3 Year-term): Kalan Brown



Kalan Brown grew up in Randolph and has been a member of Grace Church for about 5 years. He lives with his wife, Stephanie, and two boys Kieran and Klayton. He works as a Healthcare Data Analyst for various companies in the area. He enjoys reading, hiking, and skiing, but mostly spends a lot of time with his family in his free time.

For Vestry (3 Year-term): Yvonne Carlson



Yvonne Carlson lives here in Randolph with her husband Roger. Yvonne has been a member of Grace Church her entire life. After many years of great work Yvonne is stepping down as Warden to assume a position on the Vestry.

For Vestry (3 Year-term): Dianne Gaddis



I'm a relatively new member of Grace Church, but have been coming here for years whenever I was visiting with my daughter, Sarah Barton, and her family. When I retired from Lockheed Martin after a 42 year career as an Electrical Engineer, I decided to move back home. I grew up in Salamanca and am a cradle Episcopalian. I am so happy to be part of Grace Church. I am excited to see what God has in

store for our church! My grandkids keep me busy, but in my spare time I enjoy bird watching, quilting, sewing and working on my various home improvement projects. In 2021, I am assuming the responsibilities of Treasurer.

BALLOT
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF WARDEN, VESTRY MEMBERS, AND
ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020 ** 11:15 AM**

QUALIFICATION OF VOTERS:

Voters must be persons of full age (18 or over) who have been regular attendants at services and contributors to Grace Parish, Randolph, New York for at least twelve months prior to the Annual Election.

QUALIFICATIONS OF WARDENS:

To be elected a Warden, a person must be a pledging, communicant member in good standing of Grace Church and at least 18 years of age.

QUALIFICATIONS OF VESTRY MEMBERS:

To be elected to the Vestry, a person must be a baptized and pledging member in good standing of Grace Parish, at least 18 years of age.

FOR WARDEN: two-year term

VESTRY:

Vote for **one**

Three

Trevor Barton (2-yr. term) ()
yr. full term) ()

Carlson (3-yr. full term) ()

Gaddis (3-yr. full term) ()

2021 DELEGATES TO CONVENTION ()

vote for **three**

Trevor Barton ()

Yvonne Carlson ()

Sarah Barton ()

()

FOR

Vote for

Kalan Brown (3-

Yvonne

Diane

Search Committee Update

As you might imagine, the ongoing reality of a global pandemic makes the search for a new permanent, part-time rector extremely difficult. Qualified candidates are simply not interested in relocating at this tenuous moment especially for part-time employment. While the search has NOT closed and the process has NOT concluded, the search is in an ostensibly dormant phase. During this winter hibernation please know that the life of the church continues to grow quietly even if largely unseen.

As your priest in charge, I have been actively communicating with leadership of the diocese and advocating for the future of Grace Church and its mission in Randolph. At the end of December, I had a fruitful meeting with Bishop Sean about the search process and our next steps. He is committed to finding the best possible candidate for Grace Church and believes that that person is likely to emerge locally. As such, he asked that we patiently work through the first part of 2021 as things are with the leadership team of St. Luke's (Jessica Frederick, Deacon Cathy Smith and me) providing pastoral and operational oversight. And he promises to unveil a plan for renewed and dedicated leadership at Grace Church sometime after June 2021.

In the meantime, please know that the wardens, vestry and the staff of Grace are diligently working to keep Grace Church on track for a fabulous future.

Partnership Youth Group- Our Partnership with St. Luke's creates other opportunities for connection. For instance, all youth (5th to 12th grades) are welcome to join SLY PYG (which is the St. Luke's Episcopal Youth and Presbyterian Youth Group) which meets weekly at 6:30pm to 7:30pm in Jamestown, alternating between church buildings and sometimes on Zoom. For more details contact jessica.frederick@stlukesjamestown.org

Please Like & Subscribe

In this pandemic moment we are trying to expand our connection with parishioners through social media. In order to best connect with you, we ask you to please like and subscribe to our YouTube and Facebook pages. You can find links on the first page.

Sending Support: Where to Mail Your Donation

With the suspension of in-person worship, the collection plate is not being passed around and we realize it might be confusing how to offer your financial support of Grace. We have just streamlined our financial procedures to address this reality. We encourage parishioners to either mail or deliver their offerings to the newly installed (Thanks, Tom Barrille!) and secure mailbox. Designated staff and church officers are collecting the mail several times a week and deposits are being made weekly.

Soulful Shrove Concert

Normally on Shrove Tuesday, you might find yourself in the parish hall filling up on pancakes and conversation with your church family. This year COVID has stolen that reality along with many others. So instead of dwelling on the negative, join with Ron McEntire, Minister of Music at St. Luke's Church, who is offering a special live-streamed piano concert on Shrove Tuesday to serve up an extra helping of soulful Gospel tunes. This service will occur on February 16th at 7pm on St. Luke's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StLukesJamestown>

Announcements

Forward Day by Day and Daily Bread booklets are here. Please call us to make arrangements to get yours.

Our **God's Creation Calendars** are in. Suggested donation is \$8. Proceeds benefit the Youth fund.

ECW

Grace Episcopal Church Women will be sponsoring a super bowl Sunday pizza party for the Randolph Manor residence and employees. The evening meal will be topped off with ice cream sundaes.

