

January 30, 2018

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

This past Saturday, the Diocese of Washington held its annual convention, and as she spoke about the year ahead during her bishop's address, Bishop Mariann challenged everyone in the diocese to take a *courageous step* in exploring their faith and deepening their connection with God.

With that challenge in mind, I want to highlight some upcoming events here at Grace, all of which offer you the opportunity to do exactly what Bishop Mariann said:

Trinity Institute – This Friday & Saturday, February 2 & 3 Grace Church is serving as a host site for this year's Trinity Institute, an annual theological conference. Entitled *Values in Action*, and featuring speakers such as Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow*, and the Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, you can watch lectures livestreamed and then participate in small group discussion. More information and a full schedule are available on the Grace Church website. Please register by contacting Sunny Simmons, our Parish Administrator, at sunny@graceepiscopalchurch.org.

The Daring Way Conference – Friday, February 9 & Saturday, February 10 Based upon the work of best-selling author, Brene Brown, the Daring Way conference is an opportunity to grow spiritually and personally by committing to showing up, being seen, and living brave. We will explore topics such as vulnerability, courage, shame, and worthiness. We will examine the thoughts, emotions, and behaviors that are holding us back, and we will identify new choices and practices that will move us toward more authentic and wholehearted living. To register, please contact Anna Broadbent at abroadbent@graceepiscopalchurch.org. Registration is limited.

Spirituality of Aging Series – Sundays, February 11 to March 18 How are you approaching your later years? Will you lean on your relationship with God and live with passion and joy? If you are 50 or older, join us as we consider these questions, and others, in our spirituality of aging series. Through video presentations, discussions and spiritual practices, you will learn, share, question, reflect – and be surprised! Contact Beth Boyd at eboyd@seaburyresources.org to register.

Lenten Book Discussion – Sundays, February 18 to March 18 During the season of Lent, Wade in the Water, our ministry for racial justice will be leading a book discussion of *Loving vs. Virginia* by Patricia Hruby Powell, which examines the landmark civil rights case in which Richard and Mildred Loving fought to have their marriage legally recognized at a time when interracial marriages were considered a crime. Meeting will take place on Sundays at 12 noon.

Are you ready to answer the Bishop's challenge? Are you willing to take that courageous step?

See you in church,
Andrew