

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111
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The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon
Mei-Tsen Chen, Organist and Choir Director
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Holy Eucharist - Sunday at 9am
Morning Prayer - Tuesday at 8:30am

PACE OF GRACE



2016

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111



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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 6 Easter 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist	2 12 N Hi-Noon Group 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH	3 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	4 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L	5 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	6	7
8 7 Easter 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist	9 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH	10 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 7:00 PM Vestry - L	11 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L	12 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	13	14
15 Pentecost 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Sunday School	16 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH	17 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	18 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	19 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	20	21
22 Trinity Sunday 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Sunday School	23 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH	24 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	25 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L	26 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	27	28
29 2 Pentecost 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	30 Memorial Day	31 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	1 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L	2 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	3	4



To renew, to serve, and to accept all people, as we grow together in Christ.

Pace of Grace

May, 2016

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

What is a Missional Priest?

Dear Grace Church Family,

As you know, I have been called to Grace Church as a Missional Priest. Some of you may wonder what a Missional Priest is and how he or she differs from other clergy positions. Here is how the position is described by the Diocese:

A Missional Priest is an ordained presbyter who will assist a gathered local Eucharistic community in its desire to find new life and vitality in service to God's mission of restoration and reconciliation. The Missional Priest is an active and engaged leader that helps a parish to re-imagine and re-engage its vocation in new and life-giving ways. Because of the time limitations of the Missional Priest, generally serving a parish at less than half-time, the Missional Priest must be a strong motivator of the gifts of others. Missional priests are thus called to empower, encourage, and extend the efforts of all the baptized as the local Eucharistic community looks beyond itself in service to God's mission. The Missional Priest is not a "caretaker" or a "maintainer." Rather, the Missional Priest is a prophetic and challenging leader who calls the faithful to new possibilities and bold ventures in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I hope this helps to define the roles I and you have as Grace Church moves forward into the future.

*Faithfully,
David+*

- 05/24 Mitch Page
- 05/26 Baylen Bielitz
- 05/29 Lynn Page



**MAY
BIRTHDAYS**

- 05/01 Paul Barr
- 05/14 Nathaniel Page
- 05/15 Mary Albrycht
- 05/17 Nancy Tatsapaugh
- 05/23 Dan Carcaud
- 05/23 Linda Haley



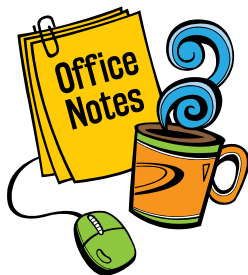
**MAY
ANNIVERSARIES**


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




Here are the lectionary readings for each Sunday and Holy Days in the month:

Season after Pentecost Year C	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Sixth Sunday of Easter May 1, 2016	*Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29 or <i>John 5:1-9</i>
Ascension of the Lord May 5, 2016	*Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47 or <i>Psalm 93</i>	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 8, 2016	*Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26
Day of Pentecost May 15, 2016	*Acts 2:1-21 or <i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	Romans 8:14-17 or <i>Acts 2:1-21</i>	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
Trinity Sunday May 22, 2016 <i>First Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
Proper 4 (9) Second Sunday after Pentecost May 29, 2016	1 Kings 18:20-21, (22-29), 30-39 Psalm 96	1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43 Psalm 96:1-9	Galatians 1:1-12	Luke 7:1-10
Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth May 31, 2016	1 Samuel 2:1-10	Psalm 113	Romans 12:9-16b	Luke 1:39-57



 **Deadline for June *Pace of Grace* – Tuesday, May 24th.** 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.

Art Riihimaki



HI-NOON / Spring 2016 - A group of "Young at Heart" Church friends meets monthly (except summer) for lunch and activities in the Parish Hall and short excursions. All are welcome!

May 2, Monday– 12:00: An excursion is planned. Details later. (Date may change depending on excursion).

June 6, Monday– 12:00: Annual Picnic – Munchies served on Patio followed by Picnic Lunch in Parish Hall. Hot Dogs and Hamburgers provided. Volunteers needed to sign up to bring salads and desserts.



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.



National Nurses' Week.

May 6 through 12, 2016 is National Nurses week. Please thank all the Nurses you know and wish them a Happy Nurses' week.



The Grace Church Book Club met on April 16. At that meeting we selected our June and September dates and books.

The June date is the 11th and the book is the *Lake House* by Kate Morton.

Nancy Bielman will be the facilitator and she is using the readers guide questions from the readers guide on the internet.

The September 10th selection is a 2 book series to be read in this order: *The Traitor's Wife: A Novel.* and *The Heretic's Daughter.* The books are about Martha Carrier, one of the 19 men and women hanged in the Salem in 1692.

The author is Kathleen Kent, a 10th generation descendant of Martha Carrier and we

selected them for September so we'd all have the summer to read them.

The June sign-up will be in the Narthex starting May 1 and the September sign-up will be in the Narthex starting August 1.

Should you have any questions, please contact either Nancy or Melissa.



Family Promise is making progress although it is slow.

As of our last core meeting April 20th, we are still working on getting a 14 passenger van and getting ready to get the day center leased. The board of directors will be working on hiring a director, counselor and driver (for van). All of this takes time.

Last core meeting we learned that we have a working board of directors. We have a (501-c3) certificate that we are a non-profit organization, rules and policies are in place.

We were still working on getting our 10th host church.

The social in March at Holy Spirit was a huge success. The displays of a family's living area was set up; sample of a rotating schedule for host churches; information on who we are and how we intend to accomplish this valuable ministry was available.

Skip Collins will be with us on May 8th during and after our service. He will speak to us about Family Promise and answer questions the congregation might have.

Projected opening date being looked at is September. I myself believe that January might be a better target. We ourselves along with others are not ready yet. A lot is involved to accomplish this. Approvals from Fire Marshall and building inspector are required. We are in pretty good shape to do this. Volunteers will be needed from Grace and we also have the help of our support church, Our Savior's Lutheran.

More to come.
Mabel Maynard



With the days growing longer, we are assured that, soon, a warmer, gentler season will turn our Connecticut landscapes green once again. And when that happens we want to be outdoors enjoying it as much as we can. And once that happens, there are a few more chores and tasks that need to get added to the “to do list”.

Weeding, planting, mulching and watering are just a few that need to get done, not only in our home gardens but also at our church home. The corps of willing gardeners has dissipated over the last few years to the point that we now hire out much of our landscaping needs.

Many of you have remarked about how nice the Memorial Garden looks since it was mulched a few weeks ago. And it does, but it's an added cost to our spring lawn mowing bill. I know we ask a lot of you throughout the year and we have a wonderful group of volunteers who contribute so much of their time and talent and of course their treasure. If you could possibly contribute a few dollars extra to help us off set the increased cost for plants and mulch this spring it would help keep the checkbook in positive territory.

And if you have more time than treasure, there are watering tasks that you can sign up for as we have asked for the last few summers. The sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex sometime this month and the schedule is a week at a time from June 6 to September 25. The watering includes the pots and urns in the Memorial Garden, the bee and butterfly garden in the front, the side garden by the kitchen door and the hanging plant in the front. The hoses will be set up and the “key” to turn on the spigots will be

in an accessible place. And of course the weeding can be done at any time, so our summer mantra is “if you see a weed, pull a weed”. And if everyone did that, the weeds would be kept at bay and our gardens would look well maintained.

Thank you for all that you do. This is the most loving, caring, nurturing group of people and you are why I am still here and will always be.

*Blessings,
Melissa*



Come be a part of our events. Come be a member of our team.

DINING FOR DOLLARS
Thursday June 9th
Bertucci's in Newington
11am-10pm

Have lunch or dinner at Bertucci's on Thursday June 9, 2016. Fifteen percent (15%) of the sales will be donated to Grace Episcopal Church. You must present a coupon with our name on it at time of payment. It is an all-day event from 11am to 10pm. It is also good for eat in or take out. Please share the coupons with your family and friends. Let us have a great turnout like we did last year!!!