If you would like to help with the cost, please send donations to Grace Episcopal Church Women at 21 N. Washington St Randolph NY 14772.

Sympathy Cards Requested



Please send cards and other notes of sympathy to Leila Armstrong (141 Mill St ER, Randolph, NY 14722). Her son, and former Grace member, Sam Armstrong passed away tragically in a motorcycle accident on 1/12/21 in Florida. Please remember her in your prayers.



READ THE BIBLE WITH US DURING EPIPHANY 2021

January 1 – February 16

What is the Good Book Club?

Each year we join thousands of other Episcopalians in reading a book of the Bible all the way through, from beginning to end. In doing so we have a different, and often enlightening, experience than only hearing short snippets on Sundays or in Daily Prayer.

This is the year of Mark in the Sunday Lectionary, and so we are joining thousands of other Episcopalians in reading the Gospel of Mark, beginning to end. This will take less than 50 days, reading a page or less each day, and at the end you will have a new perspective of that story that begins with the simple sentence: *The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

How can I be part of this?

The Good Book Club at the St. Luke's – Grace Partnership will provide several different opportunities to be involved in the reading of the Gospel of Mark. You are invited to choose whatever level of involvement works for you.

- Simply read from your personal Bible each day, using the schedule provided. Just open your Bible and start!
- We will be hosting a 1 hour weekly Zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85088807728?pwd=UVRRTFFhK0MzVHQ5RkxZVmZMSEhhQT09> gathering to discuss the readings of the past week and to explore what they mean to our lives today. Even if you can't make it every week you are welcome to join us whenever you can.
- An OPTIONAL study guide, *A Journey with Mark: The 50 Day Bible Challenge*, is available through the [Forward Movement](#), or as a [Kindle](#), [Nook](#), or [Apple](#) book.
- **Website announcements**
<https://sites.google.com/view/stluke-grace-goodbookclub/>

THE GOOD BOOK CLUB ~ DAILY READING SCHEDULE
Epiphany 2021

The Gospel according to Mark

Fri, Jan 1	1:1-11	Mon, Jan 25	9:33-49
Sat, Jan 2	1:12-20	Tues, Jan 26	10:1-12
Sun, Jan 3	1:21-45	Wed, Jan 27	10:13-31
Mon, Jan 4	2:1-12	Thu, Jan 28	10:32-52
Tues, Jan 5	2:38-38	Fri, Jan 29	11:1-11
Wed, Jan 6	3:1-12	Sat, Jan 30	11:12-19
Thu, Jan 7	3:13-35	Sun, Jan 31	11:20-33
Fri, Jan 8	4:1-20	Mon, Feb 1	12:1-17
Sat, Jan 9	4:21-34	Tues, Feb 2	12:18-34
Sun, Jan 10	4:35-41	Wed, Feb 3	12:25-44
Mon, Jan 11	5:1-20	Thu, Feb 4	13:1-13
Tues, Jan 12	5:21-43	Fri, Feb 5	13:14-27
Wed, Jan 13	6:1-13	Sat, Feb 6	13:28-37
Thu, Jan 14	6:14-29	Sun, Feb 7	14:1-11
Fri, Jan 15	6:30-44	Mon, Feb 8	14:12-25
Sat, Jan 16	6:45-56	Tues, Feb 9	14:26-42
Sun, Jan 17	7:1-13	Wed, Feb 10	14:43-65
Mon, Jan 18	7:14-30	Thu, Feb 11	14:66-72
Tues, Jan 19	7:31-37	Fri, Feb 12	15:1-15
Wed, Jan 20	8:1-13	Sat, Feb 13	15:16-32
Thu, Jan 21	8:14-26	Sun, Feb 14	15:33-47
Fri, Jan 22	8:27-38	Mon, Feb 15	16:1-8
Sat, Jan 23	9:1-13	Tues, Feb 16	16:9-20
Sun, Jan 24	9:14-32	Feb 17 ~ Ash Wednesday	

Stewardship

Thanks to everyone who has submitted your pledge for the 2021 Budget. We have received about 16 pledges to date which represents approximately \$33,000. Given the pandemic, this is to be expected, but we hope of you have pledged in the past you will do so again now. Grace continues to need your support in these challenging times. If you have not yet submitted your pledge there is still time to do so as we have not yet begun fashioning our 2021 budget.

Stay Connected via Online Services – Even though we have resumed in-person worship services, there are still options for digital worship via the Diocesan Partnership at 10am (<https://zoom.us/j/127336938pwd=cm8zUWh0Y2loTjYyKy91YURsTVBCQT0>) to join. If you are asked for a password, use-**lakeerie**) or our Partnership with St. Luke's (Prerecorded service at 9:30am via www.facebook.com/StLukesJamestown or <https://youtube.com/c/StLukesEpiscopalChurch>) and a live streamed service on Facebook at 10am.

Grace Episcopal Church

Founded 1859 + Ministering at this location since 1879

21 N Washington Street

Randolph, NY 14772

716-358-6124

<https://GraceChurchRandolph.org/>

Sunday services: *10:00am*

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Sean Rowe, *Bishop*

The Rev. Luke Fodor, *Priest in charge*

Trevor Barton, *Treasurer & Verger*

Ginger Oyer, *Secretary*

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21 N Washington Street
Randolph, NY 14772

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