



# GRACE NOTES

Grace Episcopal Church ♦ 133 School Street ♦ New Bedford, MA 02740

February/March 2016

## FROM THE RECTOR....

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy Name  
He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities  
He redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness  
As a father cares for his children, so does the LORD care for those who fear him  
For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust  
Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field  
But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever  
Bless the LORD, all you works of his, in all places; bless the LORD, O my soul

- Psalm 103

Lent is early this year, with Ash Wednesday on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The Ash Wednesday liturgy is one of my favorites, which may seem odd to hear, as the service speaks so openly about sin, our mortality, and the fragility of life. I realize that this talk of sin and death could be interpreted quite negatively, and it has been at times. There could be this kind of ethos on Ash Wednesday which says something like, "You are like that grass and flower of Psalm 103, soon to disappear. You are dust and will soon go back to the Earth... so get right with God you sinner and focus on eternity."

Though it could be read into in this way, the message really is something quite different. Ash Wednesday offers us something else, I think. It offers us another way to view our Lenten preparation for the 50 days of Easter. It speaks of our mortality, about the fragility of life, yes, and about our interrelationships and God's faithfulness in the midst of them.

God is right here and we are being called to respond. There is eternal beauty, there is the divine, in that grass and in that flower of the field of which the psalmist speaks. There is eternal beauty in us and in the rest of God's creation.

And we know that we do not always honor that beauty, we do not always see it. We can separate ourselves from God in our midst. So we have this time to remember who we are and who we are called to be, and to turn once again toward God and one another.

We have this time calling us to remember that we are connected together. Think of the ash we will use on February 10, born of those Sunday palms. We will be marked by it with those words framed by the second chapter of Genesis: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We were formed from earth, from the dust of the Earth. And we go back to it at death. Our own bodies even, coming from the same matter that birthed the stars and planets and all life on Earth, connected to the living things which came before us. We embody material that was once part of ancient forests, animal and plant species both living and extinct.

And our lives are like this in ways. Whether we recognize it or not, we are all interconnected, interdependent, intimately related with each other, with our community, our society, the world; to past, present and future generations.

Yes, as our liturgy says, we die, we change, we are transformed. In a physical sense, our bodies are to become the fertile soil from which other life will arise. And, in a relational sense, our lives – right here – are fertile soil. As we offer ourselves and open ourselves to God this Lent, we are soil which will be tilled so that God can be born in us anew.

God is in the flower, the grass, the dust and ash, in these supposed passing things. God is in us and in our relationships, as we offer them up again seeking renewal, transformation. Those eternal, heavenly things are within them, things which will not pass away – love, mercy, compassion, peace.

-Continued on Page 2

*From the Rector...*

Together, throughout this Lenten season, let us offer up those things to God which must change, be transformed, so that God's love would take root in our lives more deeply. Let us offer up these things to God in hope that by doing so we will be able to live more fully, reflecting God's love in this world, right here.

God is here; that this Lent our eyes would see God's beauty ever more clearly - in each other, in this community, in our city, in the world around us. God is here. And in Lent we are being asked to enter into God's presence by entering more fully into the world around us.

Amen.

## FROM THE CURATE...

Dear Rev. Chris, Vestry Leaders, and Grace Church Family,

I am filled with deep joy and gratitude for the many ways you all helped me celebrate my ordination in the Episcopal Church! I will always treasure that Spirit filled day.

I absolutely love the white chasuble with images of Gospel stories of Mary. What a beautiful connection to the Gospel theme of the Annunciation we read on that Advent afternoon - a reminder that God is born in and through all of us.

I thank God every day for leading me to such a faithful and loving community.

Peace to all,

Andrea Castner Wyatt

† † † † †

## LENTEN SERIES ON CREATION CARE AND CELTIC SPIRITUALITY

**“On Earth As It Is In Heaven” featuring John Philip Newell**

“Are we blessing the earth or destroying it? Modern science and ancient Celtic Christianity both suggest a better way of being – exercising an ethic of stewardship, not dominion. This provocative series is a toolkit for anyone interested in healing the Earth now and leaving behind a better place for generations to come.” (from the Darkwood Brew website)

You are invited! Join us for community and conversation in this 5-week Lenten Series. Tuesdays February 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesdays March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>.

