

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





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 The Presentation 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Vestry Retreat	3 12 pm Hi-Noon 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	4 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 8:30 am Employment Group - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	5 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	6 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	7	8 1:00 pm Chocolate Festival
9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	10 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	11 8:30 am Employment Group MMR 6:00 pm Vestry Mtg - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	12 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	13 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	14  <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15
16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	17  <i>Presidents DAY</i>	18 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 8:30 am Employment Group MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	19 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	20 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	21 6:00 pm Pinewood Derby Setup	22 Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby - all day  PINEWOOD DERBY
23 Last Sunday after Epiphany 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	24 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	25 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 8:30 am Employment Group MMR 5:00 pm Shrove Tuesday pancake supper 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	26 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L  ASH WEDNESDAY	27 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal - MMR 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	28	29

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



Pace of Grace

February 2020

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

*From the
Missional Priest*



St Brigid: The original patroness saint of Ireland

February 1st is the feast day of St. Brigid of Ireland, the patron saint who was overshadowed in stature by the decision to make St. Patrick the patron saint of Ireland. The reasons for consigning Brigid to a lesser role are unclear, but it could be tied to the fact that Brigid was also a character in the Celtic nature religion of Ireland before the Christianization of the land.

Like most saints, the facts of Brigid's life are difficult to parse from the mythology that grew up around her. St. Brigid of Kildare was born in about 450 and died in 523 AD or CE. Her father may have been a chieftain of Leinster, though she herself may have been born into slavery.

Several miracles are associated with her early life, as well as acts of mercy including healing and feeding the poor. As she grew in stature as a holy woman, she was invited to found a monastery at Kildare, the site of a pagan shrine to the pagan goddess Brigid, served by a group of young women who tended an eternal flame, under a large oak tree. One monastery for women and another for men was founded at the site. Brigid is revered also for her heart for the poor.

Brigid's popularity as a saint has made the name Brigid popular in Ireland over the centuries. When Roman Christianity spread throughout Ireland, replacing Celtic Christianity as the dominant culture, Brigid was replaced by Patrick, who was a Roman citizen as the primary patron saint. The conflation of the saint Brigid with the Celtic goddess, Bridget or Bride, may also be the reason. The goddess may be the continuation of the Indo-European dawn goddess, associated with fertility, who was also referred to as a healer and an iron worker—a sort of trinity. In an age when the Christian church was determined to eradicate pagan traditions, veneration of the saint, Brigid was seen as a threat to keeping the Christian faith free of its Celtic vestiges.

Pastor Trish⁺



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

	First reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
The Presentation February 2, 2020	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany February 9, 2020	Isaiah 58:1-12	Psalm 112:1-10	1 Corinthians 2:1-16	Matthew 5:13-20
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 16, 2020	Sirach 15:15-20	Psalm 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
Last Sunday after Epiphany February 23, 2020	Exodus 24:12-18	Psalm 2 or Psalm 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9
St. Matthias February 25, 2020	Acts 1:15-26	Psalm 15	Philippians 3:13b-21	John 15:1,6-16
Ash Wednesday February 26, 2020	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	103 or 103:8-14 Isaiah 58:1-12	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21



February BIRTHDAYS

02/04 Jeanne Parker
02/13 Clare McCusker

February ANNIVERSARIES

02/08 Paul and Shirley Crosswaith



Save the Date

February 2	Vestry Retreat
February 3	Hi Noon
February 8	Chocolate Festival
February 11	Vestry Meeting
February 25	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 26	Ash Wednesday



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.



SENIORS ON THE GO Hi-Noon – All parishioners and their friends are invited to attend the monthly meetings of Hi-Noon. The group’s activities vary and are a combination of informative, cultural, social and entertaining events.

February 3, Monday – Movie Matinee in Parish Hall, Bring a bag lunch (coffee, tea, juice provided) and movie treats to share. Movie to be announced.

March 4, Monday – Epicurean Adventure – During the past two years we visited Portuguese, Polish and Greek restaurants during our March epicurean adventure. This year’s selection will be discussed at the February meeting.

April & May – Do you have a suggestion for a place of interest to visit? In the spring the group often travels to a cultural and/or entertaining place.

June – Annual Picnic – Parish Hall & Patio

Barker Character Comic and Cartoon Museum - Our visit to the museum in Cheshire last year was fun and entertaining. Our group only had time to see some of the *80,000 antique toys and collectibles!* We never got to the backroom or upstairs displays during our trip down memory lane. Those attending voted unanimously to return to see more of the collection of games, toys and cartoon character exhibited that took us back to our childhood.



Weather Closing

Cancellation of services due to weather will be posted on NBC Connecticut (channel 30) and WFSB (channel 3) and on their websites



February 8

The First Annual Chocolate Fest!!!

The first annual Chocolate Festival is being held here at Grace. Help will be needed with setup on Friday, February 7 and all day during the actual festival. Please consider helping out, it will be a fun time for all...and there's chocolate, it doesn't get better than that!

Shrove Tuesday



**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 25, 2020
5 – 7 pm**

Come one, come all! We will again have a fun time flipping and eating pancakes. Looking forward to working with our fabulous flippers and enjoying fellowship at the same time. Yes, we can multitask.

We will have the usual Pancake Supper fare with Mardi Gras music playing in the background and maybe a surprise or two. Stay tuned for more information.

Sign-up sheets for attendance (your name and number attending) and food donations are available. Please indicate kind and number of food items you will donate.

This year we ask for a \$6 donation per person. Children under 10 years old are FREE.

Contact JoAnn Cromwell, 860-841-6196 or Mabel Maynard, 860-665-7160 for more information.

JoAnn Cromwell



Newington Food Bank: We continue to support the food bank with canned fruits in 100% juice, shelf stable & dry Milk, Spaghetti sauce, rice mixes and paper towels.

JoAnn Cromwell



The next gathering of the Grace Church Book Club is Saturday, March 14 at 2 pm in the church library. The book selection is *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes. We usually meet the second

Saturday of the month and that will continue to be the case. 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 thus far are:

March 14th – *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes
April (date TBD) – *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. 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

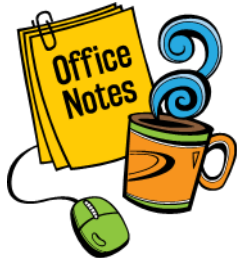


If you are in need of a new nametag, or you don't have one, please leave a note in the office and Debbie will make one up for you. Thank you!



Morning Prayer

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. (no morning prayer on February 11) Beverley Manning and JoAnn Cromwell rotate leading the service.



The deadline for the March Pace of Grace is Thursday, February 20. 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 on Monday, February 3.

Debbie Forrest

QUICK FINANCE UPDATE: DECEMBER 30, 2019

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE</u>
<u>INCOME:</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OPERATIONS</u>
Pledge Income	\$ 87,558	\$ 87,558	\$ 84,681
Total Income	\$125,908	\$ 125,908	\$ 119,776
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	(\$125,328)	(\$ 125,328)	(\$ 108,881)
<u>NET CHANGE:</u>	\$ 580	(\$ 580)	\$ 10,895



Creative Energy Team
February 2020

Have you heard??
Grace Church is having a Chocolate Festival
Saturday February 8, 2020
11 am – 3 pm

We are looking for workers for Friday, February 7th for setup. Setup will start at approximately 11 am. We will be setting up tables and chairs; after that we will be organizing and decorating our tables for the Chocolate Festival.

We also need workers for Saturday, February 8th, which is the day of, to help in the kitchen. We will also need help with the Hot Chocolate Bar, serving at Grace's Cafe, the baked goods table, crafts and gifts that are to be sold, raffles, and the chocolate area. Your help will be needed from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. If you can only work part of the time, we would love for you to still come help. We want to make this an enjoyable experience for Chocolate lovers and people shopping for Valentine's gifts. People will be coming in to buy, eat, shop and enjoy our chocolate delights. There will be a variety of jobs to do. Some sitting, some walking around and a few standing. In other words there is something for everyone to do. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or you can call text or email one of us to let us know what you would like to do.

We are encouraging everyone to contribute to the bake sale . You can bake just about anything with a chocolate or Valentine's theme. Usually smaller packages sell better. Please bring in your baked goods on Friday, February 7th during the day. If you are unable to bring your baked goods in on Friday please bring them in early Saturday morning.

We will be meeting a few more times in preparation for the Chocolate Festival. We need to price all items, wrap some candies, wrap some gifts, finish making some gift items and a lil bit of other stuff to do. Please join us. All help is welcome!

We still are looking for chocolate Valentine's candy of any kind. Please take ten pink flyers and share with your family and friends! Leave a few flyers at your favorite places to dine, shop or visit.

If you have any questions please feel free to call text or email Lynn Page, Lorraine Belyea, Jane Stewart, Melissa Haseley, or me.
Lynn Page 860-841-2539 or Valerie Dumont 860-690-0727

Thank you for your help with the Chocolate Festival fundraiser.

Valerie Dumont

Lay Ministry Schedule
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
	The Presentation of our Lord	5 th Epiphany	6 th Epiphany	Last Epiphany
Deacon/LWL	JoAnn Cromwell			JoAnn Cromwell
LECTOR	Walt Parker	Mabel Maynard	Karen Halpert	JoAnn Cromwell
MINISTER OF COMMUNION	Paul Crosswaith	Kathy Johnson	Mabel Maynard	JoAnn Cromwell
CRUCIFER	Karen Halpert	Jane Stewart	Elizabeth Welk	Karen Halpert
PRAYERS	Mabel Maynard	Walt Parker	Beverley Manning	Karen Halpert
USHERS	Brandon & Kathy Johnson	Mark & Kathy Shoemaker	Lorraine Belyea	Jane Stewart
				Paul Crosswaith
FELLOWSHIP				
NRRRC-10:30am			Beverley Manning	
HTFD REGIONAL CTR - 12n				
Lay Eucharist Visitor			Elizabeth Welk	JoAnn Cromwell
ALTAR GUILD	Marie Ritchie	Marie Ritchie	Jane Stewart	Jane Stewart
	Barbara Johnson	Barbara Johnson	Marie Ritchie	Marie Ritchie
	Kathy Shoemaker	Kathy Shoemaker	Elizabeth Welk	Elizabeth Welk
COUNTERS	Melissa Haseley	Beverley Manning	Walt Parker	JoAnn Cromwell
	Walt, JoAnn or Lorraine	Lorraine Belyea	JoAnn or Lorraine	Walt or Lorraine

CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020



11:00am - 3:00pm

Cancellation for major snow~ice~blizzard conditions

DATE SUN FEBRUARY 9TH ~ 1:00pm



There will be handcrafted
chocolate candy ~ lollipops
cake pops ~ truffles
toffee ~ fudge ~ cupcakes
Hot Chocolate Bar
Assorted Baked goods
Valentines gifts

Grace's cafe will be open
with A dining area to
enjoy a delectable
chocolate dessert & our
hot chocolate bar.



Grace Episcopal Church

124 maple Hill Avenue Newington CT 06111

Handicap parking & entrance

Come enjoy some chocolate today!!





COME FOR SOME
GREAT FUN

GRACE

EPISCOPAL

ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY

(MARDI GRAS/ FAT TUESDAY,

DAY OF FEASTING BEFORE

LENT)

PARISH HALL 5-7 PM

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

\$6.00 PER PERSON

DONATION

