



Grace Notes

March / April

From the Rector...

I write this having just finished our 2017 Annual Meeting. It really was a great time to come together as a parish. Despite the weather, close to 100 of us gathered together for food, fellowship, some laughter, a lot of gratitude, and healthy and honest conversation.

This year, as part of our conversation on our long-term parish goals, we spoke in-depth about the goal of Fiscal Responsibility with a PowerPoint presentation on the past, present, and future of Grace Church's budget. At first, this may sound tedious, though it was anything but boring. The conversation was engaging, the questions were sincere, and the dialogue gave evidence of a parish which truly feels itself to be a community.

The focus this year on our budget also was important in view of the number of changes in our administration and finances,

especially over the past two years. We are in a relatively good place yet, given the recent budget numbers and financial changes, we need to intentionally plan for the immediate future.

For many years, Grace Church has run with an annual deficit which was covered by a dwindling Reserve Fund and, more recently, the TogetherNow Pastoral Leadership Fund. Our deficit for 2016, \$49,757, was funded through a combination of these two funds.

In the presentation, it was noted how, all things being equal, our annual deficit is projected to grow, from \$59,482 in 2017 to \$85,000 in 2018 to \$98,000 in 2019. This is due in part to pledge and plate income leveling off in recent years and declining in 2016. (Parishioner pledge and plate income covers about 40% of our expenses.)

This increased deficit is also due to significantly decreased income from

our endowment. Let me explain: To fund our annual operating expenses, we take an annual 5% draw on our Unrestricted Endowment (based on the average balance of the previous 12 quarters) plus Restricted Endowment earnings which have been designated for these expenses. For example, this income stream produced \$277,143 to fund the 2015 budget and \$271,700 to fund the 2016 budget.

Yet, because we have withdrawn \$1.2 million in 2015 and late 2016 for emergency capital needs, over the next few years we will see increasingly less income from that 5% draw. We start to see a real decline in Unrestricted Endowment income in 2017 and this continues in 2018 and 2019 (thus the increased deficits noted above).

On the other side, several proactive steps have been taken in order to address the deficit, keeping it from increasing even further. Staffing and administrative reorganization, a

change in our audit process, and changes in employee benefits have decreased our annual expenses by about \$120,000

In light of level or decreasing pledge income, less income from the endowment, and some increasing costs which we cannot control, we will need to further cut expenses (which will affect our level of ministry), increase income through our financial stewardship and use of our parish resources, or a combination of both.

There is good news as well! And we left this slide of the presentation blank so that as a community we could offer, in the midst of the financial challenges, the good news of what God is doing in our midst.

We have been working hard to meet the challenge ahead of us. We continue to grow in our sense of community. We have a parish engaged in so many different ways in our ministries and common life with incredible stewardship of time and talent.

This challenge presents an opportunity which could invigorate us and create a further sense of vitality.

One of those areas will be our financial stewardship. We have room to grow in this and together we are invited to open ourselves to the possibility that God is encouraging us to take more financial ownership for Grace's ministry and all that we receive through it.

The information which was shared at the Annual Meeting involves all of us as Grace Church, and we will look for ways to continue to communicate where we are so that we all might be

able to pray, listen, and talk together.

We also will make the presentation available to anyone who wants it, and please do not hesitate to speak with me or one of the wardens with your own questions and feedback.

Gratefully,
Chris +

Spiritual Formation in Lent

The formation ministry team has several suggestions for Lenten activities. As was done last year, individual confession and absolution will be offered; absolution will be accompanied by healing prayer.

Throughout Lent there will be a weekly reflection on Food and Faith. It will include an excerpt from the World Council of Churches Ten Commandments of Food (<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-programmes/diakonia/ea/ten-commandments-of-food>) and a simple, meatless soup recipe for each week in Lent. We hope you try the recipe and that the reflections will be thought-provoking and promote mindful eating this Lent.

On Wednesday, April 5th, we hope many of you will join us for a parish soup supper. The supper will begin at 5:30 so that any members of the Youth Choir who are present will be free in time for their 6:30 rehearsal. After supper, we plan a brief panel discussion on the life and works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

We recommend to any who are interested Bonhoeffer's book [God is on the Cross](#), containing brief

reflections for each day from Ash Wednesday through to Easter. The entry for Ash Wednesday was distributed in a weekend bulletin earlier and is included elsewhere in this issue of Grace Notes. For those who are free during the day, a lunchtime discussion on Bonhoeffer will be held each Wednesday at noon, from March 8th through April 5th.

Immediately following the 10:00 am service on those same Wednesdays, we will offer recorded music, as was done in Advent.