Sorting Ink Cartridges

We are looking for a person to take over this job of sorting the ink and sending it out. If interested please contact Lynn Page or Valerie Dumont.

*Thank you for supporting us,
Valerie Dumont Co-Chair*



FINANCE REPORT

General Fund Update:

April continued this year's trend of nominal positive net gains to the General Fund Checkbook balance instead of the minor deficit anticipated by the budget. So far, the major factors for this are reduced Utilities and Grounds keeping from the milder winter, less than budgeted Insurance and Office costs, plus the pledge income and general use of building income holding slightly above anticipated. With all this in mind, I hope that the loss of the Saint Thomas income will be covered by the net gains we have seen to date. In addition, May with 5 Sunday's should continue to help building a buffer for the various increased expenses to come. I do anticipate that the trend for our finances will head in the other direction as we move through the spring and summer.

The Finances for the month of April were as follows:

INCOME	April	Y.T.D.	EXPENSES	April	Y.T.D.
<u>Beginning Checkbook:</u>	<u>\$16,265</u>	<u>\$ 12,181</u>			
Pledge Receipts:	\$ 7,325	\$ 34,233	Salaries & Benefits:	(\$ 4,687)	(\$ 19,979)
General Receipts:	\$ 249	\$ 1,683	General Expenses:	(\$ 1,768)	(\$ 8,313)
Use of Church Building:	\$ 390	\$ 2,700	General Utilities:	(\$ 1,431)	(\$ 6,450)
Fund Raisers, General:	\$ 548	\$ 1,239	Fund Raiser Expenses:	(\$ 261)	(\$ 441)
Fellowship:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Fellowship Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Church Fair:	\$ 0	\$ 10	Fair Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Special Events:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Special Event Expense:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Advance Returned	\$ 0	\$ 0	Event Cash Advance	(\$ 165)	(\$ 165)
Cap.Camp from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Grounds (Snow/Lawn):	(\$ 0)	(\$ 2,493)
Capital Campaign:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Capital Camp to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
"B-to-B" & Special:	\$ 25	\$ 154	Capital Campaign Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Donations:	\$ 0	\$ 15	Memorials to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Garden:	\$ 2	\$ 139	Mem. Garden Exp:	(\$ 6)	(\$ 0)
Seasonal Offerings:	\$ 0	\$ 940	Diocese Pledge:	(\$ 1,213)	(\$ 4,852)
Outreach:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Outreach:	(\$ 153)	(\$ 558)
Holy Week, Good Fri	\$ 50	\$ 163	Holy Week Forward	(\$ 163)	(\$ 163)
ECW Luncheon	\$ 60	\$ 200	ECW Lunch Forward	(\$ 180)	(\$ 180)
The Grace Fund	\$ 25	\$ 135	The Grace Fund	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Family Promise	\$ 0	\$ 182	Family Promise	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Miscellaneous:	\$ 0	\$ 32	Miscellaneous Forward:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Rectory Rent:	\$ 3,000	\$ 7,500	Rectory Rent to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Special Donation:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Audit Fee:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Reserves from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Reserves to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Total Received:	\$11,674	\$ 49,325	Total Paid Out:	(\$10,027)	(\$ 43,594)
			<i>Ending Checkbook:</i>	\$17,912	\$ 17,912

Please remember that our budget does depend heavily on the pledge envelope income. So far, we have still only received only 27 pledge cards toward our 2016/2016 Stewardship program. This is still only about half of the number of pledge envelopes being used. If you haven't had a chance yet to turn in a pledge card, please consider doing so soon, so we have a better idea of how the rest of the year might turn out. There are more cards in the Narthex if you need one. In any case, thanks to everyone for being involved however you can be in the overall life here at Grace Church.

Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer

Capital Campaign and General Money Market Update: At the end of April, the overall Money Market account balance should be \$55,703. Of this amount, the major elements are: \$23,868 as the posted Capital Campaign balance, and \$15,142 as the posted net Rectory balance (\$1,500 Security Deposit + \$13,642 Rectory Reserves).

Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer