

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

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# October 2014



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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 16 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist	29 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH, MR	30 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	1 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	2 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	3	4
5 17 Pentecost 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Finance Committee - MR 12:00 PM Animal Fair	6 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH, MR	7 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	8 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	9 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	10	11
12 18 Pentecost 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	13 Columbus Day	14 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Vestry – Meeting Room 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	15 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	16 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	17	18 8:00 AM Welcome Table Breakfast - PH
19 19 Pentecost 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH, MR	21 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	22 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	23 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	24	25 8:00 AM Church Fall Fair
26 20 Pentecost 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	27 6:30 PM Boy Scouts – PH, MR	28 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	29 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	30 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	31 Halloween 5:30 PM Halloween Service	1 1:00 PM Boy Scout Eagle Ceremony



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

October, 2014

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



## A Channel of Grace

Dear Grace Church Family,

Many churches are named Grace but what does the name really mean? As most of you know, we are in the process of designing a new logo for the parish and a number of you are working on a symbol that will visually represent our name. Grace is an unmerited gift of God's love given us in order that we may be strengthened to do the work which God calls the faithful to be about. Grace is not something that we can earn rather it is an unmerited and unearned expression of God's love for us as expressed in the ultimate gift of Jesus Christ. We are not just recipients of grace but, moreover, are called to be ambassadors of God's grace reaching out in love, hope and faith to those around us. We ask God to shower us with grace so that in turn, following Christ's example, we may shower grace on others.

As we have been thinking about the future of Grace Church as we prepare to move forward in the process of calling the next Rector of this congregation, we have all become aware of the challenges that face more and more of our brothers and sisters. The reality is that we are a community of faith that is being confronted by the aging of our still vibrant and faith filled congregation. More and more we are aware of the reality that here in Connecticut the numbers of those who find themselves asset limited and income constrained is growing. We watch the increased demand on our town food pantry and on the other social services available in our community. As your interim, I have become ever more aware of the economic pinch that s growing number of our brothers and sisters are confronting.

In a recent discussion with the Vestry, we considered what we might be able to do to help. Out of that discussion came a resource for channeling God's grace that will be known simply as The Grace Fund. This fund builds on the old concept of a rector's discretionary fund but expands it to make it a ministry in which the whole congregation can participate. The idea is a simple one built on our commitment together to be ambassadors of grace. It is a confidential way for us to help brothers and sisters. It will not replace to outreach ministries in which we serve those beyond our congregation but it is another vehicle to express God's love for those closest to us.

There will be a simple set of guidelines for using the fund and all members of the Parish are invited to be contributors, as they are able, to help The Grace Fund grow. All you need to do is to make sure that your gift is clearly designated for the Fund by so noting on the memo line of your check or with a letter of instruction addressed to the Wardens or to me. All contribution to the Fund or gifts from it will remain anonymous.

The Grace Fund Guidelines:

1. Gifts from the Fund, except under extraordinary circumstances, will not exceed \$1,000.
2. Only Adult Communicants in Good Standing at Grace Church will be eligible to request a gift from the Fund.
3. Gifts from the Fund will be made payable only to a designated third party (e.g. a bank, mortgage company, utility)
4. Recipients of gifts from the Fund will be encouraged to repay the gift when and as they are able.
5. Gifts from the Fund are limited to one in any twelve month period although, under extraordinary circumstances, an exception can be made.

6. One week's notice will generally be required for a disbursement from the Fund.
7. Parishioners desiring to request a gift from the Fund should speak with the Rector or with one of the Wardens.
8. Decisions about gifts from the Fund will be made by the Rector, the Wardens and the Treasurer acting together on behalf of our Parish family.

It is my hope that this Fund will be another channel of Grace that strengthens our fellowship and expands God's mission in this community of faith.

Faithfully,  
David+



The Welcome Table Community Breakfast continues to attract new visitors each month as well as a small group of regulars who have come to depend on it not only for a hot meal but also as a social outlet.

The breakfast is always held the third Saturday of the month from 8 am to 10:00 am. The remaining dates for 2012 are October 19, November 16 and December 21.

Sign-ups are in Narthex at the beginning of each month. It is a satisfying way to serve the community as well being a great fellowship event for the parish. Please join us.

