

CLARKE PARISH

Grace Episcopal Church / St. Mary's Memorial Church

THE EVANGELINE

August 18, 2021



FROM THE OFFICE

A Message from our Rector

Dear Friends:

As I stated a few weeks ago we have sadly had to return to mask-wearing at all our services for the time being due to the rapid spread of the Delta variant of COVID-19. We hope this will not be a long-lasting state of affairs but we must keep everyone safe. The spread has seen many "breakthrough" cases even among the vaccinated and we know that Clarke County has a particularly low vaccination rate. Please do encourage your friends, family members, and fellow parishioners who are not vaccinated to get vaccinated as that will help all of us put this behind us.



At present we are in the Orange "substantial" spread designation. While we remain in either Red "High" or Orange "Substantial" we will continue to require masks. If we drop to yellow "moderate" or Blue "low" for fourteen (14) consecutive days we will lift the mask mandate. It must be 14 consecutive days though in line with CDC guidance. We will provide a weekly update in the Evangeline regarding where we are with COVID. If you wish to monitor this information for yourself, you may use the following link, which is the same one we are using on the CDC website, and select Virginia and Clarke County.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.

We have several big services over the next few months and will continue to monitor the numbers and adjust plans for these services accordingly. With prayer and following COVID precautions hopefully, no adjustments will be needed.

Adult Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation:

The Rt. Rev Ted Gulick will be with us for Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation on Sunday, November 7th. If you are interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, please let the rector know before September 12th as you will need to attend the Episcopal Church 101 class starting that day.

Coffee with the Clergy RETURNS:

Please join me Monday afternoons beginning on September 6th at Cordial Coffee in Berryville from 2-4 pm. This time is meant for parishioners and community members alike so help spread the word and come on down for a cup of coffee/tea and some conversation!

Blessings,
Justin+

A Message from our Seminarian



Dear Friends:

The journey toward ordination is not an individual action but rather a call that is felt by the individual and supported through community. This past weekend I had the opportunity to attend the Diocese of Virginia Discernment Retreat, in Richmond, at the Rosalyn Conference Center. The retreat is for those who have interest in ordination to either the Diaconate or the Priesthood with the Diocese of Virginia. The weekend was filled with the opportunity for personal reflection, guided questioning and fellowship. The retreat is considered the first formal step toward the ordination process with the Diocese. Thank you for all your prayers and support. Clarke Parish is my community.

Blessings,
Caroline M.

A Message from our Treasurer



Dear Friends:

We appreciate everyone's continued support of Grace Church through these unusual times. Year-to-date (July 31) giving statements will be sent out this week so you can monitor your giving. I am pleased that there has been an increased number of people giving through tithe.ly. For those of you who haven't tried it, it is an easy way to have your donation debited from a credit card or bank account on a weekly, monthly, etc basis.

We continue to look for help with the cash counting duties after church each Sunday. Nadine Pluchinsky and Carolyn Gordon have dedicated many years to this task and are looking for some much-needed help. The task takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.

Blessings,

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Virtual Worship

For those of you who still wish to join us virtually instead of attending in-person worship, the 10:15 am service at Grace Church will continue to be live-streamed each week.

Please use the links below to view the service offerings.

These links are permanent and will not change week after week.

Our YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTT0nfgs77DzKrl2qxC38Cg>

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Grace-Episcopal-Church-111667788869782>

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Assistant/Sermon: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Wendy Oesterling

9 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Morning Prayer

Officiant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Assistant/Sermon: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Gwendolyn Malone

Pianist: Hailey Outland

10:15 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Assistant/Sermon: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Jim Greene

Organist: Wendy Oesterling

Acolyte: Stella Herndon

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for August 22, 2021](#)

1 Kings 8:[1,6,10-11], 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Assistant/Lay Reader: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Wendy Oesterling

9 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Morning Prayer

Officiant: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Gwendolyn Malone

Pianist: Hailey Outland

10:15 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Morning Prayer

Officiant: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Tara Flaten

Organist: Wendy Oesterling

Acolyte: Gray Jones

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for August 29, 2021](#)

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 / Psalm 45 / James 1:17-27 / Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

CHURCH NEWS

Always stay up-to-date with church events
and activities...

[Church Calendar - Quick View!](#)



August 18 - **NO** Wednesday Morning Bible Study this week!

