



# Grace Notes

of GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
The Rev'd Edward K. Erb, *rector*

827 Church Street  
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431  
(570) 253-2760  
gracechurchhonesdale.org

## LENT 2018

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### PARSON'S CORNER

*Some Should*

A new Episcopalian wanted to know what we do with all that Lent stuff. "You've announced Ash Wednesday services, so I guess you do that part. What about meat on Fridays and all - giving up chocolate?"

My response is the classic Episcopal motto: **"All may; none must; some should."**

"Huh?!?"

"No one has to," I explained, "but all are invited to, and some really should."

That has to do with everything in the Church to an Episcopalian. From genuflecting (I don't know anyone at Grace Church who does - but you certainly may); to making the sign of the cross, using the holy water at the entrances, coming to private confession (we call it Reconciliation of a Penitent in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer - and not enough are penitent in my own humble opinion - but them, I'm a priest preaching here).

In the Episcopal Church, we offer the variety of spiritual devotions and welcome all, as long as it doesn't involve rattle snakes. We are proud of the fact that one person can make the sign of the Cross with Holy Water at entering the Church, genuflect on approaching the Altar, make a solemn bow at the mention of the Incarnation in the words of the Creed, be anointed with holy oils at Baptism, ask for an appointment for private Confession, and even (on special occasions at Grace Church) use incense. And then there are those faithful who think those devotions as unnecessary or 'popish.' And that's fine, too!

All may; none must; some really should.

I grew up in a very 'low' church Protestant family - Pennsylvania German Reformed, New England Congregational, back to Pennsylvania United Methodist. And came at some point in my spiritual life to appreciate the 'high' church traditions of the Anglo-Catholics. In former places, I would genuflect (bow on one knee), but at Grace Church, the architecture wins, and so I don't. But that doesn't mean I don't acknowledge the sanctity of the Altars.

Some times, I may. Sometimes, I don't have to.  
But some times, I really should.

You?

*Father Erb*

*"A House of God for All"*

# VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2018

At its January meeting:

- + Senior Warden Stephens reviewed the finances of the parish; Vestry moved for The Diocesan Acceptance amount which is asked in addition to our parish Assessment.
- + The Finance Committee presented a draft budget for 2018 which was accepted. Fr. Erb noted that a recent communication from the Diocese suggests that we owe less on our 2017 Assessment than we have scheduled. Plans are to make regular payments for the 2018 Assessment and catch up on 2017 Assessment as we are able. (We are currently \$11,000 in arrears for 2017.)
- + It was discussed with Jr. Warden Daniel Bayly and Vestryman Peter Mikulak that Dan, as he lives a considerable distance from the Church, and acknowledging all the work he and his family do around the parish with gratitude, assume the position of Chair of Building and Grounds (and not that he do all the work!) and that Pete assume the position as Jr. Warden as he is normally in town and easily accessible. Vestry approved the change, with the Annual Meeting in May to affirm the 'election.'
- + Our sexton Bradley Commeau will be leaving the first of February. The apartment will be cleaned out and prepared for a new sexton. In the interim, and there is no rush to hire a new sexton, a 'Honey-Do List' will be posted in the Parish Hall Kitchen for parishioners to volunteer and check off each week. The Sexton job description will be reviewed and updated with current needs. It was decided that with our recent history of sexton issues we should take our time to find the best candidate(s).
- + The recent changes in Honesdale Churches was discussed, particularly with name changes in certain parishes which would impact the image of Grace Church. It was suggested that all refer to our parish as Grace Episcopal Church, rather than simply Grace Church to avoid any confusion to those who are looking for assistance which we offer. No other action was determined as necessary.
- + Fr. Erb noted that the special Convention to elect the new Bishop will be coming at the end of April. Jane Bunnell and Zach Wyckoff as our last year's Delegates will continue as our parish representatives as each have been involved in Diocesan conventions for several years and are aware of all the actions and formation that has been working in the Diocese.

See below for information of the Bishop Search.

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Thought for the day:

One never gets lost when taking the high road.