*Melissa Haseley*




- |       |                    |
|-------|--------------------|
| 10/11 | Faye Hughes        |
| 10/11 | John Rogorzenski   |
| 10/13 | Kimberley Tallard  |
| 10/17 | Jacqueline Fischer |
| 10/21 | Carrie Gaydos      |
| 10/24 | Mark Shoemaker     |
| 10/25 | Meghan Dow         |
| 10/29 | Susan Raimondo     |


- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| 10/29 | Marie Ritchie  |
| 10/30 | Ruth Antonucci |





- |       |                              |
|-------|------------------------------|
| 10/03 | Gary and Elizabeth St. Amand |
| 10/07 | Charlie and Mary Albrycht    |
| 10/20 | David and Diane Bagioni      |
| 10/22 | Paul and Norine Barr         |
| 10/23 | Craig and Gail Holland       |
| 10/29 | Mitch and Lynn Page          |




 I will be on vacation the second week in October. If you are able to help in the office during that time please call me at 860-666-3331. Training will be provided.

 Deadline for November *Pace of Grace* - **Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please, make every effort to meet this deadline to allow us to deliver 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. Just send a blank email to [office@gracechurchnew.org](mailto:office@gracechurchnew.org).

 Office hours during the fall will normally be 10:00am – 2:00pm, Tuesday and Wednesday and 9:15am-11:15am and 1:00pm – 3:00pm on Thursday. The office will normally be closed on Mondays and Fridays.

*Art Riihimaki*



## Thanks So Much!

- ☺ Paul Crosswaith for coordinating the purchase of the new kitchen refrigerator. He comparison shopped models and pricing, arranged for a convenient delivery time and removal of the old unit and cleaned the area around the refrigerator.
- ☺ Brandon Johnson for painting several of the downstairs classrooms after they were cleaned out and re-purposed to become more useable and functional for us and the groups who use the church for their meetings and activities.
- ☺ JoAnn Cromwell, Mark Shoemaker, Paul Crosswaith and Melissa Haseley as they cleaned out and re-arranged the downstairs storage room to better handle the chair cart storage. Mark in particular, took the lead on this and really pushed and shoved to give us more room.
- ☺ James Dumont for his creative and artistic help designing the flyers for the Welcome Back Sunday event, the Celebration of Animals event and the October Fair. He also took some of the photos used in the *2014 Parish Profile*.
- ☺ Marty Dumont for finding 12 perfectly good conference room style chairs “curbside” and bringing them to church for us to use in the Music Meeting Room. They are great and perfectly usable and we saved a bunch of money as a result.
- ☺ Shirley Adams, Liz Welk, Paul Crosswaith, Roy Zatarian, CJ Puskarz and Charlie Albrycht for being the summer stalwarts for the Welcome Table Breakfast events.
- ☺ Nancy Tatsapaugh for co-ordinating the successful backpack drive for the Prudence Crandall Center.
- ☺ JoAnn Cromwell for her leadership in putting together the Welcome Back Sunday event and

Ministry Fair; good food and fellowship was had by all.

- ☺ Mabel Maynard for her editing and attention to detail in keeping the many re-writes of the parish profile together.
- ☺ Roy Zatarian for ordering, assembling and setting up the new church computer system. And also for his input and help publishing the on-line version of the Parish Profile.
- ☺ Val Dumont, Lorraine Belyea, Lynn Page, Liz Welk, Marnie Merwin, Nancy DiPrato and the other crafters for their time and creative energy in crafting a great array of handmade, one-of-a-kind items for the October Fair.
- ☺ Mitch Page for ordering, purchasing and installing the new church sign and post on Cedar Street. It is taller than the other ones we’ve had and therefore is more visible from the roadway. It looks so good that we have decided to replace the others around town as well.



*Hi-Noon Group*

### **Fall Schedule:**

#### **October 6, Monday, Gouveia Vineyards, Wallingford.:**

The group will again visit the Napa Valley of Wallingford. The pastoral setting of Gouveia Winery will be the background for this gastronomic adventure. The winery encourages guests to bring food / snacks but all beverages (wine, soda, water) must be bought on site. Bring food to share for our pot luck lunch. Also bring a friend. All are welcome. Departing from the Church at 12.00. Car pooling available.



Church School has begun! We will be meeting on the following dates: October 5, 12, 19; November 2, 9, 16; December 7, 14, 21; January 11, 18, 25. It is not too late for children to join us to learn of God’s love for

them.



This event will be held on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, to benefit the children who attend Camp Washington. Information about the event is available online at: [www.campwashington.org](http://www.campwashington.org). Consider playing in, or supporting in some other way, this special event.



"To Renew, to Serve and to Grow together in Christ". Our mission statement challenges all of us as part of Grace's family to be more "Christ like". In the near future, we will be reaching out to a new Rector who can be a partner in our mission.

Grace's Discernment Team and Vestry would like to thank everyone who participated in any way during this first phase of our process. We would like to thank those who participated in the "Telling of our Story" event and the focus group meetings. We especially thank everyone who signed up and worked so diligently on the discernment team, recruitment team, vestry members, our Chaplains and our consultant, Jane Inrig, and our chair people. All of the necessary hard work would not have been accomplished without everyone working as a team. Your thoughts and prayers have lifted us up in times of doubt, times of need and times of hope.

