



Weekly Mini Notes Newsletter for Week of Sunday, August 2, 2026

Dear Grace Church Community!

Tonight! A PASTORAL CONVERSATION ON FAMILY DYNAMICS

The Reverend Kiona Lookingbill has a Master of Divinity with a concentration in Family Pastoral Care & Counseling and is offering an evening of conversation and mutual learning on family dynamics on **July 30th, 7 - 8:30 PM.**

This series of conversation will be open to the public.

Feel free to invite your friends/neighbors.

The current bulletin can be found here: <https://gracenewmarket.org/parish-news/>

READINGS FOR SUNDAY

- [Genesis 32:22-31](#)
- [Psalm 17:1-7,16](#)
- [Romans 9:1-5](#)
- [Matthew 14:13-21](#)

WORSHIP TEAM (10 AM Service)

- Chalcist - Trish Holahan
- Lector - Rev. Dr. Timothy Dissmeyer
- Ushers - Terri Hawkins and Bill Ransohoff
- Altar Guild - Dawn Estey
- Counters - Vince Holahan and Terri Hawkins

*Please read Scripture ahead of the service and ask Rev. Kiona if you have questions regarding pronunciation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Please check our website [HERE](#) for up-to-date information.)

SOFT PLAY AREA DONATIONS

As we continue to welcome families with children into the life of our parish, we are creating a soft play area in our Quiet Room for our youngest members. Thanks to all who have donated new or gently used soft play items!

Currently we need an area rug and fidget items.

August 16th - BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Please have your children bring their backpacks for a blessing to begin the school year at the 10 AM Service.

August 29th - CRAFTING AND FELLOWSHIP

We will have our next Crafting and Fellowship on Saturday, August 29th, 9 AM - Noon.

August 30th - WORSHIP TEAM TRAINING

We will have Worship Team Training on August 30th, after 10 AM service, for all those currently serving. Anyone that is interested or curious about serving as a Eucharistic Minister, Acolyte or Lector is encouraged to attend.

September 10th - GROUP GRIEF COUNSELING

Beginning September 10th, 6:30 - 8 PM in the Chapel, we will offer Group Grief Counseling on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

A safe space will be provided to process grief & loss and transform it into joyful living.

Offered to mourners past 6 months since the loss.

Registration required. A minimum of 3 people (a maximum of 6 participants) needed to start.

Please notify Jody if you will be attending by August 27th.

A fee of \$75 will cover the copyrighted booklet and other related expenses.

September 13th - SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS AND PARISH BBQ DURING COFFEE HOUR

Sunday School returns on September 13th during the 10 AM service. We will also have a Parish BBQ to celebrate the close of Summer. More details will follow.

AUGUST IS MAKE-A-WILL MONTH

Across the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, we believe that planning for the future is part of our lifelong journey of discipleship and a practical act of love for our families.

In honor of National Make-A-Will Month, we are observing **Make-A-Will Sunday** to help the people of our more than 100 faith communities plan ahead with peace of mind.

Through our partnership with **FreeWill**, you can create a will or organize non-probate beneficiaries online, securely and at no cost, in about 20 minutes.

[Create your free plan today.](#)

EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTERS

The Maryland Diocese Newsletter can be found [here](#). This newsletter is specific to Maryland.

The weekly Newsletter from the Episcopal Church can be found [here](#). It is a roundup of news, events, and resources from Episcopal Church Center mission areas and offices from all across the United States.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF FUND

Grace Church is collecting funding to go towards "Gifts For Life" through Episcopal Relief and Development. The current focus is water. These gifts will help to build and sustain communities worldwide struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster, and disease.

Please make donations separate from regular giving and note on your check that it is for "Gifts For Life".

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Coffee and Fellowship—Please sign up to serve.

It can be as easy or elaborate as you choose.

FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry ministry use has increased exponentially. Any and all help is welcome!

Please note, during the summer heat, we will be keeping all liquid based pantry items in the Parish House over-stock area. Jody will be available to hand these items to inquirers during her office hours, which are posted on the pantry.

We are accepting monetary food pantry donations.

Please make checks payable to 'Grace Episcopal Church' and put 'For Food Pantry' in the note section.

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY REMINDER

Please feel free to take, leave and/or return books at the bookshelf in the entry way of the church.

REV. KIONA IS OPEN TO IDEAS FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS AHEAD

If you would like to host a parish social event at Grace Church or organize something off campus, please send your ideas to Rev. Kiona and/or Jody Kuhn.

PASTORAL CARE

Priest-in-Charge Office hours:

Thursdays 3 - 5 PM (except the 3rd week of the month: Tuesdays 3 - 7 PM)

By appointment only.

Please notify Rev. Kiona or contact Jody if you are aware of any parish members in need of pastoral- or Eucharistic visitation, rides, meal drop off, or get-well cards.

For pastoral care emergencies, please call 443-264-4628.

Parish Administrator Office hours:

- Sunday: 8:30 - 9:30 AM
- Monday: 8 - Noon
- Tuesday: 7 - Noon (except the 3rd week of the month: 1 - 5 PM)
- Thursday: Noon - 5 PM
- Friday: 7 - 11 AM
- Reach Jody by cell at 301-642-5098 (Please text)

If you are feeling called to a lay ministry, please talk with Rev. Kiona or contact Jody.

NOTE: If you would like to add an event or information to the Mini Notes, please send the information to gracechurchoffice@comcast.net no later than Thursday's at Noon.

Webpage: [Grace Church, New Market](#)