August 19 - 'Thoughtful Thursday' Evening Prayer / 7:30 pm at Wickliffe

August 21 - Community Event - 'Stories of Redemption, Community and Imagination' / 6 pm @ Berryville Baptist Church

August 25 - **NO** Wednesday Morning Bible Study this week!

August 26 - 'Thoughtful Thursday' Evening Prayer / 7:30 pm at Wickliffe

August 31 - Informational Meeting for 'Sacred Grounds - Conversations on Race & Faith' / 7 pm in the Parish House([see below](#))

September 1 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room. New Study Topic = *Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife*([see below](#))

September 6 - Parish Office CLOSED / Labor Day Holiday

September 7 - St. Mary's Vestry Meeting / 1 pm in the Parish House

September 8 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

September 12 - ADULT Sunday School Classes RESUME / 10 am in the Parish House at St. Mary's ([see below](#))

September 12 - St. Mary's ECW Meeting / 11 am in the Parish House

September 15 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

September 19 - 'Mass in the Grass' & Parish Picnic/ 10:30 am at The Lions Shelter, Clarke County Park & Rec. This will be the only service offered by Clarke Parish this day. ([see below](#))

September 20 - GEC Vestry Meeting / 7 pm in the Conference Room

September 22 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

September 26 - SCHEDULE CHANGE - Service of Holy Eucharist/ 9 am at St. Mary's! This will be the only morning service offered at Clarke Parish this day (No 8 or 11 am worship)

September 26 - Choral Evensong & Reception/ 4 pm at GEC ([see below](#))

September 29 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

October 3 - YOUTH Sunday School Classes RESUME / 10 am in the Parish Hall (We will start the program year with a Parent/Student Informational Meeting in the McIntosh Chapel - [see below](#))

October 3 - Baptism of Parker Burch (infant son of Troy Alan Burch & Holly Robinson Burch) / during the 11 am worship service @ GEC

October 5 - St. Mary's Vestry Meeting / 1 pm in the Parish House

October 17 - St. Mary's ECW Meeting / 10 am in the Parish House

October 18 - GEC Vestry Meeting / 7 pm in the Conference Room

October 24 - St. Mary's 110th Homecoming Service & Celebration/ 11 am - this will be the only service offered at Clarke Parish this day! All are encouraged to attend this special celebration. Dr. Caroline Mitchell will be the guest speaker.

October 30 - Choral Evensong at Wickliffe / 4:30 pm

October 31 - Halloween Party & Potluck in the Fellowship Hall / immediately following the 11 am service



Thoughtful Thursday!

Evening Prayer at Wickliffe Church
Every Thursday in August!

Join us on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm for a service of Evening Prayer at Wickliffe. The service, led by Caroline Mitchell, lasts about 30 minutes and is a special way to wrap up one's day. Afterward, stay for fellowship, great conversation with friends, and maybe bring your own beverage/snack to enjoy in the churchyard too.

Vestry News

NOTES from Monday's Meeting - Vestry Updates:



Terrence Preston has left for college and therefore resigned from the vestry. He will continue to serve as our Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention. Terrence had approximately 17 months left on his three-year term so in accordance with Canon Law that the vestry appointed Lashonda Preston to fulfil his term. The vestry appointment is only valid until the next annual meeting at which point the congregation will vote whether to ratify this appointment.

Glen Koontz has resigned as Senior Warden and from his seat on the vestry. On Monday night the vestry elected Mike Casey to serve out Glen's one-year term as Senior Warden.

We thank both these brothers in Christ for their service.

The vestry elected to finish out the calendar year as an eight-member vestry and then open up nominations for one single-year term and three three-year terms before the annual meeting in 2022. **However, if you feel called to serve on the vestry and would like to be co-opted to the ninth seat at this time, please do make yourself known to any vestry member or the rector. We would be happy to have you serve.**

[Committee Updates:](#)

All committees of the church are open to all members and friends of the parish. Below is a list of our committees and their current membership. If you have an interest in learning more about any committee and/or serving on any of them, please let a current member of the appropriate committee or the rector know.