# The Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

## WHO WILL BE OUR NEXT BISHOP?

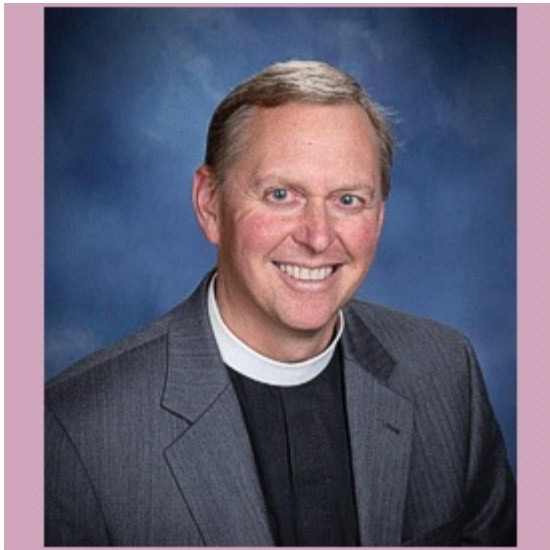
The Two Candidates are Officially Announced

8 February 2018

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Bethlehem is pleased to announce the approved slate of nominees received from the Search Committee for the IX Bishop of Bethlehem.

**The Rev. Canon Kevin D. Nichols**, from the Diocese of New Hampshire  
and

**The Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff-Stanley**, from the Diocese of Colorado



**The Rev. Canon Kevin D. Nichols**

We live in a time where religious and other institutions are being dismantled. I see this as a moment for us as the Church to recover our purpose for why we are here - for reconciliation and to offer God's love and healing where there has been painful damage. The Diocese of Bethlehem, in its diverse landscapes, is rich and fertile ground for God's planting and pruning (John 15).

Formed in both the Roman Catholic and Anglican/Episcopal traditions, my ministry has been in the mountains and small cities of New Hampshire. I began as a bi-vocational priest in a small rural parish, while working full-time as an account manager in the business world. I have served as rector of a program-size congregation. Currently, as Canon for Mission Resources / CFO of the diocese, I fulfill a strategic role that blends my administrative and mission backgrounds. I believe I bring particular skills, a non-anxious presence, and a listening heart to the work that is before you.

I am blessed to be the "adopted" father of four adult children and grandfather - "Boppy"- of three. As the pastor of a Border Collie, I have become quite a walker. At sun-up, Clara and I make the long loop around our neighborhood. When a pastoral concern or sorrow needs careful attention – we walk! My wife Patti, a licensed clinical social worker, and I love getaways to the beach, kayaking on a lake and hiking. I am an adventurous cook and love to share meals with friends and family. Lastly, I enjoy taking in local sporting events and rooting on a New England team.

I welcome the opportunity for us to come to know each other more deeply in the days ahead,

Kevin



**The Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff-Stanley**

Six months ago, I refused to look down as we ascended 415 feet on *Zumanjaro*, the world's tall-est drop ride. We paused, then plunged 90 miles per hour to the ground in 6 seconds. They say on a clear day you can see Philadelphia from the top. I wouldn't know, as I didn't look out. Now, I am a coaster aficionado, but drop rides terrify me. In line, I said, "I'm not doing this..." My sons responded, "You can do this, Mom." And George recited his courage mantra, "*Do scary things.*"

Three weeks ago, our family talked into the wee hours with one question before us: should I be invited to continue to slate, were we all in? We discussed our fears, our hopes, our wonderings. Finally, I asked each person; one by one the answers came, "yes...yes...yes...."

*Do scary things.*

Not that you all are scary. To the contrary, you are warm, welcoming, disarmingly authentic, and clearly courageous. I am drawn to your love of Jesus—it shows. You do scary things—big things that take courage. I admire that in you.

We don't know where the Spirit will lead us. We do know the future will ask courage of us all. What I can tell you about myself and my family is this: we are in.

I've been married for thirty-one years to the love of my life, Nathan. We have two sons, George and John, who make me laugh and make me cry—mostly for joy—all the time. I love Jesus, I love the Church, and I work hard—when I'm not playing.

*Do scary things.* That, I believe, is what the Gospel requires of us. I look forward to our conversations at the walkabouts.

Ruth

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**GRACE CHURCH'S INPUT -  
YOU ARE A PART OF THE DISCERNMENT OF GOD'S WILL**

Jane Bunnell and Zach Wyckoff will represent Grace Church with Fr. Ed at the election on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. We do this, as all things at any Diocesan Convention, with the prayerful feelings of you - our parish.

We encourage you to read about Canons Woodliff-Stanley and Nichols with their resumes and answers to pertinent questions at <http://www.bishopsearchdiobeth.org/nominees.html>

A Walk-About (what we used to call a "Dog and Pony Show" will be held several places and times around the Diocese in April. The closest for us will be held at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes Barre in the evening of Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead us as our Diocesan family heads into a new era of ministry to God's people throughout Northeast Pennsylvania and beyond.



# Ash Wednesday

14 February 2018

at Grace Church

12:10 The Traditional Service  
with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

7:00 PM Traditional Service with music  
the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

*“Remember that you are but dust, ☩ and to dust you shall return.”*

from  
the  
Internet

## DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

*In the words of Pope Francis*

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

pietrafitness.com



# HOLY WEEK 2018

## GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HONESDALE PENNSYLVANIA  
call for information: 570.253.2760

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God so loved  
the world...

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### **PALM SUNDAY** ✚ **March 25<sup>th</sup>**

Christ's Triumphant Entry in Jerusalem  
& the Celebration of Holy Communion at 8:00 & 10:00  
Weather permitting, we begin with the Blessing of the Palms  
in Central Park at 10:00

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY** ✚ **March 29<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 pm The Agapé Meal**  
with the tradition of Foot-Washing  
observing the Last Supper with the Watch in the Garden  
and the ceremonial stripping of the Altar.  
bring a dish to share - think of a Mediterranean picnic!  
One of our parish's favorite events.

### **GOOD FRIDAY** ✚ **March 30<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 noon - The Stations of the Cross  
7:00 pm - The Proper Liturgy for Good Friday  
with the Adoration of the Cross

### **HOLY SATURDAY** ✚ **March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**8:00 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter**  
we await the Resurrection of Christ  
and renew our Baptismal Covenant  
(Baptism is offered for those who desire the Sacrament -  
talk with Fr. Erb if interested.)

### **EASTER DAY** ✚ **April 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Festive Eucharist of the Resurrection at 8:00 and 10:00 AM  
with special activities for the Children.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2018</h1>				1	2 <i>feast of the Presentation of Christ</i>	3 Community Luncheon
				4 <i>EPIPHANY 5</i>	5	6
11 <i>LAST EPIPHANY SCOUT SUNDAY</i> 10:00 Scout Service & Reception Venture Crew Lunch & meeting	12	13 <b>Shrove Tuesday</b>  6:00 Mardi Gras Party in the Rectory	14 <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>  12:10 <b>The Imposition &amp; of Ashes</b> and 7:00 Holy Communion	15	16	17 Community Luncheon - (Home Schoolers)
18 <i>LENT ONE</i>  5:30 District AA meeting	19 Presidents' Day	20	21  6:00 Cub Pack Meeting	22	23	24  (Community Luncheon - St. Mary's/St.John's)
25 <i>LENT TWO</i>  4:00 GAME "NIGHT" in the Rectory	26	27	28	<b>A CRAZY YEAR!</b> <b>Christmas Eve on Sunday!</b> <b>Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day</b> <i>and</i> <b>Easter on April Fools' Day!</b> <b>WHAT IS GOD THINKING?!</b>		

### CUB SCOUT MEETINGS EACH WEEK

LIONS	Wednesdays @6:00pm	(Nursery)
TIGERS	Wednesdays @ 6:00pm	(Parish Hall)
BEARS	Thursdays @ 6:00pm	(Parish Hall)
WOLVES	Tuesdays @ 6:00pm	(Youth Room)
WEBELOS	Fridays @ 6:00pm	(Guild Room)
ARROWS of LIGHT	Mondays @6:30pm	(Parish Hall)

### A.A. & N.A. MEETINGS EACH WEEK

Sunday	7:00p AA	8:00p NA
Monday	8:00p AA	
Tuesday	9:00a Women's AA	7:00p Women's AA
Wednesday	8:00p NA	
Thursday	6:30p AA	8:00 AA Prayer Group; NA
Friday	<i>(a new group to start)</i>	
Saturday	none currently	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2018</h1>				1	2 <b>FATHER ERB</b>	3 <b>AWAY</b> Luncheon - Home Schoolers 5:00 Evening Prayer with Communion from Reserve 6:30 LGBTQ gathering
4 <i>LENT THREE</i> 10:00 Fr. Donald Shearer supplying for Fr. Erb	5	6	7	8 Rummage Sale Set-Up	9 9:00 - 2:00 RUMMAGE SALE	10 9:00 - 2:00 RUMMAGE SALE
11 <i>LENT FOUR</i> 8:00 service resumes - pending weather, of course	12	13	14 morning - Highlights mtg.	15	16	17 Luncheon
18 <i>LENT FIVE</i> afternoon - movie outing? Disney's <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	19	20	21	22 11:00 Chrism Mass at the Cathedral in Bethlehem - all are invited	23	24 Luncheon
25 <i>PALM SUNDAY</i> 8:00 & 10:00 Blessing and Procession of Palms with Holy Communion	26	27	28	29 <i>MAUNDY THURS</i> 6:00 Agapé Meal	30 <i>GOOD FRIDAY</i> 12:10 Stations of the Cross 7:00pm Proper Liturgy	31 <i>HOLY SATURDAY</i> Luncheon - St. Mary's 8:00 The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism
1 <i>EASTER DAY</i> 8:00 & 10:00 Solemn Eucharist for the Resurrection of Christ	2	3	4	5	6	7



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	<i>February 18 Lent 1</i>	<i>February 25 Lent 2</i>	<i>March 4 Lent 3</i>	<i>March 11 Lent 4</i>	<i>March 18 Lent 5</i>	<i>March 25 Palm Sunday</i>	<i>April 1 Easter Day</i>
<i>Thurifer</i>	---	---	---	---	---		H. Stephens
<i>Crucifer</i>	E. Corso	J. Randolph	C. Stephens	E. Corso	J. Randolph	C. Stephens	B. Wyckoff
<i>Torch-bearers</i>	---	---	---	---	---		E. Corso, J. Randolph
<i>Lector</i>	M. Niles	J. Bunnell	T. Stephens	M. Corso	J. Sullivan	R. Stephens	M. Niles
<i>Chalicer</i>	J. Bunnell C. Stephens	J. Roskoski, Z. Wyckoff	J. Bunnell, C. Stephens	J. Slate R. Wyckoff	J. Roskoski, Z. Wyckoff	M. Angelone, Z. Wyckoff	J. Slate H. Stephens
<i>Altar Guild</i>	S. Wilding	S. Wilding	J. Bunnell	J. Bunnell	J. Slate	J. Slate	All Help!
<i>Usbers</i>	C. Bunnell, J. Sullivan	R & T Stephens	E. Wasman P. Mikulak	C. Bunnell, J. Sullivan	R & T Stephens	E. Wasman, P. Mikulak	D. Bayly, F. Angelone
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	C. Escalona, J. Sullivan	C. Bunnell, Z. Wyckoff	M. Jellock, J. Roskoski	E. Wasman, P. Mikulak	The Niles	P. McDonald, S. Alexander	C. Escalona, J. Sullivan
<i>Counters</i>	M. Jellock, K. Skinner	V. Cheripko, P. Mikulak	P. O'Connor, C. Bunnell	S. Wilding, M. Kiraly	M. Jellock, K. Skinner	V. Cheripko, P. Mikulak	P. O'Connor, C. Bunnell

If you cannot serve on a date you are scheduled, please contact someone else on the list to switch - then call the parish office (253-2760) so we can make the change, too.

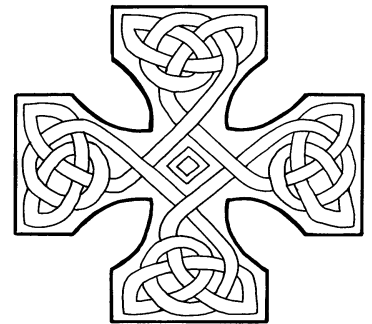
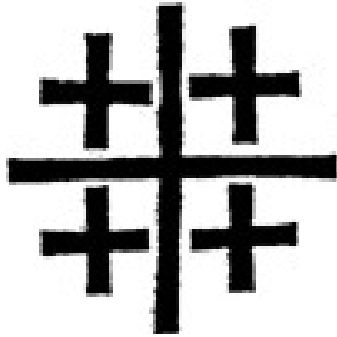
*THANK YOU for all your help!*

### FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Remember our Parish family in your Prayers

God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as she begins another year. Grant that she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen her trust in your goodness all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
14	Susan Erb	22
16	Matthew Corso	29
16	Catherine Sullivan	Kurt Scudillo
29	Alexa Escalona	Jakuba Randolph



# Grace Notes

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**LENT 2018**