We will gather Tuesday evenings during Lent, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm (beginning after Ash Wednesday and concluding before Holy Week). Let's meet in our lower-level conference room, in our newly refurbished office space! We can test our new high-tech audio-visual system to check out Darkwood Brew. What is this?? Check it out at [www.darkwoodbrew.org](http://www.darkwoodbrew.org).

Darkwood Brew offers groundbreaking video resources to individuals and small groups exploring “convergent” Christian faith and values. Grace Church's Lenten subscription will provide us unlimited streaming of video series featuring renowned and emerging Christian leaders.

Join us at Church for this Lenten Series. But, if you can't make it in person, you will also be able to view the program (and others!) online at your convenience. Grace Church will hold a subscription to Darkwood Brew during the months of February and March, enabling any of us to view their library of progressive Christian media. Rev. Andrea will be able to share the password and relevant details beginning in February.

RSVP Requested!! Please email Rev. Andrea ([revandrea@gracechurchnb.org](mailto:revandrea@gracechurchnb.org)) or call her at 508-259-7501 to sign up for this small group gathering. We need to know how many folks to plan for. Also, please indicate if you would like to purchase a copy of the companion book *Listening for the Heartbeat of God: A Celtic Spirituality* (\$11 paperback) by John Philip Newell. Please let Rev. Andrea know by February 8 if you want a copy of the book.

## INVITATION TO CONFIRMATION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Dear Friends of Grace Church,

Is God calling you to a deeper engagement with your Christian faith? Is the Spirit nudging you to explore the possibility of Confirmation in the Episcopal Church? People of all ages seek Confirmation.

As the Book of Common Prayer says: "In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop." Being ready comes at different times – and in widely varying ways - for each of us.

Our spiritual journeys are unique and are often full of surprising turns. So, depending on your church background, there are three ways to make a formal affiliation with the Episcopal Church - by confirmation, reception or re-affirmation of faith. If you haven't been baptized, this, too, is a joy open to people of all ages.

This spring, Rev. Chris and Rev. Andrea would love to gather friends of Grace Church to offer preparation for a Confirmation service scheduled for June 11, 2016. This will be held at a local Church in our Mt. Hope – Buzzard's Bay Deanery.

Please speak with Chris Morck ([revchrismorck@gracechurchnb.org](mailto:revchrismorck@gracechurchnb.org)) or Andrea Wyatt ([revandrea@gracechurchnb.org](mailto:revandrea@gracechurchnb.org)) by April 1<sup>st</sup> if you are curious about this invitation. Consider this a process of exploration, of inquiry and discernment ... and see where it leads! God is searching for you.

### FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN...

This year's Annual Meeting, coming up Sunday, February 28, will reflect a new approach to our yearly gathering. In addition to the required business of electing vestry members and representatives to various organizations, this year's meeting will be more interactive than previous meetings. We hope to start with a video presentation to remind us of all the wonderful moments the Grace community experienced in 2015. If you have photos of 2015 Grace events that could be shared as part of this presentation, please provide them to the church office by February 3. 2015 was truly an amazing year at Grace.

The 2016 Annual Meeting affords us the opportunity to look to the future and consider what the Grace community is being called to. We hope many of you will be part of this conversation. We'll review the five long-term goals defined as part of the Discernment Process. Those goals can be found in the May 2015 edition of Grace Notes which can be found at:

<http://gracechurchnb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/May-2015-Grace-Notes.pdf>

Over a light lunch there will be an opportunity for small group discussion regarding how we might move forward in order to achieve those goals. Many of you attended the Appreciative Inquiry session last February 28 which was a lively discussion of our themes and values. We were encouraged to share our dreams for Grace. That session led to the development of the long-term goals. This February 28 we will again gather to refine the goals and commit ourselves to moving forward.

