

Grace Episcopal Church  
124 Maple Hill Avenue  
Newington, CT 06111  
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The Rev. David C. Parachini, Interim Rector  
The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon  
Martha Brundage, Organist and Choir Director  
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Father David: [eakp@aol.com](mailto:eakp@aol.com)

Holy Eucharist - Sunday at 9am  
Morning Prayer - Tuesday at 8:30am

## *PAGE OF GRACE*



# May 2014



Room Key: PH=Parish Hall; L=Library; S=Sanctuary; PO=Pastor's Office; C=Chapel; MR=Meeting Room; K=Kitchen

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>27 <b>2 Easter</b>            8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR            9:00 AM Holy Eucharist            9:00 AM Church School            10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>28            12:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH</p>	<p>29            8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>30            4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p><b>1</b>            9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH            9:00am ECW Annual Meeting &amp; Luncheon            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p><b>2</b>            6:15 PM Fundraising Committee            7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4 3 Easter</b>            8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR            9:00 AM Holy Eucharist            9:00 AM Church School            10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            10:30 AM Discernment Forum            7:00 PM Finance Committee</p>	<p><b>5</b>            12:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH</p>	<p><b>6</b>            8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p><b>7</b>            4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p><b>8</b>            8:30 AM Chili Prep - K            9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11 4 Easter</b>            8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR            9:00 AM Holy Eucharist            9:00 AM Church School            10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>12</b>            12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group            12:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH</p>	<p><b>13</b>            8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR            7:00 PM Vestry - L</p>	<p><b>14</b>            8:30 AM Chili Prep - K            4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p><b>15</b>            9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p><b>16</b>            7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR</p>	<p><b>17</b>            8:00 AM Welcome Table Breakfast</p>
<p><b>18 5 Easter</b>            8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR            9:00 AM Holy Eucharist            9:00 AM Church School            10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>19</b>            12:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH</p>	<p><b>20</b>            8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p><b>21</b>            4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L            5:00 PM Boy Scout Spaghetti Supper</p>	<p><b>22</b>            9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25 6 Easter</b>            8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal            8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR            9:00 AM Holy Eucharist            9:00 AM Church School            10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>26</b>            12:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH</p>	<p><b>27</b>            8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p><b>28</b>            4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p><b>29</b>            9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH            4:00 PM AA - PH            7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p><b>30</b>            3:00 PM Boy Scouts - PH            7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>



Grace Episcopal Church Newington,  
a Spirit-filled community,  
joyfully welcomes all to gather  
and worship in God's grace to  
experience and share God's  
transforming love.

# *Pace of Grace*

*May, 2014*

"The Pace of Grace" is a monthly publication of  
Grace Episcopal Church, 124 Maple Hill Avenue, Newington, CT

## **Post Resurrection Moments**

Dear Grace Church Family,

As we continue our Easter observance throughout the month of May we hear, in the Gospel readings, about a number of rather unusual accounts of interactions between the risen Christ and those who are part of the Community of the Way. Something is different about the Teacher. Those who encounter him don't realize who it is until he reveals himself to them. What is going on? It is one of the "outward and visible signs" suggesting that change is taking place in the leadership of the community. The authority for making decisions and setting the work of ministry in motion has begun to be transferred to the disciples. This transition will be completed as the event of the Ascension draws closer and as the Holy Spirit prepares to come fully and powerfully upon those charged with carrying the ministry forward now that Jesus will no longer be present with them at least in the human form that they have come to know. These post resurrection moments all point to the imminence of this transition. They remind us that we are the people of the resurrection, an Easter people, who have been given the responsibility for continuing God's mission.

Each time we experience God's presence in our lives as we seek to do the work at hand, we experience resurrection moments. That is what Jesus was talking about when, in the first post-resurrection account in John's Gospel, he says to the terrified disciples hiding in the locked room for fear of the Temple authorities and Pilate's legions, "as the Father has sent me, so I send you". This is a challenge to them to rise to the occasion and to embrace the full meaning of the resurrection. To be sure, Jesus had some idea about how they would do having conducted a "dry run" of the process with the seventy he sent out in pairs. They had done pretty well. Perhaps even with the doubts some of them no doubt had they were ready. The readings from Acts and from the Epistles suggest that they were prepared even if some still had doubts and concerns. They were ready to be the Easter people; people prepared to respond to resurrection moments.

Where are we in our resurrection journey? Are we ready to embrace the resurrection moments which lie ahead for us? In the Collect for the Second Sunday of Easter we prayed, "Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith". Whenever we do the work that God calls us to do, we experience our own resurrection moments. My prayer for all of us in this Easter season and beyond is that as faithful witnesses to the good news of the Gospel, and using all of the gifts of the Spirit given to us at Baptism, we may experience many such resurrection moments as we continue our journey.