Adult Education Committee:

*Wynn Flaten, Chair
Tara Flaten
Sarah Dunn
Ben Newlon*

Audit Committee:

*Chair - vacant
John Lincoln
Priss Lowe
Margaret Burks*

Celebration of New Ministry Committee:

*Justin Ivatts, Chair
Kim Davis
Kim Schreckengost
Kathy Campbell
Lashonda Preston
Caroline Mitchell
Wendy Oesterling*

Financial Practices & Protocols Committee:

*Caroline Mitchell, Chair
Rives Bacon
Dutch Van Voorhis*

GEC Finance Committee:

*Bette Milleson
Johnny Milleson
Penny Poe
Senior Warden, ex officio
Junior Warden, ex officio*

Live Stream Committee:

*Sarah Bosworth, Chair
Kim Davis
Chris Tillman*

Outreach Committee:

*Nadine Pluchinsky, Co-Chair
Margaret Burks, Co-Chair
Caroline Mitchell, staff liaison
Melissa Casey
Tara Flaten
Bob Holmes*

Seminarian Lay/Discernment Committee:

*Nadine Pluchinsky, Chair
Wynn Flaten
Rosalind Longersbeam
Gwendolyn Malone
Robin McFillen
Catherine Dougherty
Lily Bosworth*

Scholarship Committee:

*Mike Casey, Chair
Michell Jones
Kathy Campbell
Kim Schreckengost*

School/Daycare Exploratory Committee:

*Mike Casey, Chair
Kim Schreckengost
Ben Newlon*

10 am in the Parish House @ St. Mary's
beginning on Sunday, September 12, 2021



Please join us each week and we begin a new session of Adult Sunday School with 'Episcopal Church 101'.

This fun and informative class is open to all seeking a clearer understanding of our Episcopal traditions but will be mandatory for those seeking confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church on November 7th when Bishop Gulick visits Clarke Parish.

Have you ever wondered what makes us English? Who are the Anglican Communion anyway? Who is our head, God, The Queen, The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Presiding Bishop, all of the above? How is our local parish governed? How do the readings on Sunday get selected? What do Anglicans believe about the sacraments, especially Holy Baptism and the Eucharist? Come and find out the answers to these and many other questions in our Episcopal Church 101 class starting on September 12th and every Sunday in October at 10 am at the St. Mary's Parish House. Mandatory for those being confirmed or received, encouraged for all others.

[Syllabus - Episcopal Church 101](#)

September 12 - An introduction to the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion

October 3 - An introduction to The Revised Common Lectionary

October 10 - An introduction to the Book of Common Prayer

October 17 - Music in the Anglican Tradition

October 24 - Class will meet at 9:45 in the Parish Hall @ GEC (Homecoming at St. Mary's - one service at 11:00) / Q&A - bring your questions and have them answered

October 31 - Rogue Sunday Service offered at 11 am by the youth of Clarke Parish. Rogue Sunday will be immediately followed by our annual Spooktacular Halloween Party in the Parish Hall.

An Invitation to Conversations on Race and Faith for all in Clarke Parish

'Sacred Grounds'
Conversations on Race & Faith
Tuesday, August 31st @ 7 pm
GEC Fellowship Hall

You are cordially invited to learn more about *Sacred Ground*, a film-based dialogue series based on race and faith, developed by the Episcopal Church in response to Bishop Michael Curry's invitation to all of us into "Becoming Beloved Community," a long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice.

Please join us to talk about *Sacred Ground* at an informal information /discussion session on **Thursday, August 31, at 7:00 pm** in the Grace Church Fellowship Hall. Gwen Malone, Wendy Oesterling and Justin Ivatts will introduce more about the *Sacred Ground* curriculum and share a couple of very powerful video clips.

Please feel free to invite anyone you think may be interested to join us on August 31. Also, feel free to contact Gwen or Wendy with any questions or comments you may have.

[Click HERE to read more...](#)

'Sacred Grounds' Video Clip

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/?wvideo=oz6tuf9ntg>

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

New Study Topic beginning in September!

Wednesday's at 10:30 am in the Conference Room

By popular demand, we will embark on an exploration of hell starting on **Wednesday, September 1st at 10:30 am**. Social time will precede class each week beginning at 10 am. If you are interested in participating, please purchase *Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart D. Ehrman.



The book can be purchased here by clicking the link below:

<https://www.amazon.com/Heaven-Hell-Afterlife-Bart-Ehrman/dp/1501136739>



'Mass on the Grass' Worship, Parish Picnic & Kickball Game

Save the Date!