This is an important Annual Meeting. We completed an overwhelming amount of work last year, now it is time to look to the future and consider how we will grow in faith, grow in community, and grow in service as we continue to reach out to our larger community. Please join us. Child care will be provided for the duration of the meeting. I encourage all of you to join in this discussion.

### THANK YOU....

#### To Our Retiring Officer and Vestry Members

As we welcome new members to our vestry, on behalf of the whole parish I want to especially thank our outgoing officer and members.

As Treasurer, Anne Gundersen has worked hard to strengthen our policies and procedures, and her guidance (and remark-able historical memory) have served us so well as we seek continued transparency, efficiency, and good stewardship of our resources.

This year's outgoing vestry members - Allen Decker, Michael Doe, Michael Goulart, and Ned Hines - will each be greatly missed. Although they are stepping away from the vestry, I know that each one will continue to serve God and God's people in many other ways. I am truly grateful for the leadership they have demonstrated and their thoughtfulness, their heart, and their generosity of spirit which have so enriched our vestry in so many different ways.

Chris

## VESTRY VOTES....

At its meetings on November 18, 2015, the Vestry voted to:

- accept the donation of \$2,000 from St. Aiden's for the Restoration Fund
- divide the donation of \$3,000 from St. Aiden's among the three Outreach programs: Community Breakfast, Food Pantry and Laundry Love

## LITURGY & LITURGICAL MINISTRY

-Jerré Croteau, Verger

### SEASON OF LENT

The beginning of February is the end of the season of Epiphany, February 6-7 being the last Sunday of that season. Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday**, February 10. There are three services on that day at which the **Imposition of Ashes** will take place: 10:00am, 12 noon, and 7:00pm. Concomitant to the 7:00pm 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. February 12-13 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 eléison (Lord have mercy), Christe eléison (Christ have mercy).*] Another difference: the "alleluia" is omitted in those responses where it normally appears. During Lent we will be using Prayers of the People Form I at all services. Also to mark the spirit of Lent even further, we will use Rite I, Eucharistic Prayer II at all services, with the exception of Children's Liturgy.

The **Second Sunday in Lent**, February 20-21 features the Children's Liturgy at the Sunday 10:00am service. February 27-28 is the **Third Sunday in Lent** with regular services in penitential order. March 5-6 is the **Fourth Sunday in Lent**, also called **Lætare Sunday**. *Lætare* 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. It being the first Sunday of the month, healing prayers will be offered before the Saturday 5:00pm service and after the Sunday 8:00am service.

March 12-13 is the **Fifth Sunday in Lent** with regular services. Then we begin **Holy Week** on March 19-20 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 C, the Passion is according to St. Luke. At the 10:00am 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 10:00am Eucharist will take place on **Holy Wednesday**. **Maundy Thursday**, March 24, **Holy Eucharist** takes place at 7:00pm. 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, members of the congregation are asked to participate), and the consumption of the remaining Sacrament.

March 25 we express the solemnity of Christ's crucifixion. All hangings disappear, except for the veiled images, 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 7:00pm. The Church will remain open for meditation from 11:00am until 3:00pm.

March 26, **Holy Saturday**, on the Eve of Easter, we will celebrate the **Great Vigil** at 7:00pm. 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, after which 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 March 27, is **Easter Day**. The 8:00am service will be celebrated in the main church. The 10:00am service will be a Festival Eucharist, with joyous procession, as we celebrate Christ's Resurrection and our Salvation.

### WEDNESDAYS IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

The following will be celebrated on Wednesday: February 3, **The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple**; February 10, **Ash Wednesday**; February 17, **First Wednesday in Lent**; February 24, **St. Matthias** Apostle; March 2, **Third Wednesday in Lent**; March 9, **Fourth Wednesday in Lent**; March 16, **Fifth Wednesday in Lent**; March 23, **Holy Week**; and March 30, **Easter Wednesday**.

### Lent: a Season for Reflection, Confession, and Absolution

In our services every week, together we pray the General Confession of Sin, where we confess our sins against God and our neighbor and together we hear that God indeed forgives and embraces us.

In our tradition, there is a place as well for individual confession, and the Book of Common Prayer has two brief services of reconciliation, found on pages 447 and 449, which can be shared with a lay person or a priest.

On occasion, when struggling with a heavy burden, a sense of harm that we feel we have caused, or a way in which we feel that we have seriously strayed from God's good purposes for us, we also may feel the profound need to share this confidentially with someone who can listen and more directly reflect or embody the truth of God's mercy and loving-kindness.

Lent is a season where we focus on offering up those things to God which must be transformed, so that God's love would take deeper root in our lives and we would be able to experience God's healing and restoration to wholeness. During this season, if you desire the sacrament of reconciliation, please email Chris, revchrismorck@gracechurchnb.org, or Andrea, revandrea@gracechurchnb.org, to set up a time for this.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10, and will be observed with three services of Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes.

These services will take place at 10am, 12pm, and 7pm. A Children's Service will also take place in the Chapel during the 7pm service.



### Holy Week Schedule

**Wednesday in Holy Week, March 23**

10am Holy Eucharist & Healing

**Maundy Thursday, March 24**

7pm Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday, March 25**

11am - 3pm Church open for meditation  
12noon & 7pm Good Friday Liturgy

**Holy Saturday, March 26**

7pm The Great Vigil

**Easter Day, March 27**

8am Holy Eucharist  
10am Festival Eucharist



### 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 **March 14<sup>th</sup>** 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

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

**THANK YOU**

**COMING SOON....please mark your calendars!****2016 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Grace Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 28th, following the 10am service. Annual Reports will be prepared and distributed to parishioners at services on February 13th & 14th and February 20th & 21st.



The next two Laundry Love events will take place on February 29 and March 28, 2016 from 3-5pm at Super Laundromat, 80 Summer St., New Bedford.

Laundry Love is also embarking on an off-shoot program that gives laundry packets to homeless individuals who do not attend the monthly events. We will coordinate with the Advocates for the Homeless Program. The packets will include a \$6.00 debit card and detergent. Anyone who wants to sponsor a homeless person may contact Marilyn St. Aubin, Chuck Cotter, Travis Bowie or Tom Cabral.

Anyone interested in joining this worthwhile program are welcome to attend the upcoming events.

Tom Cabral  
[thomas.cabral@aol.com](mailto:thomas.cabral@aol.com)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6 AT 3:00 PM**

Grace Episcopal Church in collaboration with the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center will present The Boston Gay Men's Chorus in concert on Sunday March 6 at 3:00pm. The concert will be held at the Zeiterion. Tickets are available through the Zeiterion box office, on line at Zeiterion.org or 508 994-2900. Ticket prices are \$15.00, \$25.00 and \$35.00. Groups of ten or more save up to 20%! A portion of each ticket will be donated to "A Perfect Place", the New Bedford Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth.

The Boston Gay Men's Chorus is one of New England's largest and most successful community-based choruses. Founded in 1982, the 175-voice ensemble is celebrated for its outstanding musicianship, creative programming, and groundbreaking community outreach. The BGMC sings a wide spectrum of classical and popular music and creates social change by providing a positive, affirming image of the gay and lesbian community. Their overall mission is to create musical experiences within the communities they visit. We are thrilled to welcome them to the Z for their New Bedford debut.

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY**

**Book Discussion** - Join Diana on Sundays, February 14<sup>th</sup> and March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm, for tea and conversation. The February topic is **Beauty**, and the March topic is **Modesty** ... see elsewhere for a brief treatment of the January through March chapters. The address is 204 Maple Street in New Bedford.

**Off Screen and Unplugged** - Sr. Kristina Frances, SSM, will lead a quiet day at St. Margaret's Convent in Duxbury on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 to 1:00. Lunch is included; there is a fee of \$25. RSVP to 781-934-9477 x501.

**Diocesan Spring Learning Event, Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston-** Online registration was not yet open as the newsletter went to print. Contact Diana Ukleja (508-415-8920 or email [diana.ukleja@gmail.com](mailto:diana.ukleja@gmail.com)) if you would like a ride. The keynote speaker is Molly Phinney Baskette, author of *Real Good Church*; attend to view a film "When God Left the Building" and learn about vibrant church practices.

*-Diana Ukleja, the Rev. Andrea Wyatt, Louise Kelly, John of the Trinity*

## MORE ABOUT THE BOOK DISCUSSION

The book is *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*, by Rachel Held Evans. She reviewed all the passages of Scripture that relate to women and contrasted the take conservative Evangelicals have on many of them with her own considered views. The results can be surprising!

Her theme for January was **Valor**, and particularly the Woman of Valor described in Proverbs 31:10-31, dear to the heart of Evangelicals as “the Proverbs 31 woman”. This is the closing chapter of the book of Proverbs, and it quotes King Lemuel, as taught by his mother. The New Oxford Bible has verse 10 as:

A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.

In the King James version, her “price is above rubies”. The chapter goes on to detail the good she does in running her royal household, managing fields, weaving cloth for her household and for income, working hard and caring for the poor. For some, this is a prescription for a woman working only from her home, and not outside it, supporting her husband but never rivalling him. The author sought to take on some of these domestic tasks, without much success; she also reached out to a pen-friend, an orthodox Jew living in Israel, whose view of the passage was much different. In the weekly celebration of the Sabbath, every Jewish husband sings this hymn in praise of his wife. The Hebrew words, *eshet chayil*, usually translated “valorous woman”, are often called out from woman to woman, as an “atta girl” for any accomplishment. This seems a much better fit for those of us who have no royal compound in our care!

The theme for February is **Beauty**; the author recounts her experience with requests for abstinence pledges from young people, contrasted with counsel for engaged women that, once married, it is their duty to be beautiful and sexually available at all times. Checking the Bible for herself, it was the matriarchs of the Old Testament who were described as beautiful; in Proverbs, young men were warned against the lure of beauty. Rather than urging women to look young and beautiful, the Bible describes beauty as fleeting. There is quite a lot about sex in the Bible ... some of it lovely, and some quite vicious. Which you knew, right?

For the month of March, with the theme of **Modesty**, the author eschewed slacks for skirt, wore a head covering and no jewelry, and visited with the Amish. She also consulted with her Jewish pen-friend, who advised, “You do a huge disservice to modest dress if you wear the same outfit over and over again. .... Nobody wants to be around a schlumpy dresser.” As with her exploration of other themes, she finds variety of spirit and understanding among those she visits. She writes:

... true modesty has little to do with clothing or jewelry or makeup. The virtue that is celebrated in Scripture is so elusive we struggle to find words to capture its spirit—humility, self-control, plainness, *tznuut*, *Gelassenheit*.

The Hebrew word for modesty is *tznuut*; the Amish seek plainness and *Gelassenheit*, a word that speaks of yieldedness and peace, a willingness to let things be.

### MINDFULNESS TRAINING...

#### After Easter, an Opportunity for Self-Care

Grace Church will offer an 8-Week Course in Mindfulness Training. We will gather on Saturday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 pm, beginning Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. No prior experience needed – beginners are warmly encouraged. You are invited to stay for the 5pm Eucharist service.

What is Mindfulness Training? Our minds create thought after thought, influence perception, color moods, and direct behavior. Because our minds define who we think we are, and orchestrate our very lives, they are worth attending to! To train our attention inwards, there is mindfulness.

Mindfulness is a general term used to describe a family of regulatory strategies for observing and training the mind. These exercises promote structural changes to the brain that contribute to an enhanced sense of well-being, and reduction in stress & anxiety. We will gain improved memory & attention, and enhanced cognitive functioning among other benefits.

In the service of maximizing our time for practice, we will use a flipped classroom model. Readings and video will be shared electronically to allow maximal time for practice and reflection.

Our leader, Jonathan Felix, celebrates over 20 years in education and technology. He is the technologist and mindfulness coordinator at an independent school. The grandson, nephew, and son of ministers, he has been meditating for over 25 years.

Please contact Rev. Andrea (508-259-7501 or revandrea@gracechurchnb.org) to reserve a place in these gatherings.