*Faithfully,  
David+*





- 05/01 Paul Barr
- 05/05 Jane Siviski
- 05/14 Nathaniel Page
- 05/15 Mary Albrycht
- 05/17 Andrew Ancona
- 05/17 Alexander Ancona
- 05/17 Nancy Tatsapaugh
- 05/23 Dan Carcaud
- 05/23 Linda Haley
- 05/24 Mitch Page
- 05/29 Lynn Page





- 05/04 Thomas and Susan Raimondo
- 05/07 Nicholas and Candace Casciano
- 05/08 Meagan and John Balducci
- 05/09 Steven and Nancy Tatsapaugh



 **Deadline for June *Pace of Grace* – Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.** Please, make every effort to meet this deadline to allow us to mail the issue promptly.

 We normally prepare the bulletin on Wednesday. All items to be included in the calendar insert should be received by Tuesday evening.

 Please notify the office of your email addresses. We would like to send more information by email when possible.

 We are looking for volunteers to staff the office when I am on vacation. I will be gone from September 4 through September 12. I also anticipate taking one or two weeks in the summer, too. If you are interested in doing so this summer or fall, please call me (860-666-3331).

*Art Riihimaki*



The United Thank Offering Ingathering takes place on May 5. The United Thank Offering has been sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women for well over 100 years. It is for any church member who is aware of how much they owe to God's blessings. We return our blessing with donations which go to support the needy around the world. The blue boxes give us a daily remind. You can put a coin in your box each time you think of one of your blessings.

*Bev Manning*



## Thanks So Much!

- ☺ To the Altar Guild for preparing the church for Easter
- ☺ To our faithful lectors, ushers, ministers of communion, acolytes, and leaders in prayer for making our worship more meaningful.
- ☺ To our Discernment Team for their faithful work in leading us to consider where Grace Church should seek to serve God in the future.
- ☺ To our musicians for making Holy Week more inspiring



## Hi-Noon Group

All are invited to attend the Hi-Noon events. Following a bag lunch (bring a sandwich or other lunch - coffee & tea provided), there is an activity. In May the lunch is provided by our host, Seabury.

**May 12, Monday** - Tour of the Seabury Community in Bloomfield where we will be guests at lunch. Meet at the Church for car pooling.

**June 9, Monday** - Picnic and visit to Elizabeth Park Rose Garden in Hartford. The roses should be in full bloom mid June



## SERVANT SATURDAY

Grace Episcopal Church will be hosting its annual Spring Clean-up/Work Day on Saturday, May 17, 2014. While it is the same event we've had in past years, this year we are putting a new focus on it.

For members of Grace Church, it is a branch of the newly redesigned and intentional effort to make stewardship a year around practice. The focus of the May Work Day is the Time element of the Time, Talent and Treasure foundation of Stewardship. We all must be good stewards of the earth and all that is in as well as our church home and this is a way for folks to give back and take care of the many tasks and chores that are needed to maintain the beautiful buildings and grounds of Grace Church.

As a nod to our green initiatives and in honor of an Earth Day that was overlooked because of Holy Week and Easter, the work day will showcase and utilize earth friendly products for cleaning and grounds maintenance. Depending on scheduling, there may also be a demonstration of composting and pruning techniques by a well-known area expert.

The other point of the day is to invite our friends who use the Grace Church facilities and grounds on a regular basis to participate. At different times throughout their tenure with us, leaders of the various groups have graciously come to us with offers to help with different chores and tasks. Our property management efforts were never fully organized enough to take advantage of these offers. All of that has changed.

The Church now has an organized, well thought out task list of chores and maintenance items that groups, individuals, couples and families can sign up for. The list includes seasonal, annual, monthly and as needed items, depending on how much "time" one wants to give.

We have also developed our version of a "wish list" of about a dozen items that require a more specialized skill set. It is our hope that among the various communities that use our facilities, there is someone who will step forward and help us get these tasks completed. The task lists and sign-ups will be posted the week of May 5 on the upstairs and downstairs bulletin boards.

As an added bonus, we will be serving a

hearty breakfast for all workers. The breakfast is our regular, monthly Welcome Table Community breakfast day but we are expanding the hours to include the work event. Coffee and water will be served throughout the day.

Stewardship is a way of life. And it is not only about turning in our pledge card but also a calling for all of us to be good stewards of all that God has given us, including our beautiful church home.

*Paul Crosswaith*  
Property Chair

*Melissa Haseley*  
Senior Warden



Our Community Welcome Table Breakfasts continue. The next dates for the second quarter are May 17 and June 21. To make it easy to remember: The dates are always the *third* Saturday of the month. The time is from 8 am to 10 am.

The breakfasts have turned into a nice fellowship event for the church so if you haven't joined us please do. Our primary focus of course, is to provide a hot meal to those who need one. And we've had a nice mix of community folks joining us.

*Melissa Haseley*



## Fundraising Committee

We are meeting on a series of Friday nights at 7 PM in the meeting room to make ornaments to sell at the Church Fair on Oct 25, 2014. Our next meeting is Friday May 2 at 6:15pm. A business meeting and supper will be provided. You need to bring your own beverage. At 7pm, we will continue with the craft making (see article elsewhere). New members are always welcome. Please contact Lorraine Belyea or Liz Welk if you want a table to sell items.

**Flower sale:** We made \$ 311.35 on the Pansy sale and the Easter bouquets.

Members of the Committee are Liz Welk, Lorraine Belyea, Valerie Dumont, Lynn Page, Jane

Stewart, and Meagan Balducci.



National Nurses' Week

May 6 through 12, 2014 is National Nurses week.

Upon graduation from Nursing School when the Nurses receive their school pin and when Nursing caps were presented many Nurses Recited THE NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE

The Nightingale Pledge was named in honor of Florence Nightingale. It is a modified version of the Hippocratic Oath.

The pledge was created in 1893 by Lystra Gretter with a committee at the Farrand Training School for Nurses in Detroit Michigan. Lystra Gretter was inspired by Florence Nightingale, considered by many nursing scholars the founder of modern nursing.

#### THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE

I solemnly pledge my self and before GOD and the presence of this assembly To pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug.

I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling.

With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work and will devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

Please wish all the Nurses you know a Happy Nurses week.

*Submitted by Liz Welk*



**Congratulations to Elizabeth Welk**

On May 8, 2014 Elizabeth will receive the prestigious Nightingale Award.

This award is present to Nurses who have demonstrated excellence in Nursing Practice, go above and beyond the call of duty, show professionalism at all times and are advocates for their patients.

Elizabeth will have her picture in The Hartford Courant on May 8, 2014 as The Hartford Courant always publishes a large section on The Nightingale Awards.



The Garden Committee, I bet you didn't know we had one of those did you?!, well it's very loosely structured at this point, but the interested parties are looking for some plant donations to punch up the color and the attractiveness of the front bee and butterfly garden.

And did you forget like I did that was the original intent of that garden to begin with? It wasn't until I was going through some old property committee reports and annual reports to look for some information about our green initiatives for the discernment process, that I was reminded we put the front garden in as a bee and butterfly garden as an educational tool to teach children to be good stewards of God's creation.

What a great idea! And it still is a great idea it just needs a little punching up to make it a wow statement. The garden is being edged, tilled and amended to improve the soil conditions for plantings. Hopefully that will be done the weekend of May 3 - 4. There are some nice plantings in there now that provide nectar-rich flowers for winged visitors but we need some larval plants for their caterpillar offspring and some flat landscape rocks for sun basking to make it a real habitat for butterflies and bees. Additionally, it would enhance the front area of the church with lots of color and make it a more attractive and welcoming transition from the parking lot to the entryway of the church.

With the weather not yet having caught up with the calendar, it is still a good time to divide perennials to create new plants or to dig some up to thin out an existing bed. And if you are doing that in your own garden this season, the church would welcome the donation of the following wish list

plants: Rudbeckia, black-eyed susan; Echinacea purpurea, coneflower; Achillea, yarrow; lantana; Asclepias tuberosa, butterfly weed; Penstemon 'Midnight' or 'Sour Grapes'; anything from the Aster family, sedums and Joe-Pye Weed. A nice selection of colorful annuals is also on the list so if you'd like to pick up an extra six or eight pack when shopping for your own garden and containers, it would be gratefully accepted.

If you'd like to volunteer to plant after the last hard frost date of May 15, it will be on the task list for the May 17 Time and Work Day.

Melissa Haseley



"Thanks be to God" – As your Stewardship Chairperson, I would like to thank everyone who attended our Kick-Off Stewardship Dinner on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. I also would like to thank everyone who helped to make this fellowship time a wonderful, delicious and successful evening. It was a pleasure to have Bishop Ian Douglas as our speaker for the evening.

The joining of the humble and penitential season of Lent and the generous and prayerful season of the stewardship appeal was deliberate on the Stewardship Committee's part, along with the support of our Vestry. We believe it offered a unique and powerful opportunity for all of us to delve deeper into our relationship with Our Lord Jesus, our beloved parish, and for helping us realize God's abundant love.

Many of you have submitted your pledge card for the 2014-2015 pledging year. For this, the Stewardship Committee and I thank you very much. For those of you who have yet to make a pledge, we look forward with gratitude and excitement in partnering with you in this New Year. It is not too late to send in your pledge.

During the Lenten season, I was journaling in my GRACE, Gratitude and Generosity notebook. Each day, I realized how truly blessed I am. I also was reading the Lenten Meditations, published by Episcopal Relief and Development. I would like to

share a passage from Luke 6:38 that struck me, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." The author for the day, Sister Clair Joy, states the following so eloquently, "The point is that giving, like forgiving, is one of those amazing mysteries of God's grace. Giving produces in and of itself a mental attitude of gratitude. Whatever we get in return, we actually appreciate more." As we move through this Lenten season, keep your eyes on the goodness of God and hopefully you will recognize that God has given you far more than anyone else can ever give you. God will always be there for you!

*Faithfully submitted,  
Karen Halpert*



**Food Ingathering Report:** Congratulations for a successful food ingathering this spring. You brought in \$145.00 in Gift Cards and 14 bags of food. Our neighbors are thankful that you continue to open your hearts with concern for their well being. These items will help replenish the shelves at the John E. Stage Food Bank.



In preparation for the October 25 Church Fair, the Grace Church Crafters have a series of Craft Nights planned to make items for the fair. The dates are all Fridays and unless stated otherwise will be held in the Music Meeting room upstairs. The starting time is 7:00 pm.

The committee asks that you not wear your good clothes, or if you do bring an apron or a smock to wear over them. Some of the activities may include painting. And as the warmer weather approaches, there are several larger scale projects that will be done outside.

The planned dates are: May 2, May 16, May 30, June 13 and June 27. At the end of June, the committee will see where they are and what else

needs to be done and will schedule and publish additional dates at that time.

If you have any questions, please talk to Lorraine Belyea or Val Dumont.



# FINANCE REPORT

## General Fund Update:

April certainly benefited from the joyful season of Easter and the renewed freshness of what is hopefully now officially Spring. I have shown figures based on estimated month end payroll, but all other figures are final. As you can see, it looks like we should have a positive month as reflected in the increase in the checkbook balance. I don't know yet whether the overall "operating" portion of the expenses will be positive yet for the year, but we are at least headed in the right direction.

At the end of April, our finances should end up as follows:

INCOME	April	Y.T.D.	EXPENSES	April	Y.T.D.
<i>Beginning Checkbook:</i>		<b>\$ 3,338</b>	<i>\$ 3,898</i>		
Pledge Receipts:	\$ 8,206	\$ 35,098	Salaries & Benefits:	(\$ 5,308)	(\$ 21,224)
General Receipts:	\$ 487	\$ 2,652	General Expenses:	(\$ 2,155)	(\$ 8,695)
Use of Church Building	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,875	General Utilities:	(\$ 1,845)	(\$ 7,726)
Fund Raisers:	\$ 549	\$ 775	Grounds (Snow/Lawn)	(\$ 285)	(\$ 6,233)
Capital Campaign:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Capital Camp to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
"B-to-B" & Special:	\$ 65	\$ 494	Capital Campaign Exp	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Donations:	\$ 5	\$ 220	Memorials to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Garden:	\$ 55	\$ 93	Mem. Garden Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Seasonal Offerings:	\$ 1,015	\$ 1,015	Diocese Pledge	(\$ 1,302)	(\$ 5,208)
Outreach:	\$ 120	\$ 335	Outreach:	(\$ 100)	(\$ 824)
Miscellaneous	\$ 0	\$ 160	Miscellaneous Forward	(\$ 0)	(\$ 160)
Rectory Rent:	\$ 1,500	\$ 7,800	Rectory Rent to M.Mkt	(\$ 0)	(\$ 1,000)
Reserves from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Reserves to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
<b>Total Received:</b>	<b>\$13,002</b>	<b>\$ 52,517</b>	<b>Total Paid Out:</b>	<b>(\$10,995)</b>	<b>(\$ 51,070)</b>
			<i>Ending Checkbook:</i>	<b>\$ 5,345</b>	<b>\$ 5,345</b>

Please keep up your support and involvement in all our activities. If we all work together with our Gratitude and Generosity, we can continue to make Grace the active, spiritual, and friendly place we all know and love.

*Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker - Treasurer*

## Capital Campaign and Money Market Update:

At the end of April, the overall Money Market account balance should be \$62,497. Of this amount, the major elements are: \$35,433 as the posted Capital Campaign balance, and \$15,142 as the posted net Rectory balance (\$1,500 Security Deposit + \$13,642 Rectory Reserves). The latest expense from the Capital funds was a total of \$1,277 for the efforts from November through March to get the church boiler working properly after the initial failure last fall of the main control circuit board. Luckily, our service man was able to get the two major components covered under warranty (about \$1,000 worth) when the factory rep initially said it was past the warranty year and we weren't covered.

*Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker - Treasurer*