When: Sunday, September 19, 2021

Service: 10:30 am / Lunch: noon(ish)

Where: The Lions Shelter @ Chet Hobert Park

Help us celebrate Clarke Parish, the end of summer, and the beginning of our programming year by attending an outdoor worship service and church picnic on Sunday, September 19th at the Chet Hobert Park. We will forgo our regular service schedule this day (8, 9 & 11 am), and instead gather together for one combined service 'Mass on the Grass' outdoor Eucharist service beginning at 10:30 am. Immediately following the service, we will light the grills and prepare hamburgers and hotdogs for the picnic. Guests are asked to bring a side dish, chips, or drinks to share, and maybe a lawn chair or picnic blanket too. A Perfect Potluck sign-up will be created and posted soon.

Save the date and please plan to join us for an afternoon of
faith, fellowship, fun & food.

NOTES

Volunteers are needed to help with organization, set-up, grilling duties, clean-up, etc... Please contact Robin in the office if able (and willing) to assist.

The Lions Shelter is located in the back of the Chet Hobert Park by the T-Ball/soccer fields/back playground. Plenty of parking is available. Look for signs!

Choral Evensong & Reception in honor of Karen Keating

Sunday, September 26th

4 pm @ Grace Church



Mark Your Calendars . . .

for a celebration to honor Dr. Karen Keating and her 22 years of music ministry in Clarke Parish. Karen (or KK, as her students know her) was to retire on Easter Day 2020 and the parish had planned a celebratory event to say "Thanks!" for her long and faithful service. Karen did retire, but the pandemic restrictions meant that we could not have a suitable celebration for her. Fast forward to 2021 -- **we will celebrate Karen and her ministry with us on Sunday, September 26, with a festive Choral Evensong at 4:00 pm followed by a reception.** We will invite all Karen's students, choir singers, colleagues, and friends to participate in the Evensong and we will welcome all volunteers to help with the reception. Put this very special event on your calendars, please!

NOTE: If so inclined, there is still an opportunity to contribute to 'The Purse' we are collecting for Karen. In honor of her retirement and years of dedicated service to Clarke Parish, we will present this special monetary gift to her during the Evensong Reception. Contributions should be sent to the church office ASAP (PO Box 678, Berryville, VA 22611)

Christian Education

Youth Sunday School
and Confirmation Classes

10 am in the 'Gracement' beginning on October 3, 2021!



Hooray...It's almost time to finally rejoin for in-person Sunday School fun in the Gracement! After enduring over a year of virtual, take-home, or no classes, we can now safely regather on Sunday mornings for classroom lessons, fun projects, and extracurricular activities. Who's ready?

We will begin our program year on Sunday, October 3 @ 10 am. All students AND parents are asked to join us in the McIntosh Chapel at this time for an informational meeting, session overview, teacher introductions, and classroom assignments.

Please uphold in your prayers...

THIS WEEK, we pray especially...



For those on our PRAYER LIST: David A., Robert C., Jacob F., Tim H., LaWanda H., Elise K., Trey M., George M., Nina O., Bob R., Joyce R., Ann, Kendra, Rufus T., Randy W., and Ernestine Z..

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord in your

mercy, hear our prayer.



Online Giving

It's as easy as 1,2,3...

We have partnered with [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) - a trusted platform to provide a simple, convenient, and secure way to continue supporting our ministry through online giving from anywhere at any time.

Please consider this option to make a pledge or one-time payment to the church. You can also set up recurring payments, and likewise, you can utilize [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) to give to the General Fund, Grace Giving, St. Mary's Giving, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the Backpack Program, or 'Other' by selecting from the drop-down menu options.

[Click HERE to Give Online Now](#)

The [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) link is also available by visiting the Parish Website at www.ClarkeParish.org

Community Event

Stories of Redemption, Community & Imagination

THIS SATURDAY, August 21 @ 6 pm

Berryville Baptist Church

Caroline Mitchell and Becki Casey from Clarke Parish

will be presenting their creative stories at this special community event

BBC

BERRYVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

STORIES OF REDEMPTION, COMMUNITY & IMAGINATION.

Come out to BBC on August 21st @ 6PM to enjoy a night of creative storytelling from local writers and artists. If you would like to enter and share a creative story of your own, contact the number below. You are welcome to bring a dessert to share.



When: Augst 21 @ 6PM

Where: 114 Academy St

Who: All are welcome!

For any questions call (540) 955-1423
Or Check [Facebook.com/BerryvilleBaptistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BerryvilleBaptistChurch)

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