## CHURCH SCHOOL

-Melissa Botelho, Children's Minister

### What's Happening...

February 10: 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.

**March 13:** 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.

**March 20: Palm Sunday, NO Church School.**

**March 25: 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.

**March 27: 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.

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.

## GRACE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

-Donna Pires, Program Director

We currently have 24 students enrolled in the After School Program.

We wish to thank the Episcopal Church Women of Grace Church for their very generous grant of \$300.00.

If you have any questions about the After School Program or are interested in enrolling your child(ren), please contact Donna Pires at 508-961-1622.



Where to begin? There are so many things to be grateful for, but most of all for having had the opportunity to work for Grace Episcopal Church for more than 23 years.

Thank you for the lovely farewell reception and for the beautiful print of Grace Church. It will serve as a reminder of all the wonderful people I have come to know and all the good times I have had working at Grace Church.

I can't thank everyone enough for all the support over the years. Everyone's patience, understanding and offers to lend a helping hand in the office were so helpful and always appreciated.

I am proud to have been a part of the Grace Church community as an employee, and look forward to continuing at Grace as a parishioner and volunteer.

So, thank you again and see you soon!

Rosemary

## FOOD PANTRY

-Sharlene Begley, Coordinator

The Food Pantry continues to be a vital Grace outreach effort in the New Bedford area. Looking back on 2015, we are grateful for the support of everyone who has given of their time, treasures and talent to sustain this work. As we move into 2016 we are particularly in need of additional volunteers. Our need is greatest on Wednesday mornings between 8:30 and 11:00 am. Opportunities include bagging orders, stocking shelves and assisting with client intake. If you are available one Wednesday morning a month, or multiple Wednesday mornings, please let us know. Please contact either the Church Office or myself at [begleysktj@comcast.net](mailto:begleysktj@comcast.net) or 508/923-9536.

Turn off the lights,  
for God's sake!



[www.provincet.org](http://www.provincet.org)

As part of our stewardship of all those good things which God has entrusted to us, together let us take Lent as a time to more consciously conserve energy, both at home and at church.



## MEMORIAL GIFTS

**Discretionary Fund:** *In thanksgiving by* M/M Andrew Frazee.

**Food Pantry:** *In memory of* Cynthia Barnum and Jose Silva. *In thanksgiving by* M/M Donald Driesen, Edith Lauderdale, M/M Gerald Bedard and M/M George McNamara.

**Laundry Love:** *In thanksgiving by* M/M David Mello.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**For the Grace of God's healing:** Ann Wiley, Jerry Riding, Jesse Roderiques, Glenn Martin, Claire Morel, Jack Haney, Louise Kelly, Jill Horton-Simms, Joan Reed, Russell Costa, Terri Nowell, Norma Ryder, Thomas Botelho, Joy Bancroft, Cecelia Sykes, Ruth Richards, Charles & Beverly Days, Janet Doe, Claire Driesen, Mildred Rigby, Linda Massa, Julie Schmidt (Members of Grace Church), Pauline Whitaker (Sister of George Rogers), Paulette LaFleur (Niece of George Rogers), Annie Stephens (Friend of Pauline Roderiques), Jocelyn Phelps Moore (Niece of Janet Doe), Annika Carrasco (Friend of the Morcks), Amy Gilmore (Granddaughter of Peggy Felouris), Ginger Burke (Friend of Dick & Jeanne Greenhalgh), Rosalind Scheffer & Dr. Mark Scheffer (Cousins of Charles & Valerie Capizano), Kenneth Kadra & Elizabeth Twitchell (Friends of Beverly & Charles Days), Suzanne Porter & Lois Minney (Cousin & Friend of Rillis Watkins), Shirley Gehardt & Martha Rosewell (Cousin of Ken & Sister of Mary Lou Garrett) Elayne Horton (Stepmother of Jill Horton-Simms), Nedra Lopes (Friend of Peter & Sharon Nowell and Richard Fabio), Judith Miller Phelps (Sister of Janet Doe), Debbie Olden (Friend of Charlene Nelson), Dorothy Montague (Mother of Jim Montague), Daniel Schwartz (Step-father of Nicole Montague), Bernardo Cabral (Friend of Dana Sargent), Joshua, Brett, Nicholas & Sebastian Hernandez (Family of Franco Hernandez), Jeanne Pallatroni (Friend of Joan Swain), Randy McGregor (Brother of Carl McGregor), Carol & David Forbes (Daughter and Son-in-law of June St. Pierre), Hope Eunice Choquette (Niece of Leo Choquette), Ian Kinney (Grandson of Pat Buckles), Saphirra & A.J. DaSilva (Friends of Nina Catelli Vincent), Fred Melo (Father of Filomena Melo), William Days (Brother of Charles Days), **Native American Communities in the United States and especially for the Lakota Rosebud Reservation**, Sheila Lopes (Sister-in-Law of Joan Swain), Malicia Watkins (Niece of Robbie Watkins), Stephanie Taylor Moynier (Daughter of Priscilla Taylor), DLH, Lisa Birknes Tavares, Ray Gurette & Muriel Foster (Friends & Sister of Terri Nowell), Bryan Lopes, Ron Wisti & Mary (Stepson & Friends of Gerry Lopes), Kim Traynor (Daughter of Judy St. John), Beverly Haig (Sister of Eileen Mandly), Maureen Steward (Daughter of Mary Salmon, a friend of Richard Fabio), Jack Walker (Son of Beverly Days), Dennis Uchman (Brother of Sandi Jaikes), Elaine LeBoeuf (Friend of Emily Collins), Danielle Austin (Daughter of Charles & Linda Austin), Rick Brown & Arthur Cuddy (Husband & Friend of Jean Brown), Adam LeComte & Donald Reynolds (Grandson & Nephew of John Medeiros), Bill and Pauline Hart (Friends of Richard Fabio), Aza Johnson (Niece of Carol Johnson), Swede Chaves (Friend of Nancy Mularczyk), Dolores Desroches (Friend of Paula Cabral), Amy Dean, John Moore, Maria dos Santos, Nicholas Claudio (Friends of Tom Davis), Don Booth & Barbara Gracia (Former Member and friend of Travis Bowie).

**Armed Forces:** James H. Horton (Nephew of Jill Horton-Simms), Tobin Blatchford & Yoav Gray (Friends of George & Pam McNamara) Harry Walker (Son of Memory Holloway), Cameron Sweet (Member), Samuel Ellis (Son of Maria Ellis), James Kinney (Grandson of Al & Pat Buckles), Brian Paradise (Nephew of John & Pam Evans), Aaron Patenaude (Grandson of Hubert & June St. Pierre), Kenneth Monteiro (Member), David Monteiro (Member), Thomas Storer (Grandson of Ronald & Judy St. John), Jorge Lee Vega, Dana Gilmour (Grandson of Peggy Fellouris), Sasha Knezevic (Nephew of Diana Ukleja), Emily Decelles (Friend of Joan Ann Niles), Alison Bruenjes (Grandniece of Joan Swain).

**Deceased:** Maggie Duff (Sister of Mary Lou Garrett), Randy Pollard (Member).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2016</h1>						
	1 <b>Office Closed</b>	2  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	3 <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir	4  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30pm</b> Worship Commission	5  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	6    <b>4:45pm</b> Healing Prayers <b>5:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I
7 <b>Last Epiphany</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I & Healing Prayers <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite II <b>11:15am</b> Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour	8 <b>Office Closed</b>	9  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	10 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Ashes <b>12:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist & Ashes <b>7:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist & Ashes Children's Service/Chapel	11  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	12  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	13    <b>5:00pm</b> Great Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite I
14 <b>1 Lent</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Great Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Great Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>11:15am</b> Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour <b>4:00pm</b> South Coast Chamber Music Concert Book Discussion	15 <b>Presidents' Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	16  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30-8pm</b> Lenten Series	17  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing	18  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	19  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	20    <b>5:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist Rite 1
21 <b>2 Lent</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist, Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Children's Liturgy/Holy Eucharist <b>11:15am</b> Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour	22 <b>Office Closed</b>	23  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30-8pm</b> Lenten Series	24 <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir  <b>7:00pm</b> Vestry Meeting	25  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	26  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	27    <b>9am-1pm</b> Quiet Day/Convent in Duxbury    <b>5:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist Rite 1
28 <b>3 Lent</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist, Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>11:15am</b> Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour <b>11:30am</b> Annual Meeting	29 <b>Office Closed</b>    <b>3-5pm</b> Laundry Love					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2016</h1>						
		1  <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30-8pm</b> Lenten Series	2  <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir	3          <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	4          <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	5          <b>Diocesan Spring Learning Event</b>       <b>4:45pm</b> Healing Prayers <b>5:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I
6 <b>4 Lent</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I & Healing Prayers <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>11:15am</b> Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour <b>3:00pm</b> Boston Gay Men's Choir at the Zeiterion	7 <b>Office Closed</b>	8          <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30-8pm</b> Lenten Series Eucharistic Visitor Mtg.	9          <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir	10                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	11                      <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	12                      <b>5:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I
13 <b>5 Lent</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>11:15am</b> Instructed Seder, Church School, Youth Group, Coffee Hour <b>4:00pm</b> Book Discussion	14 <b>Office Closed</b>          <b>Easter Flower Memorial Deadline</b>	15 <b>April Newsletter Dealing</b>          <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>6:30-8pm</b> Lenten Series	16          <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing	17                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	18                      <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry	19                      <b>5:00pm</b> Liturgy of the Palms/ Holy Eucharist Rite I
20 <b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Liturgy of the Palms/ Holy Eucharist, Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Liturgy of the Palms/ Holy Eucharist Rite I <b>11:15am</b> Coffee Hour	21 <b>Monday in Holy Week</b>          <b>Office Closed</b>	22 <b>Tuesday in Holy Week</b>                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	23 <b>Wednesday in Holy Week</b>          <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir	24 <b>Maundy Thursday</b>                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL  <b>7:00pm</b> Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar	25 <b>Good Friday</b>                      <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>11am-3pm</b> Church open for Meditation  <b>12:00pm</b> Good Friday Liturgy Children's Service  <b>7:00pm</b> Good Friday Liturgy	26 <b>Holy Saturday</b>                      <b>7:00pm</b> The Great Vigil
27 <b>Easter Day</b> <b>7:30am</b> Community Breakfast <b>8:00am</b> Holy Eucharist, Rite I <b>8:30am</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00am</b> Festival Eucharist Rite II	28 <b>Office Closed</b>                      <b>3-5pm</b> Laundry Love	29                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL	30          <b>9:30am</b> Food Pantry  <b>10:00am</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing  <b>6:30pm</b> Youth Choir  <b>7:00pm</b> Vestry Meeting	31                      <b>6-8pm</b> ESOL		

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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E-Mail ..... [office@gracechurchnb.org](mailto:office@gracechurchnb.org)

**Grace Church Staff**

Rector ..... The Rev. Christopher R. Morck  
Curate ..... The Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt  
Director of Music ..... Brian Roderick  
Children's Minister ..... Melissa Botelho  
Acting Parish Administrator ..... Melissa Rodrigues  
Sexton ..... Patrick Victor  
Verger ..... Gérald Croteau

**After School Program Staff**

Program Director ..... Donna Pires  
Site Coordinator ..... Kaitlyn Vieira  
Group Leader ..... Kelsey Johnson

**Grace Church Wardens and Officers**

Sharlene Begley ..... Senior Warden  
Charles Capizano ..... Junior Warden  
Anne Gundersen ..... Treasurer  
Dana Sargent ..... Assistant Treasurer  
Elizabeth Pye ..... Clerk

**Grace Church Vestry Members**

Leonard Boyce ..... James McKay  
Allen Decker ..... James Montague  
Michael Doe ..... Samuel St. Gelais  
Michael Goulart ..... Andrew Sylvia  
Albert Hines ..... Robbie Watkins  
Michelle Luth

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