The Parish Profile and all necessary documents were submitted on 9/24/14 to the Diocese for their review and hopefully their blessings. Once we receive the "green light" from Tim Hodapp and Bishop Curry, our package will be "launched" via the internet and we will await our list of candidates.

Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we move on to the next phase of the process. We have great FAITH that God will send us the candidate who is to be our next Rector. "Seek and you shall find!"

If you haven't had a chance to look at our website, please check out all of the wonderful improvements at [www.gracechurchnew.org](http://www.gracechurchnew.org).



The Finance and Stewardship Committees, as well as all APOSTLE leaders want to thank everyone for continuing to support Grace. We need to be mindful that we are participating not only in Grace's mission but in God's mission at Grace Church, locally and worldwide.

A big "shout out" goes to everyone who participated in our Welcome Back Sunday brunch and ministry fair on Sunday, 9/21/14. Stay tuned for the next Stewardship event, as we become, more aware that stewardship is a year-round commitment.

If you feel called to join the Finance or Stewardship committees, please let Melissa Haseley (Senior Warden) or Father David (Interim Rector) know of your desire.

"Love and serve the Lord"

*Karen Halpert, Stewardship Chairperson*



You and the community are invited for a day of pet-friendly fun on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Bring your dog, goat, giraffe, alpaca, gerbil, cat, or goldfish. All animals are welcome. Invite your friends.

Traditional Blessing of the Animals will be offered during our regular 9 am service. Then join us in the afternoon from noon to three pm for exhibits and demonstrations.

Those participating include:

- ⇒ CT State Police K9 Unit with a demonstration
- ⇒ Animal Embassy with a hands-on animal show, including exotic and endangered animals

- ⇒ CT Humane Society with Adopt-A Thon
- ⇒ FIDELCO
- ⇒ Area Rescue Groups
- ⇒ Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding Center

We will gratefully receive donations of pet food for the shelters and food banks.

We could learn a lot from crayons: Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors ... but they all exist very nicely together in the same box.  
—Robert Fulghum



We have 2 craft sessions left: Oct 3, 2014, at 7pm in the meeting room and Oct 18 at 10am in the meeting room.

We are looking for paper bags and bags with handles for parishioners to donate so people will have bags to carry out the items they bought. We will designate a box to put them in. If possible we would like to avoid plastic grocery bags.

Please contact us if you have any questions: Lorraine Belyea, Valerie Dumont, Jeanne Parker, Jane Stewart, Lynn Page, Meagan Balducci, or Liz Welk.

THANKS, THE FAIR COMMITTEE.



## Fall Festival

Come join us for the Fall Festival on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 4pm. Many crafters and artisans will be present selling their wares. There will be a Pumpkin

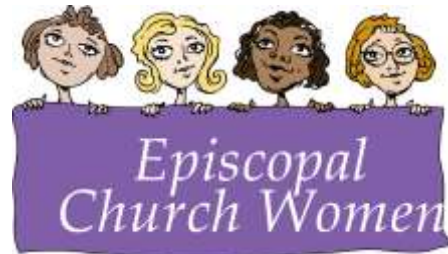
Patch, a Christmas Boutique, a Bake Sale, Homemade Soup, Door Prizes (Quilt Baskets), Music, Pumpkin Painting, Crafts for Children, and Free Babysitting.

There is no admission fee, but please bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank. And invite your friends and neighbors!

## True heroes

We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, "It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem." Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes.

—Fred Rogers, Presbyterian minister and "hero" of *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*



Did you know you can get the National Episcopal Churchwomen Communique by going to [www.ecwnational.org](http://www.ecwnational.org)? Follow the directions for the monthly Communique.

National President is The Rev. Dcn. Nancy Crawford. Rev Nancy Crawford is going to start a book and Bible study on line. She will be using the book entitled *BIBLE WOMEN: ALL THEIR WORDS AND WHY THEY MATTER*. This book was written by The REV. Lindsay Hardin Freeman. The Rev. Lindsay Hardin Freeman has also written the book *The Scarlet Cord*.

The book is available from FORWARD MOVEMENT PUBLISHING BUT STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2014 IF YOU ORDER FROM FORWARD MOVEMENT PUBLISHING YOU CAN GET \$5.00 OFF.

How the book study will work: Rev Nancy Crawford will read a 2 chapters a month and write a blog and open up this for comments on the web site. The President's blog will be set up on the ECW website. This will begin Nov 1, 2014.