- March 8th—*Sanctus: Meditations for the Soul*
- March 15th—*Lamentations of Jeremiah, sung by the Tallis Scholars*
- March 22nd—*Renaissance of the Celtic Harp, performed by Alan Stivell*
- March 29th—*Chants written by Hildegard von Bingen, sung by the Anonymous 4*
- April 5th—*Music of O'Carolan on hammered dulcimer*
- April 12th—*Bach's St. Matthew Passion*



Restoration giving in Lent...



Grace Church has been nourishing generations of parishioners to serve the world in Jesus' name, while also continuously reaching out to the larger community of which we are an integral part. Many of us have given generously to support our restoration effort, in gratitude for what God continues to do through Grace for us and for Greater New Bedford. During this

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar and join us for the "Grace in Community" Fundraising Luncheon on **Sunday, April 30th, 2017 at 11:30 AM** at the Wamsutta Club of New Bedford. Tickets are \$40.00 per person, and will be available starting April 2nd, 2017. The luncheon is a great way to come together as a community to celebrate the completion of the tower project phase and support the "Grace in Community" Restoration Campaign. Unable to attend? Please consider purchasing a ticket, to be given away, so someone else can attend.

Lenten season, we ask you to consider sacrificial gifts to the restoration campaign, supporting our faithful stewardship of the building which houses our ministries, outreach, and community

collaboration. A box will be placed in the back of the church throughout Lent, beginning on March 1st, to Easter, April 16th, for your special offerings to Grace Church and to the community we serve.

Bonhoeffer and the Confessing Church: A Lenten Lunch Conversation

Grace Church friends and activists! Come join us on Wednesdays for a Lenten brown-bag lunch conversation as we ask together "What is the role of the Christian Church in resisting evil?" Some of us want to learn about German Lutheran pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer - author, anti-Nazi activist, and, ultimately, Christian martyr. What was his role in the creation of the 'Confession Church' movement within German Protestantism in Nazi Germany?

We will use as a guide for our conversation selections from Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writings, gathered thematically in God is on the Cross: Reflections on Lent and Easter. We

will encounter themes of prayerful reflection, self-denial, temptation, suffering, and the meaning of Christ's cross. Passages from Dietrich Bonhoeffer's letters and sermons provide special encouragement as we prepare ourselves spiritually for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

This volume also offers an introduction to Bonhoeffer's life and a Scripture passage for each day of the season. Some of us will also be reading biographies of Bonhoeffer, sharing our learnings with each other. Please let Rev. Andrea know if you would like a paperback copy of the book.

We will gather on Wednesdays from March 8th to April 5th at noon. We will meet informally, sharing conversation over lunch. Bring your own bag lunch! We will gather in the Youth Room on the lower level of the Church, near the offices. Please call Rev. Andrea at 508-259-7501 or email her at revandrea@gracechurchnb.org.

Women's Group

The next Women's Group will gather on Sunday, March 12th at 4:00 PM at the Grace Church Rectory, 26 Arnold Place, New Bedford.

We will continue to reflect on the times we find ourselves in and also watch a testimony from a woman whose life changed forever after suffering a stroke.

Please join us, and as always, please invite someone who you think would be interested in joining us as well!

See Trish Morck, Jean Pitcairn, or Kathy Ferreira if you have any questions.

Liturgy & Liturgical Ministry

by Jerré Croteau, Verger

Season of Lent ~ Holy Week ~ Easter

The end of February is the end of the season of Epiphany, February 25th-26th being the last Sunday of that season. Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday**, March 1st. There are two services at which the **Imposition of Ashes** will take place: 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Concomitant to the 7:00 PM service, a Children's Service will take place in All Saints' Chapel.

For **Lent**, the color changes from green to purple, signifying repentance, penitence and inner reflection, which is symbolized by the veiling of the images in the church. March 4th-5th is the **First Sunday in Lent**, and the **Great Litany** will begin all the services that weekend. The changes in the liturgy during Lent include the use of the Penitential Order, wherein the confession is at the beginning of the service; the Gloria is replaced with the *Kýrie*, a prayer that is curiously still usually said in Greek. (*Kýrie (Lord) eléison (have mercy), Christe eléison (Christ have mercy)*.) Another difference: the "alleluia" is omitted in those responses where it normally appears. On the First Sunday in Lent the Eucharistic Prayer will be from Rite I, Prayer 2 for all services. It being the first Sunday of the month, Healing Prayers will be offered at all services.

The **Second Sunday in Lent**, March 11th-12th, the services will begin with the Penitential Order as described above. For the rest of Lent through Maundy Thursday, we will be using Eucharistic Prayer D. This Eucharistic Prayer, one of the alternatives in Rite II, is said to be a modern translation

from the Greek of one of the most ancient Eucharistic Prayers. Traditionally at Grace, we have only used it on two occasions in the year, On Maundy Thursday, as it is a celebration of the First Eucharist, and on All Saints' Sunday, as there is provision in the prayer itself to mention those who have gone before us. This year it was decided to mark the solemnity of Lent by using Prayer D during the subsequent Sundays of Lent. Prayers of the people will be omitted as they are included in the Eucharistic Prayer at Rite II services. Penitential order, Rite I will continue to be used at the 8:00 AM service with Prayers of the People Form 1. The **Third Sunday in Lent**, March 18th-19th, will follow the same sequence as the Second Sunday.

Saturday, March 25th, something unusual liturgically will take place. Though it is Lent, that Saturday is a major feast day, **The Annunciation**. Because of this the Saturday 5:00 PM service will exceptionally be different from Sunday the 26th. The readings will be for the Annunciation rather than the Fourth in Lent. March 26th, the **Fourth Sunday in Lent**, is also called **Lætare Sunday**. *Lætare* in Latin means to "be happy", referring to the fact that Lent is almost over. It is one of two Sundays during the year when rose vestments may be worn by the clergy. Children's Sunday has been moved to this Sunday in Lent and therefore we will be using the Children's Liturgy at the 10:00 AM service.

April 1st-2nd is the **Fifth Sunday in Lent** with regular services and Healing Prayers. Then we begin **Holy Week** on April 9th with **Palm Sunday** which is also called **Passion Sunday**. The color changes to red. The Eucharists that weekend will begin with the Liturgy and Distribution of

the Palms. The Passion Gospel will be read at all services; during liturgical year A, the Passion is according to St. Matthew. At the 10:00 AM service the procession will come in from outside. The service begins joyfully, but ends in silence.

There are no services the Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week, but the 10:00 AM Eucharist will take place on **Holy Wednesday**. **Maundy Thursday**, April 13th, Holy Eucharist takes place at 7:00 PM. The color is white to honor the memory of the First Eucharist at the Last Supper. This service also incorporates the **Washing of the Feet**, and ends with the **Stripping of the Altar**, at both of which members of the congregation are asked to participate, and the consumption of the remaining Sacrament takes place.

April 14th we express the solemnity of Christ's crucifixion. All hangings disappear except for the veiled images and the cross at the High Altar veiled in black. **Good Friday Liturgy**, which incorporates the reading of the Passion according to St. John and the **Veneration of the Cross**, will take place at Noon and at 7:00 PM. The crucifix used for the veneration is one that is a relic of the Great Fire. The Church will remain open for meditation from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM. A **Children's Service** takes place in All Saints' Chapel concomitant with the noon service in the Church.

April 15th, **Holy Saturday**, on the Eve of Easter, we will celebrate the **Great Vigil** at 7:00 PM. The gloomy veils of Lent have disappeared. A fire is lit in the back of the darkened nave, from which the Paschal Candle is lit, the light spreading throughout the church. An ancient chant called the Exsultet is sung and there is a series of traditional readings and canticles.

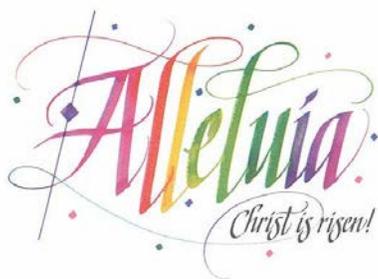
It is one of the four times of the year when Baptisms are usually performed. Then the **First Eucharist of Easter** is celebrated with the flooding of the church with light, a joyous Gloria, and the ringing of bells.

The next day, Sunday April 16th is **Easter Day**. The 8:00 AM service will be celebrated in the main church. At 10:00 AM there will be a Festival Eucharist, with joyous procession, as we celebrate Christ's Resurrection and our Salvation. Eucharistic Prayer B will be used for both the Vigil and Easter Day. From now until the end of the season, The Prayers of the People will be Lectionary-based.

Easter is not only one Sunday, but a liturgical season which lasts seven weeks, and so with the rest of April the Sundays of Easter succeed each other. April 22nd-23rd is the **Second of Easter**; April 29th-30th the **Third of Easter**. This sequence will continue throughout the month of May this year. During this season we will be using Eucharistic Prayer 1 from Enriching Our Worship.

WEDNESDAYS IN MARCH & APRIL

The following will be celebrated on Wednesdays: **Ash Wednesday** March 1st; **First through Fifth Wednesdays in Lent** March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th; **Wednesday in Holy Week** April 12th; **Easter Wednesday** April 19th; **St. Mark the Evangelist** April 26th.



LENT ~ HOLY WEEK ~ EASTER LITURGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

March 1st: Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes 10 AM & 7PM

March 4th-5th First in Lent: Saturday & Sunday
Great Litany, Holy Eucharist Rite I & Healing Prayers

March 11th-12th Second in Lent: Penitential Order
Saturday 5 PM ~ Sunday 10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday 8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

March 18th-19th Third in Lent: Penitential Order
Saturday 5 PM ~ Sunday 10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday 8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

March 25th The Annunciation Holy Eucharist Rite II
March 26th Lætare Sunday: 8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
10 AM Children's Eucharist

April 1st-2nd: Fifth in Lent: Penitential Order
Saturday 5 PM ~ Sunday 10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II & Healing Prayers
Sunday 8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I & Healing Prayers

April 8th-9th Palm Sunday: Liturgy of the Palms all Services
Saturday 5 PM & Sunday 10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
Sunday 8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I

April 13th: Maundy Thursday: 7 PM Washing of the Feet &
Holy Eucharist Rite II
Stripping of the Altar

April 14th Good Friday: Liturgy Noon & 7 PM
Veneration of the Cross
Church is open for meditation from 11 AM-3 PM
7 PM Children's Service All Saints' Chapel

April 15th: 7 PM The Great Vigil of Easter

April 16th: Easter Day
8 AM Holy Eucharist; 10 AM Festival Eucharist

God is on the Cross: Reflections on Lent and Easter

By Dietrich Bonhoeffer

First Week in Lent: Prayerful Reflection

Ash Wednesday Reflection

God Deceives No One

In the beginning, even before the start of his ministry, Jesus is tempted by the Devil. The powers of evil, of falling away from God, approach him and try to bring him down at the very moment when he is assuming his role as Messiah (Luke 4:3-4). Luke reports that Jesus is famished, and then the devil confronts him: If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread. If you have the power of God, then use it for yourself. Perform a miracle: turn the stone into bread,

and you will be filled. Why, after all, do you have such power? If you are the Son or God, prove your power.... In this voice of apparent intercessory love, Jesus recognizes the voice of the devil. It was an outrageous suggestion, and he rejects the devil: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). Here that means basically: God deceives no one.

"And take up their cross." That cross is already there, ready, from the very beginning; we need only take it up. But to keep us from believing that we must simply choose any arbitrary cross, or simply pick out our suffering as we will, Jesus emphasizes that each of us has his or her own cross, ready, appointed, and appropriately measured by God.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast
love;
according to your abundant
mercy blot out my
transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my
iniquity, and cleanse me from
my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Psalm 51:1-3



Music Ministry

The Handbell Choir

Rehearsals on Sundays from 11:15 AM until noon. Some music reading ability is helpful.

Youth Choir

Open to all children and youth in grade 2 and above. Rehearsals each Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 PM in Rodman Hall.

Grace Church Choir

Invites adult singers and older youth. Rehearsals each Sunday at 8:30 AM in Rodman Hall. We sing for the 10 AM Service from September through early June.



We welcome Katie Driscoll to Grace Church as our new Administrative Assistant!

Please make sure to say hello to Katie during our office hours, Tuesday-Thursday 9 AM – 12 PM and 1 PM – 3 PM, and Friday 9 AM – 12 PM.

In addition to her administrative talents, Katie is an accomplished musician. Ask her about New Bedford's Downtown Ceili – a gathering for musicians and artists held every two weeks at the First Unitarian Church on 8th Street!

Vestry Bios

SENIOR WARDEN: SHARLENE BEGLEY –

Sharlene was "born into" and grew up at Grace Church, attending Sunday School and Youth Group and singing in the choir. After college, she attended St. Peter's in Dartmouth for several years. Upon moving out of the area in 1981 she became a member of the Church of Our Redeemer (Episcopal) in Lexington, MA, spending over 25 years as a member of that congregation. Her three children, Kim, Tim and James, were raised there and she was active on many committees and served two terms on the Vestry and one as Clerk. Upon relocating to Lakeville in 2006, she was drawn back to the Grace community. She has served on the Vestry and is starting her third year as Senior Warden. She is also the coordinator for the Food Pantry, volunteers at the Soup Kitchen, is a Greeter on Sunday mornings and serves on a number of committees. She retired in 2012 as Director of Contracts for the New England region of the EPA after having worked for over 30 years for both the US Air Force and the EPA.

JUNIOR WARDEN: CHARLES CAPIZANO -

Charlie grew up in Warren, Rhode Island and graduated from Providence College. He was with the Barrington, Rhode Island, School Department serving in various capacities, classroom teacher of economics and European History at the high school, chairman of the Social Studies Department, Program Evaluation Coordinator of the district, and union president and vice president. He married into the Episcopal Church but he and his wife attended the Congregational Church for over 25 years. While living in Dartmouth, they became members of Grace. Charlie has served as Outreach Commission chairman, as a Vestry member and now is Junior Warden, which places him on Team Property, the Grace in Community committee, and the Communications committee. He and Val live in Fairhaven.

TREASURER: DANA SARGENT - Dana is an attorney practicing law in Historic Downtown New Bedford. He attends the 10 AM service with his wife and children. He has been a member of the Parish for 35 years. Four generations of his family are members of the Parish including his mother, his adult daughter and his granddaughter. He is a current member of the Vestry and has been a Sunday School teacher at Grace for five years. He lives in Dartmouth.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: ELIZABETH PYE – A New Bedford native, Betsy joined Grace in 2002 in order to provide Jameson, then five years old, with a foundation in faith. It wasn't long before she was asked to teach Church School and was approached to help with the Bittersweet Bazaar. Since then, Betsy has participated in a number of activities in and around Grace, including volunteering in the church office and sending out the weekly E-news. Betsy and her husband Jim will celebrate their 37th anniversary in April while Jameson enjoys his sophomore year at Brandeis University.

CLERK: DIANA UKLEJA – Diana Ukleja has been a member of Grace Church since 1980. She grew up in New Jersey, where she was baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal church. She and her husband Paul lived in Chicago, Malta and Ohio before moving to New Bedford. She worked as a librarian and systems engineer before retiring. Their son Niklos is a local artist. Diana has served on the vestry and several committees at Grace. She is currently active on the Altar Guild and the Spiritual Formation Ministry team.

JOHN EVANS – John and his wife, Pam, moved to Massachusetts six years ago from York, Pennsylvania, where they had resided for over 13 years. Originally from Warwick, RI, John graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA with a degree in Chemistry and is employed at Nye Lubricants in Fairhaven, MA as Director of North American Business Development. He is a mentor at Nativity Preparatory School in New Bedford and has also served as a mentor with the Youth Group at Grace. John and Pam's daughter, Danielle, and son-in-law, Matt, live in Rhode Island and John and his wife live in New Bedford's South End with three Balinese cats and a Portuguese Water Dog named Dory. Prior to attending Grace, John and Pam were members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in York, PA, and Greenville Baptist Church in Greenville, RI.

NADINE L GOMES (LOPES) - Nadine has lived in New Bedford all her life and was baptized and confirmed at Grace. She attended Sunday School and services along with her two siblings as a child. As she became older, she spent time with the AME Church and came back to Grace around 2007. Grace has always been a part of her family, particularly her late mom and grandmother. She is married to her husband, Paul and is employed as a Radiology Manager at Charlton Memorial Hospital, which is part of the Southcoast Hospital Group. She and her husband come from big families and are very

committed to them. They enjoy being with their family.

MICHAEL GOULART - Mike grew up Catholic until becoming curious about the Episcopal Church through his dad, who was the sexton at St. Peter's in Dartmouth. Mike and his wife Karen joined Grace in 2008, and it has been their "home" ever since. Rev. Chris officiated at their daughter Jen's marriage to Jason Kelley in 2014, and they are members as well. Jen and Jason are expecting their first child next June; Agnes Marie. All four of them are proud attendees of the small but spunky 5:00 Saturday service. Mike and Karen serve as greeters; Mike is also a lector, and occasional usher at the 10:00 Sunday service. He was a past member of the vestry from 2013-2016, and served on the Discernment Committee. He currently serves on the personnel administration committee and also coordinates food donations to our food pantry through Shaw's in Dartmouth. Mike is a district manager for Shaw's Supermarkets, and has been with them for the past 40 years. He is also President of Allendale Country Club in Dartmouth. In his spare time, he plays golf and rides his Harley-Davidson. Mike and Karen live in Fairhaven with their 2 dogs, Bella and Gracie, and their cat, Spencer.

RYAN SHEA - Ryan is a special education teacher for eleven years and for the last four years has worked at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School. Grace Church has been home to the Shea/Taylor family for his entire life. From an early age Ryan's parents taught him and his sisters the importance of being involved in the church. As a youth Ryan was an acolyte and lay reader, as well as a member of the youth group. When he was a senior in high school Ryan was the youth member of the vestry. As an adult in the Church Ryan and his wife Sarah are both Ushers. They look forward to starting a family and raising children at Grace. Ryan looks forward to working with the Church leadership to impact the next generations of families at Grace.



Grace Sunday School

By Children's Minister, Melissa Botelho

What's Happening...

March 1: Ash Wednesday. Children will meet in the chapel during the 7 o'clock service. Join us as we begin our Lenten journey to the cross.

April 2: Our annual instructed Seder will be held during Church School. Jesus' last supper was a celebration of the Jewish holy day, Passover. This meal is the foundation of the Holy Eucharist. The children will feel the connection as we live the way Jesus did for just one meal.

April 9: Palm Sunday, NO Church School.

April 14: Good Friday, Children's Service in the chapel at noon. Please join us for an interactive journey. We will walk the path of Jesus' last day, through the Stations of the Cross.

April 16: Easter Sunday, NO church school. We will have a very special children's chapel during the 10am service.

It takes a village...

Grace is our home, but please be aware that Grace is a large building with lots of hiding places. Children should not be allowed to wander through the church without a parent or responsible adult.

If you have not yet registered your child for Church School, please let the teacher know or see Melissa Botelho for registration information. Any child age 3 through Grade 5 is welcome in Church School



Thank you to all the Church School children and families who are participating with the weekly **Offering Envelopes**. The Church School Children were given individual offering envelopes at Church School and are invited to bring these donation envelopes weekly to help the mission and ministry of Grace Church. The envelopes are collected in Children's Chapel and presented at the Offertory by representatives of Church School classes, or may be placed in the offering plate during Children's Liturgy Sundays. If your child has not received their Offering Envelopes, please speak to your classroom teachers.

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School

AUG 14-18

Vestry Votes...

At its meeting on January 25th, 2017, the Vestry voted to...

- Amend the slate of officers to substitute Mike Goulart for Jen Clarke as a new Vestry member
- Revise the 2017 budget to reflect the costs of accounting support and delete payroll services

At its meeting on December 21st, 2016, the Vestry voted to...

- Approve 2017 Operating Budget
- Approve 2017 GASSP Budget
- Approve Rev. Andrea's 2017 housing allowance
- Approve that up to \$38,000/yr may be used from the TogetherNow/Pastoral Leadership Equity Fund

Laundry Love

The next two Laundry Love events will be held on March 27th and April 24th. They take place at Super Laundromat, 80 Summer St. from 3-6 PM. The South Coast Health van will also be available for wellness screenings for our guests. All are welcome to observe or help. Any questions, just see Tom Cabral or Travis Bowie.

2017 Scholarship

By Maureen Decker

Grace Church is blessed to be in a unique position to offer scholarships to active members seeking higher education. The generous bequests of several Grace Church members and their families and the prudent investments of these funds have afforded us the opportunity to assist our parishioners with their endeavors of higher education. The Scholarship Committee would like to take this opportunity to explain the procedure which was instituted in September 1989.

To meet the eligibility for a Grace Church Scholarship:

- a. The APPLICANT must be a member in good standing of Grace Episcopal Church. The canonical understanding of this means having received communion at least three times in the past year and being known to the treasurer as having supported the mission and ministry of the Church. (Given the fact the applicants are in college and not working full time, we take into consideration their support of the mission and ministry of Grace Church through non-financial means, which can be noted on the application or outlined in the cover letter.)
- b. The applicant must be a high school graduate, or have a GED, or be accepted to a degree granting institution of higher learning (without necessarily having graduated from high school).
- c. The applicant may apply to any post high school program including college or



university, community college, culinary arts school and technical school. Graduate school candidates are also eligible to apply for a Grace Church scholarship.

The committee uses a three tiered, weighted point system to evaluate the applicants and determine the awards. It is based on the applicant's degree of church activity and community service (40%), academic achievement (30%) and financial need (30%). Given this system of scoring, it is imperative that the applicants submit a complete application which includes:

- a. The Grace Church Application for Scholarship Funds (all sections completed).
- b. A cover letter of approximately 250 words addressing the applicant's goals in seeking higher education as well as any information that would be important to the committee members making the decisions on the awards.
- c. A transcript of the fall/spring semester including their most recent GPA.

Each candidate is given a copy of these "Scholarship Regulations" when they request an application. The applicants are given two months to request and submit the completed

application. An incomplete application or an applicant who does not meet the criteria or the submission deadline will not be considered for a scholarship award.

Scholarship Important Dates

Applications Open
April 1st, 2017

Application Deadline
June 10th, 2017

The Grace Church Scholarship Committee is committed to strictly adhering to these regulations and criteria and, in so doing, strives to honor the original intent of those who so very generously donated to make these scholarships possible. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

From the Senior Warden

By Sharlene Begley

Thanks to all of you who braved yet another forecast snow storm to take part in Grace's Annual Meeting on February 12th. The food and fellowship were wonderful. The conversations were open and extremely informative. I particularly want to note Rev. Chris's presentation on the budget and the challenges that face us. He has addressed it in more detail in his article in this newsletter. I want to emphasize a point he made.....we need to intentionally plan for the immediate future.

As Chris pointed out, we can continue as we are for the next 2+ years while depleting most of our reserved resources. Or we can work now to avoid such a situation. I hope you'll all be part of the conversation on this issue that started at the Annual Meeting. If you weren't able to attend the Annual Meeting but would like a copy of the presentation, please ask either the Rector, Wardens or office for one. If you would like to talk about this with someone, please let us know. If you think this should be followed up with further group discussion, that can be arranged. These are issues we all need to continue to talk about and share ideas.

One of the things I proposed at Annual Meeting, to improve communication, was to start having Coffee with the Senior Warden (even though I don't drink coffee!). Several people have expressed the hope that this will happen so the first one has been scheduled for Sunday, March 19th at 9 AM in the South Room. I hope that these scheduled sessions will provide me with an opportunity

to learn more about your concerns and suggestions.... and just get to know people better. Stop in, for a few minutes or more. If you can't get together then, I can always be reached via phone at [508-923-9536](tel:508-923-9536) or via email at begleysktj@comcast.net.



Save the Date!

Coffee Hour
with the
Senior Warden

MARCH 19th, 2017

9:00 AM

South Room

MEMORIAL GIFTS

General Fund

Gift of Peter Smialek in memory of Adele Smialek
Gift of James & Laurie Mandly in honor of Capt. & Mrs. Alvin Mandly
Gift of Don White in honor of the many years Ellen and the Holmes-White Family have been a part of our great church.
Gift of Melissa Baughman in memory of Dolores Thomas

Restoration Fund

Gift of Johanna & Freddie Hood in honor of Jean Pitcairn, Len Boyce, Billy, Seaver & Maggie
Gift of the Boyce-Pitcairn Family in memory of Claire Morel
Gift of Jean Brown in memory of Norma Ryder

Food Pantry

Gifts of Raymond & Pauline Parkinson, Mark & Janet Bouchard, and the Sippican Rod & Gun Club in memory of Ronald Parkinson
Gift of Nancy Silva in memory of José Silva
Gift of George & Pam McNamara in memory of Luann Pryor & Richard Belden

Rector's Discretionary Fund

Gift of the Boyce-Pitcairn Family in memory of Ronald Parkinson.

Flower Fund

Gifts of Jerré Croteau in memory of Norma Estelle Ryder and in memory of Nathan Roger King.
Gift of Theresa Nowell in celebration of Muriel Foster's Birthday.
Gift of Zelinda Douhan in memory of Mildred Beck
Gift of Ruth Oliver Joliffe in memory of Ruth & Andrew Oliver
Gift of Sean Corwin in memory of Warren Savaria and Walter & Charlotte Corwin



Keepsake Restoration Jewelry

Grace Church Brick & Mortar ~ by Dune Jewelry

Sterling bracelets, rings, tie clips and wine corks hand crafted with Grace Church's 1800's tower brick are still available! All proceeds benefit the Grace Restoration Fund.

Contact Donna Pires or the main office for details.

Buy Once, Give Twice!

Honorary & Memorial Easter Flower Donations

Remember a friend or loved one, or honor an event or a kind deed with a donation to the **Grace Church Easter Flower Fund**.

Gifts to the flower fund received by **April 7th** will be acknowledged in the Easter Service leaflets. All other gifts will be noted in Grace Notes. Please make checks payable to Grace Episcopal Church.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Address: _____

I would like to help Grace Church save the cost of postage. No need to send me a thank you note.

THANK YOU!



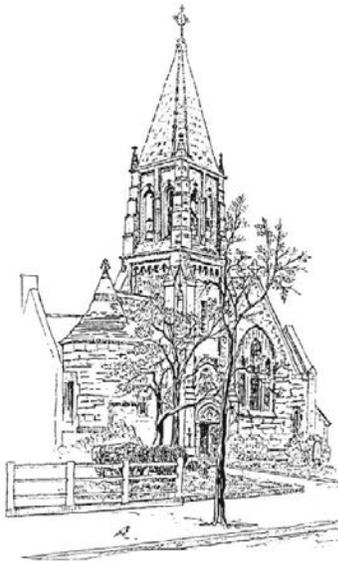


OFFICE HOURS...

The Church Office is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9am-12 noon and 1pm to 3pm; Fridays from 9am-12 noon. The Church Office is closed on Mondays and on Friday afternoons.

STEWARDSHIP: "living generously"

If you have not pledged yet, please do turn your pledge card in to the church. Your pledge shows that you support the life and ministry of this parish and are committed to keeping our doors open to our parishioners, our friends and our wider community. If you would like a pledge card, please call the church office or pick one up in the back of the Church or in the lobby of All Saints' Chapel.

**PARKING...**

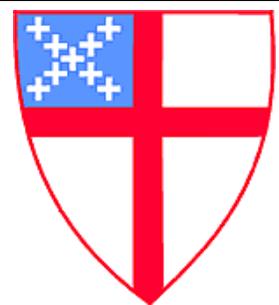
It is recommended to take advantage of the Wamsutta lot which we are allowed to use on Sundays. Also parking is available at the InterChurch Council and the Sargent Building for Saturday and Sunday services. Please avail yourself of these convenient spaces with easy walking distance from the church. During the week, parking adjacent to the Samuel Rodman House and along the east side of that building facing Little People's College is solely for the use of their tenants and clients. Gratefully, those spaces are available to Grace Church for Saturday evening and Sunday services only. Please help us in maintaining the spaces for Rodman House tenants during the week.

COFFEE HOURS

We are seeking sponsors for Coffee Hour after the 10-o'clock service for Sundays. If you or your organization would like to sponsor a Coffee Hour beginning this January, please contact Janice Baker at janice.baker1@verizon.net.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAGS....

Even if you think we know your name, it is important for all of us to get to know each other better. Need a name tag? Please add your name to the list on the table outside the Chapel.

**ALTAR FLOWERS FOR EASTER**

You can sponsor the flowers and plants for the Sanctuary for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. Our altar flowers are a testimony to those we love. If you would like to honor a special person's memory, their anniversary, birthday, or other significant event that you wish to acknowledge; giving altar flowers can be a visible sign of your love or gratitude. The names of all so honored or commemorated will appear in the Easter Leaflets. There are forms for this purpose and envelopes marked "Flower Fund" in the back of the church and in the lobby of All Saints' Chapel. Put the form and your contribution in the envelope and either place it in the offering plate or give it to Charlene Ryder: cryder22@comcast.net or 508.728.4374. Forms for Easter flowers should be submitted by April 7 in order to appear in the Easter leaflets.

March 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Ash Wednesday

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist

7PM Holy Eucharist

Thursday, March 2, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, March 3, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, March 4, 2017

9AM Vestry Retreat

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Lent 1, Great Litany

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

12PM Pilgrimage Prep Meeting 1

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 9, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, March 10, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, March 11, 2017

Diocesan Business Practices

Workshop

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Lent 2

Daylight Savings Begins – Spring

Forward!

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11AM Anglicanism 5: Polity and

Mission

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

4PM Women of Grace

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Eucharistic Visitors Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 16, 2017

12PM Episcopal Church Women

6PM ESOL

Friday, March 17, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, March 18, 2017

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Lent 3

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

6PM ESOL

6PM SouthCoast Mission Hub

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, March 24, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, March 25, 2017

Annunciation of our Lord

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Lent 4

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II,

Children's Eucharist

11AM Anglicanism: Book of

Common Prayer

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, March 27, 2017

3PM Laundry Love

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Vestry Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 30, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, March 31, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

April 2017

Saturday, April 1, 2017

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Lent 5

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11AM Youth Palm Cross Making

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

12PM Grace Pilgrimage Prep 2

2PM Seaglass Theater Concert

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

5:30PM Parish Soup Supper

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 6, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, April 6, 2017

Youth Pre-Confirmation Retreat

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, April 7, 2017

Youth Pre-Confirmation Retreat

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Palm Sunday

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Maundy Thursday

6PM ESOL

7PM Maundy Thursday Holy

Eucharist with Foot Washing

Friday, April 14, 2017

Good Friday

9:30AM Food Pantry

12PM Good Friday Service

7PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 15, 2017

Holy Saturday

7PM The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 16, 2017

Easter

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Monday, April 17, 2017

Patriot's Day

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

Thursday, April 20, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, April 21, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, April 22, 2017

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Second Sunday of Easter

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Children's Teachers

Meeting

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11:15AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, April 24, 2017

3PM Laundry Love

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

6PM ESOL

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

10AM Holy Eucharist & Healing

11AM Staff Meeting

6:30PM Vestry Meeting

6:30PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 27, 2017

6PM ESOL

Friday, April 28, 2017

9:30AM Food Pantry

Saturday, April 29, 2017

5PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Third Sunday of Easter

7:30AM Community Breakfast

8AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal

10AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11AM Anglicanism 6: Prayer and Christian Life

11AM Church School & Youth

Group

11:30AM Grace in Community

Fundraising Luncheon

Church Staff

Rector	Rev. Christopher Morck
Asst. Rector	Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt
Director of Music	Brian Roderick
Children's Minister	Melissa Botelho
Parish Administrator	Katie Driscoll
Sexton	Patrick Victor
Verger	Gérald Croteau
LifeTogether Intern	Sydney Webb
Youth Intern	Maggie Boyce

After School Program Staff

Program Director	Donna L. Pires
Group Leader Assist	Brianna Pires
Group Leaders	Kaitlyn Vieira
	Courtney Souza
	Brittney Dutton

Wardens & Officers

Senior Warden	Sharlene Begley
Junior Warden	Charles Capizano
Treasurer	Dana Sargent
Assistant Treasurer	Elizabeth Pye
Clerk	Diana Ukleja

Vestry Members 2017

Len Boyce
 Scott Cook
 John Evans
 Nadine Gomes
 Michael Goulart
 Michelle Luth
 Kristen Morgan
 Patricia Nieman
 Samuel St. Gelais
 Ryan Shea
 Kathleen Towers
 Robbie Watkins

Grace Episcopal Church
 133 School Street
 New Bedford, MA 02740

508.993.0547
office@gracechurchnb.org
www.gracechurchnb.org