

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111
Phone: 860-666-3331

Pastor Trish Cunningham, Missional Priest
The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon
Mei-Tsen Chen, Organist and Choir Director
Debbie Forrest, Office Manager
Web Site: www.gracechurchnew.org
Email: office@gracechurchnew.org

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

PACE OF GRACE



2019

November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 
3 21 st Sunday after Pentecost All Saints Day Observance Stewardship Program Begins 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Altar Guild Mtg	4 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	5 9:00 am Employment Group - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR 	6 12 pm Hi Noon 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	7 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	8	9
10 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	11  VETERANS DAY	12 9:00 am Employment Group - MMR 6:00 pm Vestry Mtg - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	13 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	14 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	15	16 2:00 pm Book Club Meeting - L
17 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost Holiday Food Ingathering 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 2:00 pm Mei-Tsen Chen Student Recital	18 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	19 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	20 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	21  THANKSGIVING Day	22	23
24 Last Sunday after Pentecost Commitment Sunday Angel Tree Ingathering begins 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	25 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	26 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR 7:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Holy Spirit Catholic Church	27 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	28 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	29	30

Room Key: PH=Parish Hall; L=Library; MMR= Music Meeting Room; MR=Meeting Room; C=Chapel; K=Kitchen



Pace of Grace

November 2019

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

From the Missional Priest



Partner Updates

You may be wondering, what is a missional priest-in-charge? (MPIC) Since this is my first time in this quarter-time position, so am I! According to my letter of agreement, I am here to help you “to re-imagine and re-engage its vocation in new and life-giving ways.”

Calling on the gifts for ministry of all in the parish, the MPIC “is a prophetic and challenging leader who calls to new possibilities and bold ventures.” In other words, you and I are to be partners in finding new and satisfying ways to do God’s work in the world.

My experience in leading parishes over the past twelve years tells me that our work will not be without its challenges and possibly conflict. Change is difficult! Oftentimes, many of us find that church is the only refuge from the alarming rate at which our lives and the world in general is changing! It may be comforting to try to continue the same rituals of parish life that are familiar and have seemed appropriate in the past. Resistance to change is very understandable!

In addition, change for change’s sake is not useful. We do not want to “throw the baby out with the bathwater,” and remake everything at Grace anew. So many things are perfectly wonderful about this place. We have so many gifted and committed lay ministers and leaders. The Holy Spirit is evident here in the gentleness and positive energy that accompanies any gathering. The spirit of Shalom, or welcome and true hospitality, greets all who enter the doors.

Yet, as is so common in the Episcopal Church as a whole, the congregation is largely over the age of 65. For ministry and mission at Grace to persist, we must reach beyond our current boundaries, in every way possible.

How can we do this? In my view, it is a two-prong approach. We look to our neighbors for new ways to serve them, and we continue to maximize the major asset beyond our people, that is, our physical plant. We are a hub for twelve-step groups, but we can do more.

I was struck by the possibilities afforded by the classrooms and outdoor space of our parish, on my first visit here. My hope is that we might attract a school of some sort that aligns with our core values. I have reached out to the Early Childhood Learning department head at Capital Community College and have put an ad on Craigslist. What else can I or you do to get the word out that we have space for a school?

Secondly, the Episcopal Church is becoming increasingly proactive in addressing the challenges of climate change. People of faith must take the lead on this existential threat to humankind by providing our prophetic voice. At Grace, we can continue to “walk the talk,” by reducing our carbon footprint and solid waste. We can also collaborate with others in our community, again providing space for community action to take place.

I knew that Grace would be a good fit for me when I learned that you were the first church in the diocese with a female rector, and that you were one of the first to welcome openly gay and lesbian Christians. If we want to reach out to younger generations, it is vital that we continue to speak out against behavior that undermines the dignity of all human beings.

We can do more than speaking up, we can also change the way that we speak about God. God is not a man, yet most of the language we use to address or describe God is male. Over the next year, we will incorporate some inclusive language into our services, while maintaining the integrity of our Trinitarian understanding of God. To illustrate, “Father, Son and Holy Spirit,” can be described also as “Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,” or “Lover, Beloved and Love Overflowing.” If you have other suggestions, let me know.

You will hear me pray the Lord’s Prayer as, “Our Father and Mother, who art in heaven.” I do this out of recognition that God includes the characteristics of a mother as much as a father- because again- God is not male. You may prefer to pray your familiar, “Our Father, who art in heaven, or “Our Father in Heaven.” Please feel free to pray in the words that are most deeply meaningful to you.

You may have noticed that we have incorporated prayers from the New Zealand Prayer Book. This prayer book was written a little after our 1979 Book of Common Prayer, and it does reflect a broader understanding of God and Creation, and it contains language that is more respectful of women as well as minorities, such as indigenous peoples. As fellow Anglicans, we join the New Zealanders in believing that God gave us reason to continue to broaden our understanding of God and humankind. I hope that you enjoy some fresh images and ways of expressing deep truths.

Please let me know your thoughts on these updates and all other aspects of parish life. I will be available to you on Tuesdays from 2-5pm. Please stop by and see me, or call and make an appointment, if you prefer.

Finally, I am excited to get to know you all better and to hear your stories. God has drawn us together as “partners,” and I am excited to hear from you where we might discover new possibilities for mission and ministry. We might begin with the question: “What do our neighbors need from us?” And go from there. It may push us out beyond our comfort zone, but one thing is certain: when we arrive, we will find that God is already there waiting for us.

Christ’s peace and warm wishes,

Trish+



Here are the lectionary readings for each Sunday and Holy Day in November

	First reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
All Saints Day November 1, 2019	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9	24	Revelation 21:1-6a	John 11:32-44
All Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day) November 2, 2019	Wisdom 3:19	130	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	John 5:24-27
21 st Pentecost November 3, 2019	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	Psalm 119:137- 144	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19:1-10
22 nd Pentecost November 10, 2019	Haggai 1:15b-2:9	Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38
23 rd Pentecost November 17, 2019	Isaiah 65:17-25	Canticle 9	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
Thanksgiving Day November 21, 2019	Joel 2:21-27	126	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Matthew 6:25-33
Last Sunday after Pentecost Christ the King (Proper 29) November 24, 2019	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Canticle 4	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43
St. Andrew November 30, 2019	Deuteronomy 30:11- 14	19	Romans 10:8b-18	Matthew 4:18-22



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/03 JoAnn Cromwell
- 11/10 Shirley Adams
- 11/14 Lorraine Belyea
- 11/16 Mabel Maynard
- 11/24 Marisa Casciano



SENIORS ON THE GO HI-NOON - The group meets monthly (except August) for lunch and activities in the Parish Hall and/or short excursions. Activities planned through Winter 2020 are listed below. All are welcome!

November 6, Wednesday - Barker Character Comic and Cartoon Museum, Cheshire

December 2, Holiday party 2020

January 6, Monday - Fun and Games in Parish Hall

February 3, Monday - Movie Matinee

March - Restaurant adventure - Location and Date to be determined



Save the Date

- November 2 Turn Clocks Back
- November 3 Altar Guild Meeting
All Saint's Day Observance
Stewardship Program begins
- November 5 Election Day
- November 6 Hi Noon
- November 11 Veteran's Day
- November 12 Vestry Meeting
- November 16 Book Club Meeting
- November 17 Holiday Food Ingathering
- November 24 Commitment Sunday
Angel Tree Ingathering begins
- November 26 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 7 pm at Holy Spirit Catholic Church
- November 28 Thanksgiving Day



BAKE A CAKE - Every month Birthdays and Anniversaries are celebrated the **FIRST** Sunday of the month with a cake served at Fellowship Time after the service. Please consider baking or buying a cake to be served. Notify Debbie in the Church Office by email or phone the month you will bring a cake: office@gracechurchnew.org / 860-666-3331. A cake baked in a standard 9 X 13 pan using one cake mix package or homemade ingredients is a good size.



The deadline for the December Pace of Grace is Monday, November 25. Please make every effort to meet this deadline to allow us to distribute the issue promptly. The earlier you submit, the easier it is to publish the issue.

Office Hours: Monday 11-4; Tuesday 1-5; and Thursday 11-5.

The office will be closed for Thanksgiving November 28 and 29.

Debbie Forrest



ELECTION DAY

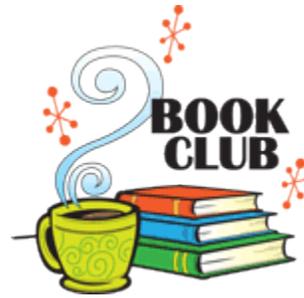
Don't forget to vote!
Election Day is Tuesday,
November 5



Newington Food Bank: We continue to support the food bank with ketchup, paper towels, low-sodium soups, tissues, pancake mix, and 100% juice boxes. Also needed are reusable shopping bags. With upcoming holidays, the need is great. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Thanksgiving Food Needs: Frozen turkey breast, canned or refrigerated hams, stuffing, pineapple, canned/boxed potatoes, pickles, nuts, pie crust mix/fillings, other holiday specialties and grocery store gift cards.

JoAnn Cromwell



Book Club: The next gathering of the Grace Church Book Club is Saturday, November 16 at 2 pm in the church library. The book selection is *The Guest Book* by Sarah Blake. At the October meeting we also selected the books for

the next few meetings. There is no meeting in December. We usually meet the second Saturday of the month and that will continue to be the case. However, we are going to discuss it again at the next meeting and decide if it's still working for everyone. By determining our next few reads, it is hoped that one or more of the titles will peak someone's interest and that they will join us that month for the discussion. The books we have selected are:

November – *The Guest Book* by Sarah Blake
 December – no meeting
 January – *The Great Alone* by Kristen Hannah
 February – *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes
 March – *Educated* by Tara Westover

Even if you don't join us for book club, if you like to read, the above titles are an excellent selection of best seller, recently published books. The dates of the meetings will be published at a later date. Please know we also meet in April, May and June. We also select one or two books to read over the summer to discuss at our September meeting.

We are an informal, fun-loving group that enjoys reading. Most of our discussion are not only about the book, but also usually touch on a variety of related topics as well. Please join us!
 Happy Reading!

Melissa Haseley



Do you like playing with money??? The counters do that every Sunday and occasionally other days.

**COUNTERS
NEEDED**

Join us! You will have extensive training and never be left to count along. On average, we

each count about once a month. Many hands make lite work. Come join us.

We are a very flexible group who trade weeks when our schedules require we do so. Most of us have been involved in this Ministry for over 15 years. Very dedicated people.

If your heart has been saying “you can do this” but you are not sure, give it a try by counting for a few weeks before making a final decision.

We do enjoy doing this each week.

Thank you for considering this Ministry,

*JoAnn Cromwell
Counting Coordinator*



Sunday School Volunteers

Although we haven't had youngsters in church for a while, we always want to keep that door open. Last year, Sunday School was offered two Sundays a month, the dates announced in the Pace of Grace.

Looking forward to the new school year, we are hopeful that with our new pastor, our church family will grow and include children.

Please consider becoming a *Sunday School Volunteer!*

All that is necessary is one or two Sundays a month on a flexible schedule. The time is short, around 30 minutes, and activities are provided that include a short narrative and a craft or activity sheet that is adaptable to any age. So much fun, and you don't have to be an "experienced teacher!"

Please let JoAnn or Debbie Forrest know of your interest.

Fall United Thank Offering In-Gathering St. James' Church 76 Federal Street New London, CT Thursday, November 7

Registration begins at 10:30 am
Holy Eucharist at 11 am with
Bishop Laura Ahrens, Celebrant and Preacher
Lunch at 12 pm
Speaker begins 1 pm –
Stephanie Brandon, St. James, New London,
Team Leader 2019 Mission Trip to Arizona Border
at Tuscan.

Unemployed?

See the listing at the end of the Pace of locations of Job Search Work Teams!

November Liturgical Events

- November 3** All Saint's Day observance with memorial candles
Stewardship Program Begins
- November 17** Holiday Food Ingathering for Newington Human Services
- November 24** Commitment Sunday
Start of Angel Tree Ingathering
- November 26** Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 7 pm at Holy Spirit Catholic Church



Mei invites you to her Student Piano Recital on November 17 at 2 pm in the Sanctuary.

Through Monday, November 15, Duksa funeral homes



(Newington Memorial, Burritt Hill and Fisette-Batzner) will be collecting new or gently used sweaters and gloves to donate to veterans in VA hospitals and homes. A box will be in the narthex for your donations. Thank you.



Please join us for a peaceful, centering time of prayer and worship. Early week Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at 8:30 AM in the Chapel. All are welcome. Beverley Manning and JoAnn Cromwell rotate leading the service. Please note: There will be no morning prayer on November 5 or 12.



Please remember to wear your name tag! If you are in need of one, please leave a note in the office and Debbie will make one up for you. Thank you!



QUICK FINANCE UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

<u>INCOME:</u>	<u>TOTAL BUDGET</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE BUDGET</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE ACTUAL</u>
Pledge Income	\$87,558	\$ 61,291	\$ 63,713
Total Income	\$125,908	\$ 86,090	\$ 88,406
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	(\$125,328)	(\$ 94,529)	(\$ 79,862)
<u>NET CHANGE:</u>	\$ 580	(\$ 8,439)	\$ 8,544



Creative Energy Team
November 2019

Upcoming Event:

**CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL 2020
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM
SELLING ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE FOR VALENTINES DAY!!**

Watch the announcements for craft day dates!

The chocolate making will start immediately after Christmas.

We will be looking for some workers for this day...before, during and after.

If you have any questions or would like to join us to help with any activity we would love to have you.

Val Dumont

Lay Ministry Schedule
9:00 AM

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
	21 st Pentecost	22 nd Pentecost	23 rd Pentecost	24 th Pentecost
Deacon/LWL	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz
LECTOR	JoAnn Cromwell	Shirley Adams	Walt Parker	Paul Crosswaith
MINISTER OF COMMUNION	Mabel Maynard	JoAnn Cromwell	Elizabeth Welk	Shirley Adams
CRUCIFER	Karen Halpert	Elizabeth Welk	Jane Stewart	Karen Halpert
PRAYERS	Beverley Manning	Karen Halpert	Paul Crosswaith	Marie Ritchie
USHERS	Nancy DiPrato	Jane Stewart	Bob MacCalmont	Brandon & Kathy
	Lorraine Belyea	Paul Crosswaith	Charlie Albrycht	Johnson
FELLOWSHIP				
NRRRC-10:30am		Beverley Manning		JoAnn Cromwell
HTFD REGIONAL CTR - 12n				JoAnn Cromwell
Lay Eucharist Visitor			Liz Welk	
ALTAR GUILD	Marie Ritchie	Kathy Shoemaker	Barbara Johnson	Barbara Johnson
	Candy Casciano	Candy Casciano	Pat Rogorzenski	Pat Rogorzenski
	Jane Stewart	Jane Stewart	Marie Ritchie	Marie Ritchie
COUNTERS	Beverley Manning	Melissa Haseley	JoAnn Cromwell	Walt Parker
	Paul Crosswaith	Lorraine Belyea	Nancy DiPrato	Paul Crosswaith



JOB SEARCH WORK TEAMS

Job Search Work Teams are support groups made up of colleagues in transition looking for that next opportunity.

If you would like to join a team please email me. Email and locations below.

Due to the size of some of the meeting spaces and groups, the teams cannot accommodate walk ins.

Teams are:

- A group of people just like you who help each other in their job search, keep each other focused on their searches, and keep each other on track
- An advisory panel that can help answer questions about your search
- A place to share information, job search hints, experiences, and advice
- A networking group that may help members to learn about potential employers or company insiders
- Are based on Orville Pierson's method as described in his books:
The Unwritten Rules of the Highly Effective Job Search and Team Up!



There are 6 teams that meet every week for 2 hours

LOCATIONS:

Glastonbury

Mondays, 10:00am – 12:00pm
Welles-Turner Memorial Library
2407 Main St., Glastonbury, CT 06033

Simsbury

Tuesdays, 10:30am – 12:30pm
Simsbury Public Library
Hopmeadow St., Simsbury, CT 06070

Manchester

Tuesdays, 10:00am – 12:00pm
MACC (Manchester Area Conference of Churches)
460 Main St., Manchester, CT 06045

Newington

Tuesdays, 9:00am – 11:00am
Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Ave., Newington, CT 06111

West Hartford

Mondays, 9:30am – 11:30am
Jewish Family Services
36 Simsbury Rd., West Hartford, CT 06117

Milford

Tuesdays, 9:00am – 11:00am
Margaret Egan Center
35 Matthews St, Milford, CT 06460

EMAIL PAM: froispam@gmail.com