Beverley Manning is going to order both these books for the church Library.



Our annual Backpack and School Supplies Drive for the children at the Prudence Crandall Center concluded on September 21.

In the span of 2 months, we collected 35 backpacks filled with school supplies and lunchboxes. Since school began before Labor Day, Suzan Bibisi,

Development Director at PCC came to visit on August 17. In a few short minutes at the end of our service, she shared some of the moving experiences she has had while working with children whose mothers have been victims of domestic violence.

Our donations are very important to the families and the staff at PCC and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for making this year's drive a success and for supporting this worthy organization.

*Nancy Tatsapaugh, Drive Chairperson*





# FINANCE REPORT

After a really positive August (due to 5 Sundays and a special donation), it is a little discouraging to see September receipts decline to just over July's figures from the middle of our summer slowdown. All September invoices and payroll are paid out, and although we will show about a \$2,200 deficit for the month, the checkbook still has a reasonable balance to get us safely into October. In fact, our balance is just about where we started off at the beginning of the year, and we haven't had to use any of the \$4,500 reserves provided for in the budget.

After the month of September, our finances come out as follows:

INCOME	<u>September</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>	EXPENSES	<u>September</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
<i>Beginning Checkbook:</i>	<b>\$ 6,067</b>	<b>\$ 3,898</b>			
Pledge Receipts:	<b>\$ 6,845</b>	\$ 75,285	Salaries & Benefits:	<b>(\$ 5,003)</b>	(\$ 47,350)
General Receipts:	<b>\$ 582</b>	\$ 3,864	General Expenses:	<b>(\$ 2,315)</b>	(\$ 20,588)
Use of Church Building	<b>\$ 800</b>	\$ 9,242	General Utilities:	<b>(\$ 1,238)</b>	(\$ 12,784)
Fund Raisers, General:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 1,038	Fund Raiser Expenses	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 239)
Church Fair	<b>\$ 175</b>	\$ 535	Fair Expenses	<b>(\$ )</b>	(\$ )
Special Events:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 0	Special Event Expense:	<b>(\$ 600)</b>	(\$ 600)
Capital Campaign:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 0	Grounds (Snow/Lawn)	<b>(\$ 705)</b>	(\$ 9,058)
"B-to-B" & Special:	<b>\$ 72</b>	\$ 918	Capital Camp to M.Mkt:	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 0)
Memorial Donations:	<b>\$ 5</b>	\$ 250	Capital Campaign Exp	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 200)
Memorial Garden:	<b>\$ 35</b>	\$ 268	Memorials to M.Mkt:	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 0)
Seasonal Offerings:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 1,336	Mem. Garden Exp:	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 640)
Outreach:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 567	Diocese Pledge	<b>(\$ 1,302)</b>	(\$ 11,718)
Miscellaneous	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 160	Outreach:	<b>(\$ 1,040)</b>	(\$ 3,346)
Rectory Rent:	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	\$ 15,300	Miscellaneous Forward	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 160)
Reserves from M.Mkt:	<b>\$ 0</b>	\$ 0	Rectory Rent to M.Mkt	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 1,000)
<b>Total Received:</b>	<b><u>\$10,014</u></b>	<b><u>\$108,763</u></b>	Audit Fee	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 1,100)
			Reserves to M.Mkt:	<b>(\$ 0)</b>	(\$ 0)
			<b>Total Paid Out:</b>	<b><u>(\$12,203)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$108,783)</u></b>
			<i>Ending Checkbook:</i>	<b>\$ 3,878</b>	\$ 3,878

Overall, our September deposits fell below expected levels, but I hope some of this is due only to some deferred donations from some pledges and some outside groups. Of particular note not shown in the above figures is that a special anonymous one-time donation of \$7,500 (actually received in August) was moved directly over into our Money Market reserves until proper use of the funds can be determined. In addition, we had several unusual expenses that could be offset in the future. One was a \$900 outreach expense from our newly established Grace Fund, and another was the \$800 deposit for our upcoming Animal Embassy special event. Beyond those, the balances of our September expenses aren't really out of line. Please join in the excitement for what is shaping up to be a very eventful fall season.

*Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer*

### Capital Campaign and General Money Market Update:

At the end of September, the overall Money Market account balance should be **\$58,218**. Of this amount, the major elements are: \$23,619 as the posted Capital Campaign balance, and \$15,142 as the posted net Rectory balance (\$1,500 Security Deposit + \$13,642 Rectory Reserves). In addition, the special donation of \$7,500 mentioned above is being temporarily held. A special expense of \$1,503 was paid for landscape cleanup of the Memorial garden (which had gotten badly overgrown) as a deferred maintenance item from the Capital Campaign funds.

*Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer*